

ASPATRIA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Aspatria Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 15 February at 7.00 p.m. at the Methodist Church Hall, Aspatria.

PRESENT: Councillor A Maxwell (Chair)

Councillors: Cllr S Maxwell, Councillor A Reay, Cllr K Thurlow, Cllr D King, Cllr K Smith, Cllr M Rose, Cllr H Barker Cllr D McRea

Also in Attendance: Mrs K Cooper (Town Clerk)

Minutes

Item		Action
1. Apologies: To receive and accept apologies and note the reasons for absence.	Ms Sharron Hullock (RFO) Mr J Lister Cllr B Blackburn did not attend	Clerk to note.
2. Mayors Announcements/Updates:	Cllr Alan Maxwell welcomed new Cllr Henry Barker to the meeting. Cllr Alan Maxwell informed the council of an open invitation for councillors and families to attend the Mayor of Allerdale Civic Dinner which takes place at Greenhill Hotel on Friday 18 March. The dinner has guest speaker, Peter McCall and proceeds from the dinner are donated to several charities including Jigsaw, Childrens' Hospice and Great North Air Ambulance. Cllr Alan Maxwell informed the meeting a councillor application had been received from Mr Ray Gregory. It was felt Mr Gregory would be an asset to the council. All councillors were in agreeance. Cllr Alan Maxwell read an email from a Canadian gentleman trying to locate a friend from Aspatria after many years apart. Cllrs had no knowledge of this person.	TC to write acceptance letter. TC to post on Old Aspatria
3. Declarations of Interest: 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.	
4. Minutes of Aspatria Town Council Meeting held Tuesday 21 December 2021: To authorise the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the last Aspatria Town	Approved.	

Council Meeting held on		
5. Matters arising from Minutes of the last Meeting held Tuesday 25 January 2022.	<p>Cllr Alan Reay, Town Clerk and Mike Blair inspected the Lawson Street allotments on Wednesday 9 February. It was found one allotment had been left very untidy with broken sheds and is thought to be rat infested. The council are unable to re-let this allotment at the moment, however Cllr Alan Reay and Mike Blair had a meeting with a contractor on Monday 14 February to provide a quote for the clearance of said allotment and to provide new fencing to section off the large piece of land to make additional allotments. Town Clerk received the quote for work to be completed, two extra quotes need to be acquired.</p>	TC to action.
6. Public Participation:		
7. Financial Matters:	<p>(i) Expenditure and Income Schedules for January 2022:- RESOLVED that the income and expenditure detailed for January 2022 in the attached schedules be approved.</p> <p>Members also approved the additional invoices for payment:- Glendinning Computers - Email Support £80.00 Metro Rod Cumbria - Call Out - St Mungos Park £288.00 J Davies Enterprise Ltd - Maintenance of Council Website £60.00</p> <p>(ii) To receive the Bank Reconciliation Statements as at 31st January 2022 -- RESOLVED that the circulated Bank Reconciliation Statements be confirmed and accepted as a true record.</p>	
8. Brandraw toilets (Monument & Lamp):	<p>Sharron Hullock (RFO) spoke to the meeting via Town Clerk's phone. The RFO explained that she has received a response from the Charity Commission regarding our request to either reinstate the Allotment charity, which was deregistered, or to set up a new charity for the assets in question, including the land on which the toilet block is sited.</p> <p>The Charity Commission stated that where the annual income of a charity does not exceed £5,000 (which appears to be the case here), the charity is not required to register with the Charity Commission. £5,000 is the minimum income threshold for registration.</p> <p>They continued to explain that the de-registration of the charities does not mean that the charities do not still exist and own the charitable land in question. The charities, insofar as they still exist – which now appears indeed to be the case, remain under the trusteeship of the Parish Council of Aspatria or its successor body (Aspatria Town Council).</p>	<p>Ongoing. SH to update next meeting.</p> <p>TC</p>

