



Fleetwood Town Council

Onward to a Better Future

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 March 2021 Via Zoom at 7.00 p.m.

3286 Opening of the meeting.

The Chairman Mary Stirzaker opened the meeting.

Those present:

Cllrs Stirzaker (Chairman), Raynor (Vice-Chairman), Armstrong, Beavers, Blair, Craig, Crawford, Smith and Shewan.

Members of the Public

3287 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllr Stephenson (owing to technical issues).

It was noted that Cllr Craig was not present owing to illness.

3288 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.

None

3289 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.

None

3290 To consider and approve the minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 16 February 2021 (enclosed).

It was resolved that the minutes should be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

Councillors

M. Stirzaker (Chairman) C. Raynor (Vice-Chairman) C. Armstrong L. Beavers M. Blair

B. Crawford R. George R. Shewan C. Smith B. Stephenson A. Craig B.E.M. 2 Vacancies



3291 To agree to adjourn the meeting for a period (1) of public participation.

The meeting was adjourned.

- MOP spoke about the litter situation and that there had been some improvement around the Bold Street area; he also said that he will continue to watch that area and take photos if it was to get bad again. The corner of Milton Street, which has already been reported to Wyre, was also mentioned as still a problem.
- MOP mentioned the many road works/closures around the town and referred to **Item 3303** and asked if clerk could send her a copy – Cllrs confirmed this particular order is to allow gas mains replacement. Clerk told the meeting that the Notices of Orders are displayed in the FTC Office window and the FTC website but anyone can access them via LCC Website.
- MOP expressed support for **Item 3297**.
- MOP expressed support to **Item 3298** and asked the Council to be mindful of:
 - the demarcation when considering any changes as currently this isn't clear
 - not all the land that forms part of the plot 22 is good for cultivation
 - fencing

Also mentioned **Item 3296** with regard to seasonal planting and the importance of feeding as well as watering.

3292 To reconvene the meeting.

The meeting was reconvened.

3293 To note and approve the budget monitoring document for Main Expenditure (enclosed).

NB – no change to Festive Lights and FIB budgets (not enclosed).

It was resolved that the budget monitoring document should be approved.

3294 To approve the following invoices for payment:

- Annual subscription for LALC - £2215.92
- Annual subscription for Scribe and Initial set-up fee - £1134.00
- Annual EON – for seasonal illuminations - £536.30
- FMNP – for works carried out on new paths and seating - £12,214.80 (to be claimed back from LEF)

And to retrospectively approve the following payment:

- Annual Subscription for SLCC, which was renewed and paid via Debit Card - £223.00

It was resolved that all invoices, except the EON invoice for seasonal illuminations, should be approved. The EON invoice to be tabled at the Festive Lights Committee Meeting on 22 March for approval.

Action Point – Clerk to make necessary payments and to table EON invoice for the FLs meeting.



3295 To consider and approve the purchase of a new laptop for the Clerk (4 quotes enclosed – all from Curry’s as they will transfer everything from my current device – their charge is £45.00). Council to note that prices are fluctuating regularly and there is also an availability issue on certain Laptops. I therefore request approval to purchase up to £1000.

Council to note my informed (as far as the websites virtual help person can be) list of criteria below for the model I require for the business. Using their on-line filters these were the only 4 laptops that met that specification, which is:-

Type: Windows
Screen size: 15 or >
Resolution: Full HD
Processor: Core i5-i7
Core: Dual / Quad
Memory: 8GB or >
Storage: 512GB or >
Operating: Windows 10

It was resolved that the Clerk should purchase a laptop as specified up to the value of £1000.

Action Point – Clerk to arrange for the purchase and setting up of a new laptop.

3296 To consider and approve if Fleetwood should be entered into the NWIB Competition 2021; if decision is yes, to consider and decide if a Committee is required this year.

There was lots of discussion on this item, mainly around the impact the pandemic has had and continues to have, and the uncertainties for the future. Also discussed were ideas for sourcing plants and planting out, as we had done in 2020.

