



Fleetwood Town Council

Onward to a Better Future

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting on Tuesday 27 October 2020 Via Zoom at 7.00 p.m.

3197 Opening of the meeting. *Chairman*

The Chairman Mary Stirzaker opened the meeting.

Those present:

Cllrs Stirzaker (Chairman), Raynor (Vice-Chairman), Armstrong, Beavers, Blair, Crawford.

3198 To accept Apologies for Absence. *Chairman*

Apologies received from:

Cllrs Campbell, Craig, Shewan, Smith, and Stephenson.

It was noted that Cllr George did not attend the meeting or forward apologies, however, contacted Clerk the following day as an emergency had prevented her from attending.

3199 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 declared.

3200 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 Crawford declared his interest in **item 3205**.

3201 To accept the minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 1 September (enclosed). *Chairman*

Minutes were challenged:

1. Cllr Crawford brought to the attention of the Clerk that he had attended the meeting but wasn't included in the list of attendees (item 3197). Clerk apologised for the oversight and agreed to amend.

Action point- amend minutes. Clerk

Councillors

M. Stirzaker (Chairman) C. Raynor (Vice-Chairman) C. Armstrong L. Beavers M. Blair N. Campbell
B. Crawford R. George R. Shewan C. Smith B. Stephenson A. Craig B.E.M.



2. Cllr Beavers brought to the attention of the Clerk, that in regard to **item 3185** her recollection was, in addition to the action on the Clerk (as minuted), that the sourcing of materials and getting the potholes filled was approved; furthermore, she recalled that the agreement was for the Clerk to use her delegated powers to pay for said materials, up to the value of £300, and only in the event there is no lawful reason not to proceed, the job can get underway.

The Clerk recalled that she was distracted on a couple of occasions during the meeting in order to try to contact one of the Grant Aid applicants by phone, and therefore must have missed the end of the discussions – she apologised for the discrepancy.

The councillors who were at the meeting supported Cllr Beavers' recollection of the motion and therefore these amendments were agreed – unanimous.

Action Point – amend minutes. Clerk

3202 Adjournment to allow public participation. Chairman

Yes - unanimous.

MOP – Carol Vance addressed the Councillors in respect of **item 3214 Allotments – Gate Lock**. She wanted the council to be aware that the security of the Allotments is paramount and that this issue does need to be resolved as a matter of urgency. Carol described a recent incident where 3 intruders were on the allotments and she had to escort them out.

Chairman – Mary Stirzaker responded by saying that security of the allotments will be given priority and thanked Carol for her time and her interest in the matter.

3203 To reconvene the meeting. Chairman

Yes - unanimous.

3204 Grant Aid – Fleetwood Gym Juniors Football Club - *Following deferment of this motion, owing to there being no person present at previous meeting, this application is now re-tabled; Joe Stockell will be present:-*

To consider and approve a grant of £3000.00 for the provision of a second football session that aims to support the youths of Fleetwood in physical activities. A comprehensive application and report are enclosed covering:-

- **The Club Aim**
- **What is done already?**
- **Project description**
- **Purpose of the Grant Application**
- **How money has been raised**
- **Finances, includes bank Statements.**
- **Community Foundation**

Chairman welcomed both Joe Stockell and John Egan to the meeting. She started by expressing how sorry she was to hear of the recent fire and subsequent loss of their



building and equipment. She asked Joe what percentage of the youths are from Fleetwood.

JS - responded by saying that the majority are from Fleetwood, certainly 90% or above.

Chairman – asked what impact the loss of their equipment will have on the team.

JS - said that a lot of what was destroyed was their equipment that is used for tournaments and, as such it will need to be replaced. However, he is feeling really positive, as he has witnessed just how this tragedy has brought the team together and also the wider community as a whole with lots of help being offered, which has helped lift the spirits of the team.

Chairman asked if any Cllrs had any questions – no one had any further questions, therefore, she requested they vote.

Grant approved in full - unanimous.

Joe expressed his appreciation to the council.

Cllr Raynor said that she would also like to thank Joe for all that he does with the youngsters of the town.

3205 Grant Aid – Fleetwood Yacht Lake Public Conveniences Restoration Project – To consider and approve a grant of £7,000 to support Phase 2 of this restoration project, which when completed will provide free facilities serving the Fleetwood community and visitors to the town; this phase is 'The Detailed Design and Technical Stage'. An application and comprehensive Business & Project Plan are enclosed covering the full end-to-end stages:-

- **Context**
- **Phase 2**
 - **Summary**
 - **Aims**
 - **Outcomes**
 - **SWOT Analysis**
 - **Timetable of works**
- **Overall Project**
 - **Budget**
 - **Funding**
 - **Future**
 - **Evaluation**

Chairman - welcomed William Hargreaves to the meeting and asked the Cllrs to address any questions to him.

