

10 June 2021, Kirkby Stephen Town Council

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Kirkby Stephen Town Council, Local Links, Vicarage Lane, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria, CA17 4QX
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Informal Meeting, Zoom, 10 June 2021. 6.45pm

This 'meeting of councillor's was being held to allow councillors to discuss issues and feedback to the Chairman after the withdrawal of powers to hold council meetings by Zoom on May 7th. No decisions or resolutions would be made at this meeting and the Clerk and Chairman would operate under delegated powers until the next meeting (scheduled for 6 July 2021) after the anticipated lifting of lock down measures.

This informal meeting had been advertised on the website and on the public noticeboards and had been made available to access by members of the public.

Present Cllrs. P Richardson, A Birtles, M Walker, D Thornton, C Lynch, J Murray, S Lancaster, C Barnes (Clerk), P Dew CCC.

Appleby Fair

2021 Dates 12/15 August. Concerns were expressed about the impact of the fair on business reopening after lockdown. The risks associated with tethered horses in the Town, PD was confident of adequate policing. Brough Show had been cancelled because of the rescheduling of the horse fair and concerns about access and security.

PR felt that the fair should have been cancelled, it was noted that next year's dates for the fair (the first week in June) coincided with the celebrations planned for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. JM had concerns about highway safety specifically in regard to children.

PR would write to MASCG Officers and the Press to raise concerns.

Highways

PD reported on plans to refresh road markings at Primary School & look at parking improvements on High Street. The idea of a 20-mph speed limit in the South Road area was debated. PD referred to the need to base any actions on up-to-date traffic survey data and also with regard to enforceability. The possible use of a Speed Indicator Device was discussed. It was felt that the Traffic Management Officer could best advise on the use of SIDS. Reference was made to a grouping with the acronym CRASH who might advise further.

Highways England

Councillors were disappointed to hear about Highways England's plans to infill Gt. Musgrave Bridge.

CCTV

PR and CB had met with Police regarding CCTV. The old system was obsolete with loose hanging cables needing to be removed. The council could secure additional camera equipment at a cost of £400 each which would improve coverage significantly. Installation costs could be avoided. The new

wireless tech was significantly better. The Leader of Eden District Council had offered to help with the costs of removing old cabling. JM was concerned about the civil liberties aspect of surveillance and suggested that a newsletter article seeking opinion could be used to consult with townsfolk.

Planning

Applications were in as follows 21/0513 25 Market Square (Councillors preferred scheme A.) and 21/0521 Outline for the erection of a dwelling, all matters reserved (Councillors all favoured the application. The clerk would feed back to planners with the council to ratify at the next meeting.

Jubilee Park

The first meeting of the Jubilee Park Project Group had been held, the Clerk offered to circulate Maria Luczak's notes, GW had been invited to Chair the group but expressed some reservations. Records of ownership showed past linkages linkage between the United Charities and Jubilee Park Trust. Discussion had taken place with the United Charities and it was agreed to work together to clarify issues prior to first registration of title at the Land Registry which would form part of the management plan going forward.

Kirkby Stephen Youth Centre

PD reported that CCC Area Committee had committed £4k from this year's budget and that £12k from previous years was agreed in principle and was pending Cumbria County Council Leader's approval. Costings provided by Lewis Associates for the building had been prepared and would form the basis of capital grant applications. PD felt that the Surveyors estimates of OHP were overestimated and could be disregarded and the figures refined/reduced. Costs were anticipated in the region of £60k to £80k with charitable funds identified as potential donors. CB would work with Naomi Parker KSYG treasurer to support approaches to funders.

Insurances

JM asked the Clerk to check what the council's position was with regards to public liabilities, personal injury and employer's liability with respect to volunteers.

Co-options

An expression of interest had been made by a member of the public regarding co-option to the vacancy arising from the resignation of Cllr Girvan.

Parking

There was discussion of the need to improve signage to free parking in the town and the plea of a business owner for other business owners not to park all day in front of their own shops which was felt had a negative impact on footfall. Parking enforcement issues were discussed and councillors were supportive of a more active enforcement process.

Grants

MW asked that a grant to the Stainmore Railways for the restoration of a foot bridge was added to the next agenda. Plans for celebration of the railway's 200 anniversary in 2025 were noted.

General

CL would be meeting a representative of 'Young Somerset' (Nik Harwood) 15 June for general research. He would contact Chrissie Hadfield to see if she was available to join the meeting.

MW suggested that the clerk could produce an action log for reference purposes in addition to the draft minutes which had been published later than usual.

Next meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the council would be held on the 6th July and would be held in person at a larger venue than local links.

DRAFT