**Fleetwood Town Council**

**Onward to a Better Future**

***Draft* Minutes of the Full Council Meeting**

**held on Tuesday 24th June 2025**

**at 7pm in the North Euston Hotel**

**Irene Tonge – Signature:**



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **4344** | Opening of the meeting*. Chairman*  **Present**; Councillors Cheryl Raynor (Chairman), Karen Nicholson (Vice Chair), Alice Jones, Harry Swatton, Robbie Raynor, Jimi Kuruvakadua, Andy Craig and David Shaw.  **Not Present**; Councillors Christine Smith, Carole Stephenson  Chairmans Update: Not successful in the bid for funding from UKSPF for Warrenhurst, however, Councillor Nicholson, along with SM, will continue to apply via different sources. |
| **4345** | To receive apologies for absence - *Chairman*  Apologies were received and recorded for Cllrs Belshaw, Moliner and Martin |
| **4346** | To record Disclosable Pecuniary Interests from members (including their spouses, civil partners, or partners) in any item to be discussed. Committee members MUST NOT make representations or vote on the matter therein. *Chairman*  None. |
| **4347** | To record Other (Personal or Prejudicial) Interests from members in any item to be discussed. Committee members should state if they need to bar themselves from discussion and voting on any related matters. *Chairman.*  None |
| **4348** | To review and accept the minutes of the meeting on 3rd June 2025 and Chairman to sign them.  Cllr Swatton raised relating to the omission of the Advertising Committee again, despite this being raised previously. ACTION: SM will update and rectify the minutes from the AGM and bring to the next meeting for approval  Cllr Karen Nicholson advised that is to be removed from Festive Lights Committee listing for this year. ACTION: SM as above  The approval of the AGM minutes was deferred until corrections had been made. These will be tabled at the meeting in July. |
| **4349** | *To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation. Please note the council cannot make any decisions on any matter raised, which has not already been included in the formal agenda, Chairman*   * *Fleetwood Area Police – Not Present* * *MoP asked, regarding the publishing of minutes three days before the meeting, as declared in the Standing Orders, you are duly bound to publish them on your website. CR confirmed that this was correct and is aware that this hasn’t happened. Moving forward, SM will ensure that this happens in a timeously manner.* * *MoP asked, is there an update to the questions that I raised at the last meeting re planning*   *HMO Article 4 isn’t being brought in. CR has been working with Emma (who was at the last meeting); CR has had a discussion with Steve Smith at Wyre. WBC could bring in Article 4 but it would need to go to Secretary of State, but it most likely would be declined.*  *Nothing in National Planning Policy that we could refuse them on, but Wyre have already taken their limit on asylum seekers; they are trying to bring families in as opposed to single men.*  *MoP – I would like to offer my congratulations to Councillor Kuruvakadua on meeting the King recently.*  *MoP – We have a lot of problems with rats on the allotments, previously, we employed a company, at a cost to the council for £400 - £500, to carry out baiting for the rats, however, the problem is back again. It would be good to get Dan, if possible, onto a training course around this matter, so there is someone with knowledge about the subject. I’m aware of the ever-increasing workload of Dan, as he is spread across the Council, but this would be good investment for the Council, and a saving of money as well. Cllr R Raynor advised that the Allotment Committee will be meeting on Thursday 26th and will bring this up. RR will be getting a date with Dan to arrange inspections.*  *CR informed that meeting that we are looking to expand the role that Dan undertakes, and we’re aiming to get a couple of apprentices for him and build a team; which would allow us to undertake more work.*  *MD – Civic Society wrote to Wyre last year about the rats, as this is deterring returning visitors, CR wrote as well. In relation to the motorhomes / campervans, it would be good if they could arrange for a carpark to be allocated around at the Museum, providing another side to the town, with the potential of more money being spent in the town.*  *Pitch n putt site has been developed and is now active, in relation to the land at the back wedge of the hill, there is potential to open this up as BMX / scooter park, far enough away from the ‘golf balls’; great access for the kids to get too. Wyre deserves to be pushed for this, as they have the money.*  *DS – With reference to rats, Wyre are responsible for your own residential homes, but not too sure about Lancashire; however, DS will raise this with the relevant person at LCC for you*  *MoP – Why are we always last on Wyre’s list or Lancs, when it comes to weed killing; they’re ridiculously high and unkept. CR advised that DM will be going on a week killing course, and we’ll start doing it ourselves, but we’re limited to the resources we have in.*  *DS – Email from Mr Buckley, will get on to LCC for any that he can do action.*  *In relation to the esplanade, the only place decent on the front is right at Marine Hall. Where the camper vans park, it’s atrocious with sand, piled up high, dumped by Wyre. It’s time that you as the Council take this up with Wyre and get it resolved, it’s an eyesore.  ACTION: SM will send a letter to Wyre Borough Council in relation to this on behalf of residents of Fleetwood.* |