Cllr Raynor - expressed her surprise that the group have proposed to go for such a huge toilet block and invited WH to respond.

WH – explained that to leave layout more or less 'as is' was more cost effective.

Chairman – asked a question about the Finances, in particular the £556 paid out.

WH – confirmed this was to Wyre Council & Sols for arranging the lease.

Cllr Beavers – expressed her concerns, again to do with the size of the block and the layout, but in particular where small children, youths and vulnerable adults are concerned – this sparked a discussion and others joined in.



WH - said he understands the points Cllr Beavers and others are making but that the toilets will be regularly monitored and maintained by volunteers. He also confirmed that they will be locked each evening from 18.00 until 08.00 the following morning. He agreed to take back these concerns to the wider group.

Chairman – asked if we are the only organisation they have approached for funding.

WH – confirmed that they have a promise of £1,000 from the Yacht Club; other donations from Dolly's of £1000 with a promise of £100 per month; donations and collections at Dolly's Café; they had also approached the National Lottery but was not successful. He said that they wanted to wait and see how this goes and then he will start to target others, including local businesses.

WH – wanted to express how important it is to have these toilets back up and running for the town's residents and also for its visitors; he restated that they will be FREE but with a donation box; they are situated in the middle of the two lakes and right on the well-being way, which is a recent initiative in Fleetwood that is along the Promenade.

Chairman – asked for councillors to consider and vote:

Cllr Raynor – wanted to mention some consideration; the current budget and how low this is; that fact that FTC has also committed to Covid-19 help through Fleetwood Together.

Cllr Beavers - also wanted the Cllrs to clarify that if this grant is approved FTC cannot take on the running costs.

WH – Assured the meeting that the running costs will be there.

Grant approved in full - unanimous.

- 3206 Grant Aid – Fleetwood Wellbeing Way** – To consider and approve a Grant of £2000 to support the physical signage aspects, especially for the '5 Ways' to wellbeing signs and the individual 'Bus Stop' monthly signage. A comprehensive application and supporting links are enclosed.

Chairman – welcomed Elaine Robinson to the meeting and started by asking Cllrs if they have any questions for Elaine.

Cllr Raynor – asked 'What is the Wellbeing Way'.

ER - Gave an outline of the original idea that led to the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing', which aims to improve the mental and physical health of residents and visitors - these are known as the 5 steps (Connect; Be Active; Keep Learning; Take Notice and Give to Others) and essentially it works by promoting challenges. Currently these challenges are presented on signs on a route around the town and on social media, which are updated on a fortnightly basis.

Cllr Raynor – asked why she mentioned 'Volunteer time', for the Match Funding part of the application form, as this is something not seen before.

ER – explained that as they are fairly new and have only raised £1000 so far by way of donations, she was speaking at a HF meeting and it was suggested to her and subsequently she contacted FTC before submitting the application. As the Clerk had not heard of this before, she advised to include this for consideration.

Chairman - Asked why is the cost £1000 per sign.



ER – This is something they are still looking at, however, she also said that some materials they looked at were not the required standard to cope with the elements, especially along the sea-front. She spoke a bit about the durability in more detail.

Cllr Beavers – asked if they could put ‘sponsored by FTC’ on the signs.

ER – yes they do say sponsored by...and will ensure FTC is also captured on future signs.

Chairman asked councillors to vote.

Grant approved – unanimous.

Elaine thanked the Council on behalf of the Wellbeing Way Committee

3207 Grant Aid – Fleetwood Highbury Morris Dancers – To consider and approve a grant of £2,500 as a contribution toward their ‘Dress Fund’ and to assist them in their 1st season as a new troupe. A Comprehensive application and presentation are enclosed, covering:-

- **Background**
- **Their approach during Lockdown**
- **Opening day**
- **Their teams**
- **Fundraising**
- **How a grant can help**

As there was no one representing the Highbury Morris Dancers it was agreed to defer until the next meeting - unanimous.

