

# ULVERSTON TOWN COUNCIL



## Minutes of the Virtual Zoom Meeting of Ulverston Town Council held on Monday 15 June 2020 at 7.00.

**Present:** Cllr's: S. Webster (Chair), J. Airey, N. Bishop-Rowe, B. Brown, A. Butcher, H. Irving, P. Halfpenny, J. Jenkinson, P. Jones, C. Pickthall, J. Pickthall, A. Rigg, P. Smith, C. Tennyson, D. Webster, M. Wilson, S. A. Wilson. Also: Clerk, Sgt Rupert Johnston, 1 member of the public.

*Before the meeting the Mayor offered her condolences on behalf of the council to Cllr Pat Jones on the death of her husband Alan Jones.*

**X176. Notification of Absence:** Cllr B. Rajan

**X177. Requests for dispensations:** None received.

**X178. Declaration of Interest:**

Planning: Cllrs: Jenkinson and D. Webster. Members of SLDC planning committee  
Allotment Grants: Cllr D Webster and S. Webster. Ford Park Grant: Cllr S.A. Wilson

**X179. Town Mayor's announcements:**

- VE Day. Laid a wreath with the High Sherriff of Cumbria.
- Launched the subsidy of Car Park charges project with chair of Ulverston BID.
- Unveiled the refurbished bench on Gill Banks as a tribute to the NHS.
- Photograph with the Deputy Mayor at the opening of Aldi store.

**X179. Public Participation:** None

**X180. Minutes:** The minutes of the council meeting on 16 March 2020 were approved.

**Proposed:** Cllr. Pickthall **Seconded:** Cllr J. Jenkinson. **Unanimously approved.**

**X181. Update: Police:**

Cumbria force area and the south of the county in addition to Ulverston and Furness, is the total area covered by Sgt Johnston and which are showing a fall in recorded crime and a rise in anti- social behaviour.

Ulverston and Furness: Recorded crime:128 for year to date. Anti-social behaviour calls 239 compared with 42 in last full year.

Figures for May

- Reported crime May: 36.
- Anti-social behaviour calls for service: 26 For the year to date. ASB – 148
- Dwelling Burglary – 5; Commercial Burglary –3 2 relating to allotments
- Assaults with injury – 5. Assaults without injury 2. All suspects identified.

Sgt Johnston said that there had been a 300% rise in anti-social behaviour, and this figure is mirrored throughout the country throughout the Coronavirus outbreak.

*Questions from councillors:*

Cllr S.A. Wilson: Thanked police for their support during some issues at Ford Park.

Police: A PCSO had visited all neighbours around Ford Park and asked them to ring 101 in future.

Cllr C Pickthall: Asked how far the rise in complaints about anti-social behaviour had taken up resources.

Police: Yes, this had taken up a lot of resource

Cllr P. Smith: Were the police working with Pubs in advance of re-opening in July

Police: Yes

Cllr Bishop Rowe. Queried speeding of motorbikes on the coast road

Police: No logs of motor bike issues, but there is an increase in speeding around town generally.

**X182. Planning:**

**SL/2020/0326** Beehive Business Park, Ulverston. Rawdon Property Group  
Variation of condition 2 attached to planning permission SL/2018/0812.

**Approved by majority. Proposed:** Cllr Irving. **Seconded:** Cllr S. A. Wilson

**X183. Executive committee:**

Council approved the recommendations for grant expenditure.

**Proposed:** Cllr C Pickthall. **Seconded** Cllr Jenkinson. **Unanimously approved**

**X184. Environmental Standing Committee:**

Council **approved** the minutes of the previous meeting.

Tree Planting. Council **noted** the request for members to recommend areas of land/landowners where a tree planting programme may be appropriate and to contact the clerk. Cllr Bishop Rowe said that there would need to be careful costings if this project was to proceed.

