



# Penrith Town Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the:

## **FULL COUNCIL**

**Held on:** Monday 24 September 2018

### **PRESENT:**

Cllr. Baker	Penrith Pategill Ward
Cllr. Bowen	Penrith East Ward
Cllr. Clark	Penrith South Ward
Cllr. Donald	Penrith North Ward
Cllr. Jackson	Penrith North Ward
Cllr. Kenyon	Penrith North Ward
Cllr. Monk	Penrith West Ward
Cllr. Thorley	Penrith West Ward
Cllr. Whipp	Penrith North Ward

Town Clerk  
Services & Contracts  
Manager

## **MINUTES FOR FULL COUNCIL MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2018**

### **PTC18/42 Apologies**

Apologies were received from the following members:

Cllr. Briggs  
Cllr. Burgin  
Cllr. Lawson

### **PTC18/43 Confirmation of Council Minutes**

Members confirmed the minutes of the Special Town Council Meeting held on 19 June 2018 and the Town Council Meeting held on 25 June 2018 and authorised the Chairman to sign the minutes of the Meetings as a true record.

### **PTC18/44 Declaration of Interests**

Members were asked to receive any declarations of interest of any disclosable pecuniary or other registrable interests relating to any items on the agenda for this meeting.

Item 7: Cllrs. Clark and Jackson informed the meeting that they were District Councillors and Cllr. Clark informed the meeting that she was a member of Friends of the Beacon.

### **PTC18/45 Requests for Dispensations**

Members were asked to apply for a dispensation – None received.

### **PTC18/46 Public Participation**

a. Members received representations from the public:

Cumbria County Cllr. Bell informed the meeting that she had been overwhelmed by residents' concerns about the developments published in Eden District Council's Master Plan concerning the proposals for the land around the Beacon. Cllr. Bell explained that a petition had already obtained over one thousand signatures and that the feedback she was receiving was that the Beacon forest is Penrith. Cllr. Bell said that the Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan clearly showed that the Town Council had listened to the residents. Cllr. Bell asked the Council to strive to preserve the forest for future generations to enjoy and if the Council would oppose the proposed land re-designation to mixed use.

Cllr. Jackson replied: That the Council's Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan was a considered and robustly consulted plan that identified green spaces throughout the parish of Penrith that were considered valuable by the community. Cllr. Jackson said that the Neighbourhood Plan was the Council's starting point as a position for further discussions with the District Council.

A member of the public asked how much involvement the Town Council had in the development of the Masterplan in its role as stakeholder.

Cllr. Jackson replied: That the Town Council was invited to several stakeholder meetings. At each of these meetings there was a presentation of the current incarnation of the Masterplan. Representatives of the Town Council asked questions and gave views. The Town Council cannot claim ownership of any policies or any of the inclusions of the plan and were not in any way instrumental in shaping the plan.

A member of the public representing the Friends of the Beacon had been overwhelmed by support both on Facebook and during their petition gathering. The resident informed the meeting that he had found the Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan to be excellent.

Cllr. Jackson replied: That from the very founding of the Town Council, the Council had always strived to make decisions for Penrith rather than to Penrith and that one of the most important things about EDC consultation exercise is that this is the opportunity for Penrith residents to have their say. He explained to the meeting that he had full confidence that the final Masterplan will bear resemblance to what the people of Penrith want.

A member of the public representing Keep Penrith Special informed the meeting that their petition had over 1,100 signatures which was rising daily. She explained that the group she represented was not against development for housing needs and creating economic progress, but her group felt that the Masterplan was a drastic solution. She explained that the objectives of the plan could be met in better ways such as spreading development organically across all the existing settlements which would then mitigate potential traffic congestion. She suggested that the plan assumed that when houses were built jobs would be created and this is not likely to follow and that the proposed developments were on the wrong side of the Beacon and too high.

