Fleetwood Town Council

Onward to a Better Future

**Minutes of the Full Council AGM**

**held on Tuesday 3rd June 2025 at**

**7pm, at the North Euston Hotel.**

Irene Tonge, Signature:

**Minutes**

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| **4324** | **Opening of the meeting – Chairman**  Chairman Cheryl Raynor opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. She also introduced Alice Jones a newly elected uncontested Councillor for Park Ward; Alice represents Reform UK LTD.  Alice completed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was accepted by the Clerk. |
| **4325** | **To elect a Chairman of the Council.**  Councillor Mary Belshaw proposed, and Councillor Christine Smith seconded the motion - result was Cheryl Raynor to remain as Chair – all councillors and the Clerk congratulated Cheryl. |
| **4326** | **To receive the Chairman’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office.**  Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed and received by the Clerk. |
| **4327** | **To elect a Vice Chair of the Council.**  Cllrs Karen Nicholson, Harry Swatton and Jimie Kuruvakadua put themselves forward. All Cllrs voted and Cllr Karen Nicholson was elected. All councillors and the Clerk congratulated Karen. |
| **4328** | **To receive the Vice Chairman’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office.**  Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed and received by the Clerk. |
| **4329** | **To note that Fleetwood Town Council currently have one Councillor vacancy, this is for the Warren Ward. The election date is June 12th.**  Noted. |
| **4330** | **To receive apologies for absence and to note any Councillor not in attendance – Chairman**  Apologies received from Cllr A Craig and Cllr J Martin. |
| **4331** | **To record Disclosable Pecuniary Interests from members (including their spouses, civil partners, or partners) in any item to be discussed. Councillors MUST NOT make**  **representations or vote on the matter therein - Chairman**  **None.** |
| **4332** | **To record Other (Personal or Prejudicial) Interests from members in any item to be discussed. Councillors should state if they need to bar themselves from discussion and voting on any related matters. Chairman**  Cllr Mary Belshaw declared an interest which was accepted by the Cllrs. |
| **4333** | **To accept the minutes of the last full Council meeting on 22nd April 2025 – Chairman**  Minutes were challenged by Chairman and Cllr H Swatton (see item 4334) |
| **4334** | **The Chairman and Cllr Swatton did not agree with the minutes of the previous meeting and will let the Clerk know of any amendments.**  Minutes were challenged by as the Grant Aid application for Fleetwood Carnival amount of £4000 was approved but minutes showed £4,400 was paid; this error was brought to the Clerks attention; Clerk apologised for the overpayment, and confirmed the £400 was paid into the bank on 20th May. |
| **4335** | **To note that there will only be one period of public participation (due to AGM business and other matters of business).**  Noted. |
| **4336** | **To consider the Grant Aid applications from:**  **Hayley Prescott, NHS Business Services – Student Services. The NHSBSA Student Services have made a commitment to raise £2500 for the Guide Dogs for the Blind, as part of the ‘Sponsor a Puppy’ scheme. They are asking for a grant of £700; questions were asked in regard to whether the Guide Dogs was a Charitable Cause and if so, our policy would not allow for a grant; It was therefore agreed that both the BSA and FTC would go away and make some enquiries.**  Deferred - Glyn Stead was present and answered questions from the councillors.  There was a question regarding the Guide Dogs Association being a Charitable Cause and if so, FTC policy will not cover a grant. Clerk and Glyn Stead to investigate this further and if required bring back to next meeting or an EOM.  **John Egan, Fleetwood Gym Juniors. By rolling out the introduction of the Football Development Plan, it sets out a framework for delivering a Borough-wide development programme to create a sustainable, sound and progressive plan. They are asking for a grant of £7451.52. Councillors were mindful that FTC have supported FGJ for some time.**  Deferred for further consideration. FTC have asked for bank statements - not yet received.  **Joe Stockell, Fleetwood Town Community Trust. FTCT are looking to launch a ‘free holiday provision’ for young people, which will run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday (excluding Bank Holidays), providing fitness programmes, a breakfast and hot lunch along with external trips. They are asking for a grant of £6500.00.**  The Council discussed this and agreed to offer a grant of £2300, which was gratefully accepted. Payment will be processed accordingly. |
| **4337** | **To consider the change in office phones at Poulton Road. These will provide better and clearer phone lines, in conjunction with the ‘digital line roll out’ which will be concluded in the UK by January 2027 – Chairman / Clerk.**  Councillors walked through the detailed description of the project and the purpose of the Grant  The committee members asked the Clerk to provide more information and 3 quotes; to bring back to a future meeting. |
| **4338** | **To consider the proposal from Easy Websites regarding the move to .gov.uk domain for Council email addresses – Chairman**  Deferred and passed to Media Working Group**.** |
| **4339** | **To note the appointment of Rebecca Murdoch, Director, Brambles Consulting and Finance, as the new Internal Auditor.**  Noted and approved. |
| **4340** | **To appoint representatives to Fleetwood Town Council Committees and Sub-Committees – Chairman**   1. **Festive Lights -** *Councillors: C Smith, M Belshaw, C Raynor, R Raynor, J Kuruvakadua, Clerk - Irene Tonge, CEDO Lauren Harrison, Julie Dalton, Lore Owen and Jen Thelfall.* 2. **Fleetwood in Bloom -** *Cllrs J Martin, C Raynor, K Nicholson, J Kuruvakadua, M Belshaw, Lengthsman- D Munro, Assistant Clerk- S Munro (temp Secretary) and CEDO, Lauren Harrison* 3. **Allotments** *Chairman, Cllr M Belshaw, Cllr’s H Swatton, R Raynor and Alice Jones, CEDO Lauren Harrison*. |
| **4341** | **To appoint representatives to Fleetwood Town Council Working Parties (WP) and to consider and approve if any should be changed to become a committee. It should be noted that the Clerk (and /or Assistant Clerk) should attend all meetings of WPs.**   1. **Employment Working Group;**  *Cllrs C Smith, K Nicholson, Swatton, Belshaw.* 2. **Grievance Panel**; *Cllrs R Raynor, Smith, Swatton and Jones* 3. **Grievance Appeal Panel**; *Cllrs Belshaw, Martin and Nicholson* 4. **Media Working Party**; *Cllrs Belshaw, R Raynor, Nicholson, Jones and Kuruvakadua* 5. **Precept Working Party**;  *Cllrs C Raynor, Nicholson, Belshaw, Kuruvakadua, Smith, Moliner* 6. **Marketing Working Party**; *Cllrs K Nicholson, R Raynor, H Swatton and Kuruvakadua* |
| **4342** | **To note and consider the date and time of the next Full Council Meeting of Monday 30th June at 7pm – Chairman**  It was agreed to bring the meeting forward to the 24th June at 7pm, with the meeting after that being July 29th. |