**Proposed:** Cllr J. Pickthall. **Seconded:**Cllr C Pickthall.**Unanimously approved.**

**X185 Finance and General Purposes Standing Committee:**

1. Council **approved** the minutes of the previous meeting.

2. Council **approved:**

- Bank statements and Bank reconciliation: April and May
- Internal Audit 2019-2020 and Annual Accounts 2019-2020.

3. **Annual Return 2019/2020:**

- Council unanimously **approved** the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2019/2020.
- Council unanimously **approved** the Accounting Statements in the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2020
- Council unanimously **authorised** the Chairman and Town Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer) to sign the statements.
- Council unanimously **noted** the prescribed period for public examination from Monday 15 June until Monday 29 July 2020.
- Council unanimously **authorised** the submission of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2020 for external audit (PFK Littlejohn) by 2 July 2019.

**Proposed:** Cllr Pickthall. **Seconded** Cllr J. Jenkinson **Unanimously approved.**

4. **Allotments.** Council unanimously **approved** a recommendation that allotment rentals remain at £43.00 for a full plot and £23.00 for a half plot for 2020-2021. It was noted that if water charges increased, then this should be reviewed for 2021/22. **Proposed:** Cllr Irving. **Seconded:** Cllr C. Pickthall. **Unanimously approved.**

## 5. Re-Opening Ulverston:

Council **noted** the progress and **approved** the draft action.

The clerk reported that the SLDC had been awarded £92,000 of ERDF funding from the Government for 'opening town centres'

- £6.000 per town had been awarded to Ulverston and Kendal as the two key service centres for marketing and print.
- The total cost for the marketing work in Ulverston is £11,000; it is being managed by the BID in partnership with UTC clerk.
- The BID is finding £4,000 towards the cost and town council is asked for £1000.00. This request will be referred to F&GP in July.
- SLDC advised that the ERDF funding balance would be divided by SLDC between the many other smaller towns and with CCC Highways. County Highways are still formulating proposals for social distancing in town centres and how this may best be achieved.

Cllr Shirley Anne Wilson informed council that the café at Ford Park would be re-opening shortly, it be would run independently, with a rental paid to the charity.

6. **Policy:** Council **approved** the policy "*Protocol to mark the death of a senior national figure of state or a local holder of high office*" as recommended by F&GP and noted typographical errors.

7. **Ulverston Railway Station.** Access for all feasibility study.

Council **approved by majority** a recommendation to allocate £10,000 from CIL to support the feasibility study costs to understand engineering solutions to provide better access to Ulverston station, subject to match funding being achieved. It was hoped that the feasibility study work may commence before the end of the year. **Proposed:** Cllr Jenkinson. **Seconded:** Cllr C Pickthall.

**Unanimously approved.**

8. **Asset Register:** Council **approved** the asset register for 2020-2021. The asset register would in future include a column which provided details of depreciation

9. **United Charities:** Council as trustees of United Charities **approved** a recommendation for apportionment of the dividend for 2020: UVHS: £300.00; Foodbank: £300.00; Churches Together in Ulverston:£250.00; Mayor's Charity:£1,000. Total £1850.00

10. **Payments: Council approved** payments and assigned Cllr's Webster and Jenkinson virtually authorise payments the following day.

## X186. Other Matters:

- Cllr Jenkinson. Commended the Ulverston Isolation Group volunteers in particular Caroline Smith Dance and Neil Fleming for the work they had done in relation to support for the community throughout the Corona Virus.
- Cllr Webster: Commented on the letter received today and distributed to all councillors by email on the closure of the South lakes Housing Office in Ulverston. He said this was disgraceful and should be discussed at the next meeting.
- Cllr Bishop Rowe. Requested an agenda item in July regarding the creation of a virtual book of condolence to be made available on line.
- Cllr C Pickthall: Thought the zoom meeting had been challenging and asked the clerk to look at venues to have a full socially distanced meeting in July.

**X187. Date of Next Virtual Meeting:** Monday 20 July 2020 at 7.00pm.