It was therefore resolved not to enter NWIB 2021. It was also resolved to retain a FIB Committee.

Action Points – 1. CEDO to call a meeting with the FIB Committee to arrange the Planting Out project. 2. Clerk to inform Sandra Byrne at Wyre of decision.

3297 To consider and approve whether we should extend the free swimming for children to weekends.

This item was placed on the Agenda by Cllr Stirzaker , who gave a brief explanation of why she thought this would be good for the kids of Fleetwood – this was supported in principle by all Cllrs.

It was resolved to defer in order to find out specific costs, then bring back to the meeting in April. **Action Point – CEDO to contact YMCA for costs.**



3298 To consider the report submitted to the Clerk by Carol Vance, one of the Allotment tenants (enclosed), and to resolve:

- **To 'Agree in Principle' for the CEDO to research into the ideas raised in the report and consult with the whole Allotment community, with the initial outcome being a detailed proposal document for bringing back to a future meeting, to include demographics, timeframes and costings.**

The Clerk gave a brief run-through of the attached report and also a pen-picture of the current situation, given the impact of the pandemic and associated restrictions. Clerk suggested that if the Council agrees to the outline plan in principle, it will allow her and the CEDO to get on and ensure a detailed proposal is produced, with some quick wins being executed, such as the erection of the shed for the feral cats.

The Councillors were supportive of the plan and it was therefore resolved to move to the next stage. The councillors also passed on their appreciation for the help given by Carol Vance.

Action Point – CEDO to take this forward.

3299 To consider and approve future website and email hosting as a periodic review of services/VFM – 3 service descriptions and quotes are enclosed.

- **Breakdown of existing services and costings from Kevin Littlewood of Rabbit Patch - current provider.**
- **Breakdown of services and costings from Easy Web Sites.**
- **Breakdown of services and costings from Aubergine (promoted by SLCC).**

Councillors all agreed that the current website (WordPress) is not the easiest to use or update and that now, more than ever, it is paramount that we utilize the website more productively. It was also noted and discussed that the Website currently falls short of full compliance with the accessibility legislation that came into force in 2020.

Although current annual charges are competitive, they do not include Support, Training and Maintenance, this is an additional cost and because of the complexity it is quite expensive.

The quote from Aubergine was discounted as being too expensive.

The Clerk was asked what she would prefer – she responded that she needs greater support and believes that comes from networking with her counterparts across the industry, i.e., Clerks, LALC and SLCC, many of which are with Easy Web Sites.

It was resolved to move to a new Website with Easy Web Sites.

Action Point – Clerk to take this forward .

3300 To agree to adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation. Please note the Council cannot make any decision on any matter raised which has not already been included on the formal agenda; such items may be considered for future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned.



3301 To agree to re-convene the meeting.

The meeting was reconvened.

3302 To consider planning applications and agree any actions to be taken or responses to the planning authority (enclosed).

Considered – no actions or responses required.

3303 To note LCC Notices of Traffic Prohibition Orders (enclosed).

Noted

3304 To receive items for Information and items for inclusion in the next Agenda, subject to full information being available. Members are reminded that no discussion or decision may be taken.

- Free weekend swimming for children
- Policy documents for review

3305 To approve the accounts for payment, including February salaries – see enclosed information. Sheet on Page 2 of the pack.

It was resolved that the payments listed on page 2 should be approved.

3306 To consider and resolve to exclude the Public and Press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960 and data Protection Act 1999, to hear an item as confidential.

It was resolved to exclude the Public for the next confidential item.

To note the next virtual meeting is scheduled for 20 April 2021 at 7.00pm

Noted

IN CONFIDENCE – PUBLIC AND PRESS EXCLUDED

3307 To consider and approve re-imburement to the Clerk.

The Clerk outlined the reason for the re-imburement and it was It was resolved that the reimbursement to the Clerk should be approved.

Irene Tonge

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Irene Tonge'.

Clerk to Fleetwood Town Council