3208 Invoices for Payment - To approve the following invoices for payment:

- **Off-com Licence - £150.00**
- **Cartridge World – £100.00**
- **Zoom subscription - £28.78**
- **Home Bargains – office supplies - £19.51**
- **J.W. Fish – telephone extension - £2.45**
- **GB Lec - Emergency electrical work for:-**
 - **Back-room Office (replacement of broken plug socket and faulty light fitting; the installation of a second plug socket)and new light). Total cost £ 145.00.**
 - **Small Kitchen Area on Ground Floor (installation of a new motion LED light) (Invoice enclosed).**
- **Yorkies Plumbing & Heating – Emergency call-out and repair to leaking radiator in back-room office. Total Cost £54.00.**

Approved all invoices - unanimous.

3209 To update Councillors on office renovations so far and to obtain their approval for the following items to be sourced purchased:

- **2 x chairs**
- **Desk with storage for back office**
- **Storage cupboard for back office**



(Quotes enclosed). Clerk/Chairman

In respect of all 3 items, Quotes numbered 1 were approved – unanimous.

3210 Wreaths – To approve the purchase of 2 Wreaths for Remembrance Day at a cost of *£20+ each (* to be confirmed). *Chairman*

A short discussion took place with regard to the sourcing of the wreaths from the usual contact as she had been poorly recently, however Cllr Beavers had managed to contact her and left an order. Chairman agreed therefore to place an order for the 2 wreaths, with this contact. Approved up to £20 each – unanimous.

3211 Community Excellence Award – To note the following quotes for the 2 sizes of Trophy available and options/costs for smaller trophies for use in the event of multiple recipients. Following the Green Paper Item 3224 – decision will need to be made on what Trophy/ies to purchase (*Quotes enclosed*). *Chairman*

Quotes noted and following discussions it was agreed to purchase 3 x small stars and 1x Large star (see item 3224) – unanimous.

3212 FTC Donations - To discuss and agree to increase the fund by a further 20k from reserves and to widen the support to include Grant Aid applications, in order to reach out to more of our community during these unprecedented times. *Chairman*

Cllr Beavers opened up discussions by saying that any monies being transferred from the reserves should be ring-fenced for Covid-19 related causes and not for Grant Aid applications. She also said that any requests for monies need to be clearly defined; Cllr Armstrong seconded this.

3213 Councillor Vacancy - To update the meeting with regard to the late communication of the outcome of the publication of the 'Notice of Vacancy in Office of Town Councillor in the Township of Fleetwood'. As a consequence, councillors to also note the withdrawal of the invitation for co-option applications and, owing to Covid-19, that the Election will not be held until May 2021 at the earliest. *Clerk*

Clerk updated the meeting that a Poll by 10 or more Rossall Ward residents was claimed within the timeframe but was overlooked by Wyre; the election office has apologised to FTC for the delay.

Cllrs were not happy with this outcome as it leaves us with a vacancy at least until May 2021 and that an election will cost FTC.

Cllr Raynor expressed her disappointment with this.

Cllr Armstrong said they ought to go back to Wyre.

The update was duly noted by all.



3214 Allotments – Gate Lock – To update the meeting with regard to the ongoing security issues at the Allotments following the damage to the gate lock. To discuss options and decide on a solution (see enclosures). Chairman

The clerk talked the meeting through the options. Chairman said that the option to utilise the existing barrel in order to use the existing keys is her preference. There was some discussion and confusion as to whether it applied to all three lock options. The meeting was then asked to approve the spend up to the highest quote, as the security of the Allotments is paramount and therefore deferring the decision is not an option – this will give time to explore the options and seek clarification from supplier.

Approved – unanimous.

3215 Allotments – 2020-21 Rent Payment Plan - To update the meeting with regard to the 2020-21 rents, budget statement enclosed; to inform the meeting of the agreement to allow one tenant to pay by instalments. Clerk

The update was duly noted by all.

3216 FTC Representatives - To review and agree the filling of vacancies for FTC representatives:-

- **Outside bodies – 1 Vacancy for Healthier Fleetwood Trustee (s) – self-nominations from Cllrs Raynor & Beavers.**
Agreed that both would join this group – unanimous.
- **FTC Committees and Sub-Committees – 1 Vacancy for Grievance Panel; 1 Vacancy for Grievance Appeal Panel; and 2 Vacancies for FIB Committee.**
Cllr Raynor volunteered for GP; Cllr Beavers for GAP; Cllr Blair for FIB
Agreed – unanimous.
Agreed also to defer the vacancy for FIB until the absent Cllrs are in attendance.
- **FTC Working Parties (WP) – 1 Vacancy for Health WP; 2 Vacancies for Precept WP**
Cllr Beavers volunteered for Health WP; Agreed – unanimous.
It was also agreed to defer the vacancies for the Precept WP until absent Cllrs are present.