A member of the public informed the meeting that he felt that the EDC consultation was based upon an option that had already been decided, with no alternatives. He concurred with the previous speaker that the developments were not suitable for the Beacon site and stressed to the meeting that both the Beacon and the Eden Valley should be protected.

b. **Representations were received from:**

**Town Councillors: None received**

**District Councillors:**

District Cllr. Eyles informed the meeting of the forthcoming Heart of Cumbria Annual General Meeting.

**County Councillors:**

**Cllr. Bell:** Informed the meeting that the County Council had a strategic role and are obliged to work with all district councils as they develop their plans.

**Cllr. Carrick:** From the County Council's point of view regarding the Masterplan, that the county had to work together to address issues and deliver plans. Cllr. Carrick informed the meeting that she was disappointed explaining that whilst the plan was aspirational, the plan should be better considered and be included as part of a wider picture, developed in a phased and considered approach to ensure that the infrastructure can cope and mature with growth which is influenced by developer contribution.

Cllr. Carrick informed the meeting that Town Cllr. Baker had attended the Local Area Committee Penrith ward representatives meeting to provide an update on the Neighbourhood Plan. The County Councillors offered to support and participate in the consultation going forward.

In October, Cumbria County Council commences a parking and movement study and a Health and Social Care local group was working collaboratively with the Integrated Care Community Collaboration to look at alternative ways of delivering service outcomes.

**Cllr. Whipp**

Informed the meeting that he had responsibilities for highways and transport. Cllr. Whipp explained that whilst the comments about the Masterplan were relevant, there was another wider issue for Eden that being the dualing of the A66 which is due to happen over the next fifteen years. The dualing must not become a Penrith bypass or Eden bypass and urged all Councils to work together to find solutions that would attract travellers to leave the road to visit the area.

### c. **Mayor's Report**

The Mayor informed the meeting that Penrith had won numerous awards at this year's Cumbria In Bloom awards and thanked everyone for all their hard work – volunteers, community groups, business, residents and Council officers who had made this year's project such an overwhelming success.

### **PTC18/47 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**

Members were asked to consider if agenda item 9c should be considered without the presence of the press and public, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 2 as members would be considering a co-option application form that contained sensitive personal data.

#### **RESOLVED THAT:**

The matter be considered in Part Two without the press and public.

### **PTC18/48 Eden District Council Masterplan Consultation**

Members considered the representations from the public made during public participation and the letter to Eden District Council prepared following the special meeting on 19 June 2018, explaining the Town Council's position.

#### **RESOLVED THAT:**

A response be developed by the Council's Planning Committee at the next scheduled meeting.

### **PTC18/49 Update from Meetings**

Members were invited to provide oral reports from meetings and briefings attended by Councillors since the last Full Council meeting.

**Cllr. Baker** informed the meeting that he had attended:

Highways England – Highway safety improvements

EDC & Northern Gas Network – Funding for fuel poverty

Neighbourhood Plan – The consultation ended 31 July 2018 and the next phase of the consultation process would start in the New Year.

**Cllr. Bowen** informed the meeting that he had attended the Scaws Residents Association Meeting and that he would share attending the meetings with Cllr. Briggs. The Services and Contracts Manager would also attend a future meeting.

**Cllr. Whipp** informed the meeting that he had attended a further devolution meeting with EDC and that there was no progress to date as resources were diverted for the District Councils Masterplan consultation.

Cllr. Whipp attended the Cumbria in Bloom presentation at Ulverston where the Town's numerous entries had been very successful. Cllr. Whipp reiterated acknowledgement of the hard work and dedication of the community and thanked the Council's officers for their role as facilitators in providing help and support.

**Cllr. Jackson** informed the meeting that he had attended the Fairhill Community Group meeting and the group was pleased with the new goal posts that had been installed by the Town Council.

Cllr. Jackson had toured Great Dockray with residents and spoken to businesses about their aspirations for a higher profile in Penrith, and their request for bunting and Christmas lights for the area.

Cllr. Jackson informed the meeting that he continued to attend meetings of the Friends of Eden Valley Transport.

