

APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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APPLEBY TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD IN THE MOOT HALL ON WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11 2006 at 7.00pm

Present : Mayor S Rooke
Deputy Mayor Mrs C Patterson
Councillors AK Morgan
[by length of service] HR Potts
PR Elliott
J Pape
I Potts
Mrs M Clowes
KJ Budding
AN Connell
CK Duncan
Apologies Mrs E Langan
F Harland

C1/10/06 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received by the Mayor.

An adjournment was called, to hear from the Police, County and District Councillors, plus any member of the public on his or her pre-notified questions.

Police :

None in attendance this month.

District Council :

Cllr Morgan updated Councillors and answered questions. Detailed discussion took place around EDC's decision to temporarily close the Shire Hall public toilets on October 17th and communication of these plans.

Members of the public :

None present this month.

The Mace was returned and the meeting resumed ...

C2/10/06 COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 13 2006

A request was received from Cllr Budding for an amendment to the minute under item **C3/9/06** to read "Cllr Budding declared a personal interest in item 13 (revised administrative procedures) *which may become prejudicial, depending on the topic under discussion*".

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on September 13 2006 be signed by the Mayor as a true and accurate record with this slight amendment.

C3/10/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

C4/10/06 MAYOR'S REPORT & COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

This month's report was given to Councillors and noted. It was **RESOLVED** that the Mayor would write to Cumbria Highways regarding parking signage in the town. The Mayor reported that the regular Saturday Shearings coach visits to the town would cease at the end of the season on October 27 and thanked Cllrs Harland, Miss Palmer and Cllr Mrs Patterson for all their help. Coaches would continue to visit on stated days in the winter and continue to bring new people to Appleby.

The Mayor & Mayoress' first coffee morning would be on November 4th and any help would be greatly appreciated.

ACTION

SR

ALL

The (lack of) street lighting in Boroughgate was discussed and it was **RESOLVED** that the Mayor would contact David Spence first thing the next day to ascertain when the dispute between United Utilities and Capita would be resolved, since winter hours of reduced light were soon upon us. He would also check when the next enhancements snagging visit would take place.

SR

The Mayor reminded all members about the Remembrance Sunday parade on November 12, asking them to assemble at 1.30 in the Council Chamber for robing.

ALL

A letter had been received by the Mayor from the Commander of the Duke of Lancaster Regiment, to remind the Council of their extremely long attachment with the Kings Own Royal Border Regiment – who had now been amalgamated with another regiment. They asked to continue to be allowed to march through the town with bayonet's fixed and colours flying, saying that their right of freedom had already been granted by several other towns in Cumbria. It was **RESOLVED** that the Mayor would reply positively and also invite them to exercise their right as soon as possible on any date to suit them.

SR

C5/10/06 MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 2nd 2006

RESOLVED that these minutes be adopted.

Please see attached for details of items discussed by the Planning Committee.

C6/10/06 MINUTES OF THE F&GP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 2nd 2006

Cllr I Potts circulated proposed wording for car stickers (showing ATC and the Police) to discourage illegal parking in both coach and disabled parking bays (F4/10/06).

IP

Cllr Pape was progressing with the phone line changeover for the Moot Hall.

JP

Cllr Rooke had spoken with the Chairman of the Appleby in Westmorland Society about the bull ring.

SR

RESOLVED that these minutes be adopted.

Please see attached for details of items discussed by the Finance & General Purpose Committee.

C7/10/06 CUMBRIA-IN-BLOOM JOINT WORKING PARTY REPORT

No report this month.

C8/10/06 PUBLIC HALL JOINT WORKING PARTY REPORT

No report this month.

C9/10/06 PUBLIC TOILETS JOINT WORKING PARTY

Cllr Mrs Clowes reported on a meeting of this group on the previous Tuesday and their concern that EDC had not consulted or informed them of the temporary closure of the Shire Hall toilet block. Enquiries had revealed that EDC had always had user rights from CCC and had started negotiations for a 25 year lease. CCC's Property Manager, Mr Adcock, had stated that user rights were the equivalent of a never ending lease, so Cllr Mrs Clowes felt there were two different stories. The major problems caused by lack of public toilet facilities experienced during Fair Week were discussed, with some 90,000 visitors to the town. Complaints had been made about the standard of cleaning of all toilet blocks by the contractor. The working party had written to Mr Bruce at EDC with a copy to David McLean and had also put up posters. Councillors discussed this topic in great detail and were most concerned that once the Shire Hall block was temporarily closed it would not reopen. Cllr Morgan reported that EDC's decision to temporarily close the block had been influenced by the number of complaints received, including one that they presented a health hazard. He had argued (as EDC Cllr) to keep the block open until work started to refurbish them and felt that all being well this work would be started soon after October 17. He hoped that long before the next Fair they would be up and running again.

RESOLVED that Cllr Mrs Clowes would prepare a letter from ATC to EDC for the Mayor to sign, to demand that the Shire Hall block be kept open until refurbishment work commenced. The letter to make it clear that the biggest complaints were about the poor standard of cleaning carried out by the contractor.

MC

The Mayor asked members to join him and the Mayoress, who planned to be there on the closure morning to register protest at this closure. He asked residents and the press to join him there at **8am on October 17**.

