

# ASPATRIA TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of Aspatria Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 at 7.00 p.m.  
at the Methodist Church Hall, Aspatria.**

**PRESENT:** Councillor A Maxwell (Chair)

**Councillors:** Cllr S Maxwell, Councillor A Reay, Cllr B Blackburn, Cllr D McRea, Cllr K Smith, Cllr M Rose, Cllr J Lister.

**Also in Attendance:** Ms S Hullock (RFO), Mrs K Cooper

## Minutes

Item		Action
<b>1. Apologies:</b> To receive and accept apologies and note the reasons for absence.	Cllr K Thurlow Cllr D King Cllr C Blaney has now resigned as a Councillor	Clerk to note.
<b>2. Mayors Announcements/Updates:</b>	Cllr Alan Maxwell wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Cllr Alan Maxwell contacted MP Mark Jenkinson with regards to a shortage of pupil capacity at Beacon Hill School who then contacted the headteacher to address the issue as permission has been granted by Allerdale Borough Council for numerous houses to be built with little or no school capacity. Cllr Alan Maxwell contacted Beacon Hill School to report a problem with the overgrown hedge opposite the Esso garage. The school have now had the work completed. Cllr Alan Maxwell noted the pavement outside the school is breaking up. Town Clerk not receiving emails so we contacted an IT consultant who then removed filters on the account. Cllr Alan Maxwell made the Council aware of the Mayors Report for 2021 and copies have been displayed on the noticeboards around the Town.	Letter sent 19/11/21 – no reply as of yet.  Town Clerk emailed thanks to the school. Cllr Jim Lister to action.  Resolved
<b>3. Declarations of Interest:</b> Members are invited to make any declarations of Pecuniary Interest or other Registerable Interest (other than those recorded on their Notification of Pecuniary Interests or other Registerable Interests) relating to any items on the agenda.	None.	
<b>4. Minutes of Aspatria Town Council Meeting held Tuesday, 2021:</b> To authorise the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the last Aspatria Town Council Meeting held on	Approved.	
<b>5. Matters arising from</b>	.	

<b>Minutes of the last Meeting held Tuesday, 16 November 2021.</b>		
<b>6. ATC Website Service Agreement:</b>	Cllr Alan Maxwell informed the Council we have signed the website agreement for a further 12 months	
<b>7. Public Participation:</b>	Cllr Alan Reay informed the Council for many years the public could attend council meetings, however only having a couple of minutes to voice any concerns and on completion of this they were to leave the meeting. The public's concern was then an agenda item for the next meeting where it would be discussed. Cllr Karen Smith had received a phone call in regard to there being any CCTV on Queen Street car park due to a member of the public being threatened at his car by two men. Council agreed it was a police matter. Cllr Kevin Thurlow contacted Cllr Alan Maxwell notifying him Allerdale Borough Council have extended the parking bays on Queen Street car park to 14 instead of the 20 promised. They are due back in the New Year to complete surfacing work and disabled bays. Cllr Alan Maxwell had parked on Queen Street and the new bays are in total darkness and more lighting needed.	
<b>8. Financial Matters:</b>	<p>Mike Blair had expressed the need for new workwear, Town Clerk received a quote from Stitch and Print for £80, Council agreed.</p> <p>(i) Income and Expenditure for November 2021: RESOLVED that the income and expenditure detailed for November 2021 in the attached schedules be approved.</p> <p>Members also approved the following payments to be made: Reimbursement of Clerk costs for stamps and stationery £22.69 Stitch and Print £80.01</p> <p>Aspatria Farmers £78.12 Jean Airey £100.00 Cumbria Pest Services £132.00 Data Protection Fee £40.00 LR &amp; JA Allen £170.98 J Davies £60.00</p> <p>(ii) To receive the Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30th November 2021: RESOLVED that the circulated Bank Reconciliation be confirmed and accepted as a true record.</p> <p>(iii) &amp; (iv) Proposed 22/23 Budget and Appendix A: The RFO talked through each line of the 2022/23 proposed budget and specifically requested guidance from Councillors in respect of any future drainage works, given the ongoing issues in the parks area. RESOLVED the Councillors requested that an additional £2,000 be added to the Parks and Open Spaces budget line to cover any potential drainage work costs. A proposed 2022/23 budget amounting to</p>	

	<p>£86,380.00 was approved with Councillors noting that this will require a contribution from balances of £8,186.00 should no increase in precept be agreed for the next financial year.</p> <p>It was also acknowledged that this 2022/23 budget does not include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- any expenditure or income in relation to the proposed asset transfer or</li> <li>- expenditure relating to the leasing of parks equipment or</li> <li>- expenditure in relation to the purchase of new Christmas lights.</li> </ul> <p>Any costs incurred within these areas will require a further contribution from balances.</p> <p>The RFO informed Councillors that the precept setting report would be brought to the January 2022 meeting based on this approved budget.</p> <p>v) Internal Audit Report to September 2021: RESOLVED that the half yearly financial audit report be accepted. No recommendations were made for implementation.</p>	
<b>9. Police Report:</b>	Nothing	
<b>10. Highways:</b>	<p>Cllr Jim Lister and Town Clerk both received an email from Andrew Harrison of Flood Programme, Cumbria County Council advising they are to begin a scheme in early spring to upsize the pipework through Mr Miller's field. This will greatly reduce the issues that the residents of West Street have found themselves in over several years with flooding problems. Cllr Jim Lister confirmed the school lights are now working correctly.</p>	
<b>11.To receive for information, reports on issues relevant to the Town from County, District and Independent Councillors:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Councillor Jim Lister</li> <li>1.2 Councillor Kevin Thurlow</li> </ul>		
<b>12. Town Council Noticeboards:</b>	<p>The noticeboard at the entrance to the Church Hall has been reported to be in disrepair due to water damage, Cllr Alan Reay seems to think they belong to the Church. All four noticeboards were originally provided by Mark Szandurski.</p>	To be discussed at the next meeting.
<b>13. Aspatria Town Council Grants Policy:</b>	Town Clerk to update contact details.	
<b>14. Town Councillor Ward Allocation:</b>	<p>It was discussed between all Councillors that the Wards need looked at due to each area of town having different number of Councillors. To be reviewed at next meeting.</p>	Clerk to find original docs signed by Councillors
<b>15. Brandraw toilets</b>	RFO contacted the Charity Commissions to explain	RFO