**Cllr. Clark** requested support for improvements to Wetheriggs Playground and the potential to establish a community group to champion improvements.

## **PTC18/50 Councillor Membership**

- a. Members noted that Cllr. Connelly resigned from the Council in July 2018 and that the vacancy notice was duly published and was available for co-option.
- b. Members considered the letter from Eden District Council (EDC) dated 27 July 2018 in which EDC recommend proposals for 2019 ward allocations in line with the District Council's approval of the reduction of Councillors from 19 to 15 as part of the Community Governance Review [meeting resolution ref:PTC18/06].

### **RESOLVED THAT**

The proposed allocations be supported and approved.

- c. Consider co-option to Council – M. Thorley part 2

### **RESOLVED THAT**

M. Thorley be co-opted to Penrith Town Council, representing Penrith West Ward.

## **PTC18/51 CALC Membership Fee Proposals**

Members considered the letter from the CEO of CALC inviting comments from local councils regarding changes to the annual membership fee.

### **RESOLVED THAT:**

The proposed changes be supported and approved.

## **PTC18/52 MATTERS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **a. Finance Committee Policy Review**

Members noted that the Finance Committee reviewed the following policies:

- Risk Management Policy
- Financial Risk Management Protocol
- Procurement Policy
- Internal Control Procedures
- Financial Regulations

### **RESOLVED THAT:**

The policies be approved.

### **b. Finance Committee Risk Assessment Review**

Members noted that the Finance Committee reviewed risk assessments for 2018-19 for:

- Business Continuity
- Finance
- Governance
- IT & Website
- Allotments
- War Memorials
- Cornmarket Bandstand
- Fairhill Playing Field
- Fire Risk Assessment
- Lone Working
- Recycling Bring Site
- Office

### **RESOLVED THAT:**

The risk assessments 2018-19 be approved.

c. **Finance Committee Review of Internal Audit and Control**

Members noted that the Finance Committee reviewed Internal Control, internal audit and the internal audit plan.

**RESOLVED THAT:**

The review be approved.

**PTC18/53 Armistice Centenary and Remembrance**

Members noted the report and the recommendations contained within.

**RESOLVED THAT:**

The Council assume responsibility for the civic arrangements for the Remembrance Day.

**PTC18/54 Devolution**

Members noted the report.

**PTC18/55 Gambling Act 2005: EDC Draft Licensing Policy**

Members considered a response to the reviewed Licensing Policy.

**RESOLVED THAT:**

The Council had no comments to submit.

**PTC18/56 Membership of External Bodies**

a. To note that Cllr Clark had joined Friends of the Beacon as an individual and not as a representative of the Town Council.

b. Members considered the request from Penrith BiD for the Council to be represented by an officer at board meetings.

**RESOLVED THAT:**

It be noted that Councillor Clark had joined the Friends of the Beacon Group in her individual capacity.

The Council's Economic Development Officer and in her absence, the Service and Contracts Manager would act as the Council's representatives.

**PTC18/57 Eden District Council – New Chief Officer**

Members noted that a meeting has been arranged with the District Council's new chief officer, Chairman and Vice Chairman of Penrith Town Council for Monday 8 October at 3.30pm.



## **PTC18/60 Closure & Next Meeting**

Closure of proceedings and note that the next meeting was the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 26 November 2018, at 6.00 pm Room 2 Parish Centre, St Andrews Place.

### **For the attention of:**

Cllr. Baker	Penrith Pategill Ward
Cllr. Bowen	Penrith East Ward
Cllr. Briggs	Penrith East Ward
Cllr. Burgin	Penrith South Ward
Cllr. Clark	Penrith South Ward
Cllr. Donald	Penrith North Ward
Cllr. Jackson	Penrith North Ward
Cllr. Kenyon	Penrith North Ward
Cllr. Lawson	Penrith Carleton Ward
Cllr. Monk	Penrith West Ward
Cllr. Thorley	Penrith West Ward
Cllr. Whipp	Penrith North Ward