3217 Adjournment to allow public participation (2).

Agreed - unanimous.

MOP Yvonne Johnson – Mentioned that she managed to get hold of Belinda Armstrong to place the order and is now awaiting delivery.



She went on the talk about the article in the Weekly News with regard to the TRO for parking restrictions. This sparked a lengthy debate by MOPs and Cllrs.

Cllr Beavers – outlined the plans to have parking meters from Carr Road to Pier Site and from Pier site to Ferry Café, she mentioned the Camper Vans won't be able to Park and there is no overnight parking. Fleetwood business were discussed as was Fleetwood residents who live along the route. Cllr Beavers also spoke about the Poll that was run on FB for Fleetwood people to have their say and the result was 80% in favour of the restrictions.

MOP IJ & WH – expressed their disquiet and said our town will die if these meres go in; it was also mentioned that a lot of older residents do not use Social Media.

Cllr Raynor & Beavers – Totally agreed with the MOP and said they know this would happen.

Cllr Armstrong – Agreed and said this is disastrous for our town and that LCC don't care.

MOP MD – spoke out that that LCC have used the Camper Vans objection to implement these restrictions so the people who voted didn't know the wider Implications of the Poll. She went on the say why not encourage them to come to our town and let them park on the sunken car park.

Cllr Raynor – Said FT Cllrs are discussion with Wyre the Poll was 80% in favour and they have said they will have been Caravan haters.

Chairman – asked if here is anything we can do now?

Cllr Beavers – confirmed she doesn't agree with the restrictions and will campaign on behalf of FTC, although difficult during Covid-19 lock-down but she will try her best .

MOP YJ & IJ – expressed that these restriction will detract from others want ting to invest in Fleetwood . They said LCC, Wyre & Fleetwood should come together and get some support for the campervans – the seafront is Fleetwood biggest asset.

3218 To Reconvene the meeting.

Agreed - unanimous.

3219 Planning - To note planning applications considered by members and agree any actions to be taken or responses to the planning authority (see list enclosed).

Chairman

No actions recorded - the planning applications duly noted by all.

3220 Accounts for Payment - To agree accounts for payment, including October Salaries for Clerk and CEDO - see enclosed information sheet on Page 2 of the pack.

Accounts approved and Salaries approved for payment - unanimous.

3221 Items for next Meeting - 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.



None recorded.

3222 To discuss and agree volunteers to 'tidy' and 'maintain' local memorials:

- 1. Fishing Community Memorial**
- 2. Lost Trawlermen's Memorial**

Chairman said there is already a rota in place and Cllr George has the key for the Goth Funnell. As for the painting, before any decisions can be made the suggestion was to get the rota back up and running for the 'litter picking/tidying' and conduct an assessment of the memorials. One of the MOP- John Egan who was in attendance contacted the Clerk after the meeting to offer his services, as he is a painter by trade.

Agreement – to obtain key from Cllr George and arrange for a rota – **Action Point Clerk/CEDO**

Agreement - to defer until assessment completed.

Both unanimous

3223 To consider and resolve to exclude the public and press under the Public Bodies (admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and the data Protection Act 1999, to hear a confidential matter.

Agreed - unanimous.

The next meeting will be Tuesday 24th November 2020 at 7.00pm via Zoom.

Irene Tonge

Clerk to Fleetwood Town Council

Public and Press to be Excluded

3224 To consider the nominations for the Community Excellence Award and vote on the 2020 Winner(s) (nominations enclosed). Chairman

Chairman opened by asking Cllrs if they have read the nominations and for their comments .

Cllr Armstrong said that he was particularly impressed with the 3 youngsters, Abbigail Perry, Liam Wilkinson, and Liam Ashworth, as they have volunteered at FT from day 1 and they did an excellent job – a shout out for Liam Wilkinson in particular.

Cllr Beavers seconded this nomination and she described them as Amazing.

Cllr Crawford agreed with the comments for the youths, however, he would like to vote for Belinda Armstrong - he said that she has been working in the community with the scouts and Charity shop for over 30 years and it is only right that she is recognised.



Cllr Blair agreed that the children have set a fantastic example to others and they are standing out for her.

Chairman said she agrees with all the comments and would like to suggest that the council awards both of these two. She also said that all the nominees were good this year and it's been really difficult to decide.

After a debate it was agreed to award the Community Excellence Award to the 3 youths – they will receive the small star trophies and Amazon vouchers of £50 and a Lifetime Community Achievement Award to Belinda and she will receive the larger Star Trophy and some flowers.

Approved – unanimous.