<b>(Monument &amp; Lamp):P</b>	the error of us being dissolved as a Charity and to be reinstated with immediate effect. RFO had no reply and will contact again in the new year.	
<b>16. Park Survey (Unblock Cumbria):</b>	Cllr Alan Maxwell received a quote from Unblock Cumbria for jetting of the park including a camera down at a cost of £900. Cllr Alan Maxwell advised the Council would have to agree for such an amount to be paid. Continuation of investigation after jetting work which was carried out failed to solve the problem.	Cllr Kevin Thurlow to action
<b>17/21. Sports pitches grant application:</b>	Town Clerk had a telephone meeting with Craig Lewis from Cumberland FA. He advised there is funding available however they need proof of pitches being looked after in between matches and end of season. It was felt amongst the Council the Rugby League help preserve the pitches however the football teams could improve. Cllr Damon McRea set up the Aspatria Juniors last year and has now joined with the seniors, setting up a committee, in the hope we can work together to keep the pitches playable. Craig Lewis seemed to think the previous clerk had gathered data for the pitch power system but had not submitted. Ongoing.	Town Clerk to send letters to Mel Scott and David Creighton re pitches
<b>18. Park Changing Rooms:</b>	<p>Two heaters in the changing rooms are not working. An electrician went in on 21/12/21 to try and fix the problem however it was advised they were in need of a plumber. Cllr Alan Maxwell to speak to the electrician as other heaters need removed.</p> <p>It was suggested by Mike Blair to use Aspatria Farmers for the servicing of the mowers. Mike Blair is on holiday 24/12/21 – 06/01/22.</p> <p>It was agreed the next park and allotments meeting would be held on Wednesday 12 Jan at 5.30pm in the library. Town Clerk to invite the Bowling Club committee.</p> <p>Mike Blair to attend a First Aid course by end of February.</p>	<p>On the Parks committee agenda</p> <p>Town Clerk to action</p>
<b>19. Bench request on North Road:</b>	Next meeting	
<b>20. Speed Camera Training:</b>	Next meeting	
<b>22 Basketball court marking:</b>	Cllr Damon McRea was advised the work has not yet commenced due to bad weather however the paint has been ordered. Ongoing.	
<b>23. Park Defibrillator:</b>	Town Clerk applied to National Lottery Fund but on having to wait for funding had spoken to Cllr Damon McRea who kindly offered the Aspatria Football Club would donate some funds towards the defibrillator. Cllr Marie Rose mentioned the Charity Shop are accepting applications for grants and the next meeting to be held 10/01/22. Town Clerk to complete the application form before the meeting. It was then agreed the Town Clerk would look at purchasing the defibrillator and ask permission from the Bowling Club to house and provide electricity for the defibrillator.	TC/DM
<b>24. Speed Indicator – Outgang Road:</b>	Cllr Alan Maxwell referred to the SIDS report taken place on Outgang Road from 6/12/21 – 12/12/21. The	

	survey concludes there are no issues with speed in that area. Cllr Jim Lister said they placed SIDS on A596 at the junction entering Prospect where drivers are likely to reduce speed anyways. Requested SIDS to be placed in a different area.	
<b>25. King Street parking bays:</b>	Ongoing.	
<b>26. Daffodil bulb planting:</b>	Cllr Stephanie Maxwell has taken the time to renew the daffodil book and this will now be placed in the church on display on a permanent basis.	
<b>27. Jubilee Footpath:</b>	Richmond Hill School have received £8000 for work to be done on the footpath. Work was to start immediately.	
<b>28. Welcome back fund – Toni Meagan:</b>	Town Clerk received an email stating funding was available however there is a criteria for the funding to be granted. Other towns using funding for benches, plants.	Cllr Alan Reay to action.
<b>29. Park gates:</b>	Town Clerk has applied to appear on the BBC show The Repair Shop. Pictures and measurements of the gates were sent over with the application. Awaiting on a reply.	
<b>30. Play inspection reports:</b>	Cllr Alan Maxwell brought it to the attention of the Councillors the zip wires in both parks and the tyre swing in St Mungos Park require maintenance by the original suppliers.	Clerk to action
<b>31. Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications:</b> To receive a schedule of correspondence, notices and publications received since the last meeting.	None	
<b>32. Applications for Development:</b>	None	
<b>33. Items submitted by members:</b>	None	
<b>34. Items for the next meeting:</b>		
<b>35. Confidential items:</b>	None.	
<b>36. The next meeting of Aspatria Town Council will take place on Tuesday 18 January 2022 at 7.00 p.m. at the Methodist Hall, Aspatria.</b>		

The meeting ended at 20.40pm

Chairman.....

Date.....