ALL

C10/10/06 TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE JOINT WORKING PARTY REPORT

The minutes of a meeting on September 18 were reviewed.

C11/10/06 APPLEBY ALLIANCE

Members felt that Appleby Alliance working with Kirkby Stephen Town Council was to be applauded, having read about it in the Herald.

C12/10/06 APPLEBY HERITAGE CENTRE

Cllr Mrs Patterson reported that the remainder of carriages were due to be moved at half-term, to minimise inconvenience to students, before building a new reception.

C13/10/06 APPLEBY NEW FAIR JOINT COMMITTEE

Cllr H Potts reported on progress being made, with sub-committees created to address different aspects of the Fair to improve it. He asked that an item be added to the December agenda of the Planning Committee to consider next year's lease and review such items as rent and water.

Clerk

C14/10/06 APPLEBY COMMUNITY SPORTS HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Nothing to report this month.

C15/10/06 APPLEBY CEMETERY CHAPEL JOINT COMMITTEE

Cllr Mrs Patterson reported that the next committee meeting was planned for Monday 23 October.

C16/10/06 USE OF METAL DETECTOR ON FAIR HILL

Members considered a request by a resident to use his metal detector on their land at Fair Hill.

RESOLVED that this request be granted, providing that it be at the resident's own risk, that the Council's tenant be consulted and that guidelines regarding division of any profits between finder and landowner be observed.

Clerk

C17/10/06 ADOPTION OF NALC MODEL STANDING ORDERS

This item was deferred until an extraordinary meeting of Council planned for Monday October 16th, due to time constraints.

C18/10/06 STORAGE OF ATC PROPERTY DEEDS

The Clerk had requested that ATC's property deeds be moved to a more secure location for storage, where deeds would be protected in the event of a fire. Members were happy for this to be with the Council's solicitor, providing this did not incur a cost. The Mayor agreed to make enquiries as to any charge.

SR

C19/10/06 APPLEBY BRANCH OF CUMBRIA COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE

Cllr Connell had attended the formal opening and had no doubt that the new library premises were broadly welcomed, with improved access now there were no stairs or lift – but reported that there was a loss of space, with no room for sufficient tables and chairs for people to use when wishing to sit down to conduct research. He had raised this with CCC's Head of Culture, as there was adjacent room space and asked if members would support a request to the library service to utilise this. He felt that Appleby Grammar School had quite a lot of local history materials they could lend to the town library if there was room to sit down and make notes. He had drafted a letter to be sent to CCC's Head of Culture from ATC, which was approved by members. It was agreed that a separate letter would also be sent to CCC's Property Manager to ascertain how CCC planned to use the rest of the building.

AC

AC

C20/10/06 CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL SCHEME

This topic was discussed in great detail by the Council, with Cllr Connell providing detailed financial and statistical information and it was **RESOLVED** that the original resolution **C5/9/06** (a public meeting) would now be progressed.

AC/MC/EL

C21/10/06 PROPERTY CONDITION REPORT

This item was deferred until an extraordinary meeting of Council planned for Monday October 16th, due to time constraints.

C22/10/06 BONGATE VACANCY

Members agreed that an item to Co-opt a Councillor to replace Mrs Barbara Swinscoe should be added to the agenda for the extraordinary meeting of Council planned for Monday October 16th.

Clerk

C23/10/06 MONTHLY ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED that the Mayor be authorised to sign the attached schedule for payment of monthly accounts (bills and salaries) for September totalling **£11,605.28**.

C24/10/06 CORRESPONDENCE

Members considered a letter from a resident, asking for Council's support in getting CCC to make The Sands a safer place for children to cross and for a petition they were raising. Cllr Morgan had spoken to the resident and to the relevant authorities. There had been a site meeting attended by the Mayor, the Police and Highways Engineer. Cllr Elliott updated members on work planned under the enhancements scheme in this area.

Cllr Mrs Clowes brought the petition to the meeting, which all Councillors signed.

It was **RESOLVED** that a letter would be written for the Mayor to send to the Highways Authority, to press for action and that the Mayor would speak to the resident in reply to her letter.

**MC
SR**

Members also considered a late item of correspondence, a letter regarding Government reform of births and deaths registration, which was noted.

C25/10/06 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk's report was received and noted.

C26/10/06 NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next ordinary meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday November 8th at 7pm in the Moot Hall. A further extraordinary meeting was planned in the meantime, as mentioned above.

C27/10/06 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members considered whether to close the meeting under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 while the following items were discussed.

RESOLVED that the meeting be closed to the press and public for discussion of the following items of business.

The press and public left the meeting at 9.05 pm.

C28/10/06 SHOP BIDS FOR 66 BOROUGHGATE

Council considered five bids for the lease of 66 Boroughgate and **RESOLVED** to accept a bid from Christine Rose Designs. Detailed minutes of this item are not for publication under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. A signed pink confidential part will be retained on file in the Clerk's office for Councillors reference only.

C29/10/06 SHOP RENTS

This item was deferred until an extraordinary meeting of Council planned for Monday October 16th, due to time constraints.

C30/10/06 THE COUNCIL'S REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Minutes of this item are also not for publication under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. A signed pink confidential part will be retained on file in the Clerk's office for Councillors reference only.