| **4350** | To reconvene the meeting - Chairman |
| **4351** | To consider the Grant Aid Application (enclosed) to be presented by Margaret Taylor from Outdoor Adventure Group, Fleetwood Boating Lake – Chairman.  An overview of the project was delivered in a statement, by Nigel from the group, talking about the age of the members (young and old), paddle sport itself, rescue training and importantly the use of Fleetwood Boating Pond . The group are self-funding and raises money through club membership, weekly subscriptions and club events. The club offers opportunity to those who would not normally get the chance to go in the water. All coaches within the group are DBS checked and are continuously trained. Continuing, Nigel said that the funding we’re asking for is to replace some of the broken and outdated equipment we have.  CR – Thanked the group for attending and for the overview. An explanation was given around the annual grant aid budget, which for 24 / 25 is set at £30,000; however, we’re only two months into this financial year, and already, almost half of our budget spent has been allocated.  KN – It is a lot of money for equipment, therefore from your list what would be the priority items from your list. The group replied by indicating that their choice would be “life jackets and helmets”.  DS – Building maintenance recorded at £18K, is this an ongoing event? The group replied that this was for “rent, insurance, etc. The coaches undertake the maintenance for the equipment; we have no place to make additional savings”. KN - Have you applied for additional funding? “Not yet, FTC are the starting point for us; we’ve came here as you, like us, are local”. KN will provide contact details for Adam Kirkby at Wyre, who is the Engagement Officer, and he will work with you. We can also look at providing you with other contact details for support and funding streams.  KN would like to propose £2000 – Cllr Craig (Seconded), all approved. SM will be in touch to confirm details and to process the payment.  Cllr Swatton is an abstention from this vote. |
| **4352** | The RFO will provide the Council with a status update on the AGAR for 2024-25 (RFO)  FTC are well on track for the Internal Auditor to commence the AGAR for 24-25. There’s been an awful lot of work done behind the scenes by SM, bringing Scribe up to date and ensuring, all areas are up to date, including Asset Register; however, time has been held up as there have been queries from PKF (overarching auditor) receiving for the past two audits, which have taken time to source and conclude.  This was noted by all Councillors. |
| **4353** | To consider and approve the monthly Finance report for May 2025 and to approve and note the updated Financial Regulations and Standing Orders. (RFO).  Approved: C Raynor Seconded: R Raynor   In relation to Financial Regulations and Standing Orders, SM advised she has reviewed both documents, in comparison to last years, and there have been only tiny amendments.  This was noted by all Councillors. |
| **4354** | To retrospectively approve the training courses booked for our Lengthsman, Dan Munro. These courses undertake the management and principles of safe handling and application of pesticides for weeds and plants, which will assist with Fleetwood in Bloom.  These courses have been recommended to the Council, by Wyre Borough Council. There are two courses that follow on from each other, at a cost of £105.00 each. Spaces are now very limited for the Summer, hence why the places have been booked. Due care and attention will be used when purchasing ‘bee friendly’ pesticides.  Approved: R Raynor Seconded: H Swatton |
| **4355** | To note and consider the date and time of the next Full Council Meeting on Tuesday 29th July at 7pm – Chairman  It was noted after the meeting closed, a MoP asked why there was only one ‘Public Participation’ on the agenda. CR advised that the second one will be reinstated with effect from July.  DS informed the meeting that the Chamber of Trade will be starting back up, as it’s important that the town comes together, with businesses supporting events as much as the public. DS said that he wasn’t in Fleetwood for the Carnival (held at the weekend) but noticed that there was a sparse number of floats there, which is a shame. Moving forward, DS hopes that other business will follow in the steps of Strawberry Fields which will be submitting a float next year to the carnival, as it is a community event. |