	<p>The RFO explained that she has a telephone appointment with our solicitor, (Atkinson Ritson), on Monday 21st February 2022 to discuss the response from the Charity Commission. The RFO will attempt to establish how our solicitor intends to move forward with the transfer of the toilet block from Allerdale Borough Council to Aspatria Town Council and will also ask for timescales of each stage.</p> <p>Cllr Alan Maxwell informed the RFO of the allotment situation regarding work needing completed at the cost of the council. Town Clerk will forward any quotes received to the RFO.</p>	
9. ATC Grants Form:	<p>Councillors had felt the ATC grants form was too complicated for applicants to complete. Town Clerk had drafted a form and sent to councillors prior to the meeting. The RFO suggested we include the proof of bank statements for anyone applying for a grant. Cllr Alan Reay mentioned not all applications are for large sums of money and bank statements weren't necessary, however as we are audited this is legislation. Town Clerk to amend grants form and get approval from RFO.</p>	TC
10. Kubota servicing & replacement mower:	<p>Cllr Kevin Thurlow is to get in touch with Aspatria Farmers for them to collect mowers from Mike Blairs compound to service whilst Mike Blair is on annual leave. Mike Blair to leave the key for the compound with Town Clerk. Cllr Alan Maxwell told the council the finishing mower we have enquired about is not acceptable for the cutting of grass in the town. Town Clerk has emailed the company to see if they have a different attachment available for the Solis tractor. Aspatria Farmers provided a quote for a Kubota mower. Town Clerk to retrieve one more quote. Cllr Henry Barker suggested when asking for quotes to give a brief description of what is required therefore quotes can be compared like for like.</p>	
11. Grant application Linda Hunter - Dreamscheme:	<p>Cllr Alan Reay told the council of several years ago the council received funding for the swimming pool at Beacon Hill, however when this collapsed the council had all agreed the funding was then provided to Dreamscheme, for children of the town and should continue to do so.</p> <p>Town Clerk to get grants application form approved and provide a form for Linda to complete for the councils next meeting.</p>	TC
12. Police Report:		
13. Highways:		
14. To receive for information, reports on issues relevant to the Town from County, District and Independent Councillors: 1.1 Councillor Jim		

	Clerk and Park Play. Park Play are happy to use the Memorial Park all year round to provide free fun to families. Cllr Alan Maxwell and Cllr Kevin Thurlow met at the changing rooms to discuss toilet facilities for the public using the park. The changing rooms can not be locked on a permanent basis due to the risk of damp, as a new ventilation system has since been installed and this would undo work completed. It was discussed the possibility of building a small annex building to provide toilets at the park.	Ongoing.
20. Speed Camera Training:	Ongoing.	
21. Basketball court marking	Ongoing.	
22. Park defibrillator:	Town Clerk has received the defibrillator but awaiting on the heated cabinet which is fixed to the wall and the defib lives inside to remain at 10 degrees. Town Clerk has been advised by London Heart, the cabinet should be posted in the next week or so. The electrician can then mount the defib and Town Clerk will register on 'The Circuit'.	Ongoing.
23. King Street parking bays:	Ongoing.	
24. Jubilee footpath:	Cllr Kevin Thurlow told the meeting the funding for the footpath has not been received by Richmond Hill School. Work has been carried out however the path has been left very untidy. Cllr Thurlow had attended the site to clean the area where the children walk and having looked at the new drain, it was said to be full of water. Cllr Alan Maxwell had also visited the site on a separate occasion and feels the new drain has been positioned incorrectly. Cllr Henry Barker advised the meeting if the footpath is deemed as a public footpath, funding can be applied for via Cumbria County Council. Town Clerk read an email received from County Council stating they had spent a third of the money provided to solve the problem, however this has not happened. Town Clerk to enquire,	TC
25. Welcome back fund:	Town Clerk has been working along side Cllr Alan Reay and Toni Magean to purchase items under the Welcome Back Fund. Items for the town include four green benches, two of which are to be placed at Harriston Road with the possibility of a canopy shelter covering the seats. One bench to be placed at the church yard, North Road and the blue bench which is currently at Harriston Road to be installed at West Street near the milk churns. Town Clerk has received three quotes from local joiners to build and install five new notice boards throughout the town. Flowers and mangers for Castle Terrace have also been purchased and temporary illuminations for the town are also underway. Plaques for the benches and noticeboards, which provide the funding information also have to be purchased. Ongoing.	
26. Park gates:	Ongoing.	

27. Play Inspection Reports:	Ongoing.	
28. Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications: To receive a schedule of correspondence, notices and publications received since the last meeting.		
29. Applications for Development:	Cllr Alan Maxwell brought it to the councillor's attention that a planning application has been submitted at King Street for a small, single storey extension. Cllr Maxwell provided the reference number should the councillors wish to search online.	
30. Items submitted by members:		
31. Items for the next meeting:	Cllr Kevin Thurlow mentioned to build a wall at St Mungos Park for children to use should they wish to play with a ball alone, such as football, tennis etc.	
32. Confidential items:	None.	
33. The next meeting of Aspatria Town Council will take place on Tuesday 15 March at 7.00 p.m. at the Methodist Hall, Aspatria.		

The meeting ended at 9.15pm

Chairman.....

Date.....

