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ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF PENRITH Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 24 April 2023

ATM2223/01 Welcome

At 6.01pm Councillor Charlie Shepherd, the Chair of Penrith Town Council and Mayor of Penrith welcomed everyone present to the meeting.

ATM2223/02 Minutes

The meeting was asked to receive the minutes from the Annual Town Meeting held on Monday 11 April 2022.

RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 11 April 2022 be received and signed by the Mayor.

PTC2223/03 Questions from the Public

Two questions from the public had been received in advance of the meeting:

a) What is the Council's policy with regards the removal of cash payment car park meters. Will the Council support the need to keep these in Penrith as there are a large percentage of people in Eden who do not have the facility of pay via a smartphone app?

Answer: Eden District Council (now Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council) own all the off street car parks. A Parking and Movement Study for Penrith was initiated in 2019 and it was during this exercise that EDC added charging for parking by app in its car parks. All car parks now allow people to pay by cash or app. Penrith Town Council will continue to lobby for cash and app to be available at all Council car parks in Penrith.

b) When works commence on the A66 improvements will the Council have councillors / a sub committee in place to look after the interests of residents who will be affected by the works?

Answer: Penrith Town Council currently have representation on an A66 Liaison Group which will continue. We have raised issues of concern to residents who would potentially be affected by the development at meetings to ensure those concerns were taken into account and, where possible, changes made. The Planning Committee will consider any issues raised and, if particularly controversial, issues would be considered by full Council.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions but reiterated that they would receive an answer following the meeting.

c) The work to extend the tennis facilities at Castle Park has commenced with the second gateway opened. The Bowling Club have not been consulted about the changes and potentially sharing the bower with the tennis club and have had soil and gravel tipped onto the bowling green as the wagons have gone past. Can the Town Council find out what's happening please.

PTC2223/04 Cumbria Wildlife Trust

Those present received a presentation from Cumbria Wildlife Trust regarding the plans they are developing for the land gifted to them at Coldsprings and asked questions of the presenter.

PTC2223/05 Close of Meeting

Before the close of the meeting, the Mayor thanked the Community Groups for being involved in Penrith and encouraged those present to talk to the Lions Club of Penrith, Penrith Rotary, Community Gardeners, Eden Rivers Trust Penrith Tree Nursery, Penrith Beekeepers, Penrith Red Squirrel Group and the Soroptimists if they had not done so before the formal meeting.

The Mayor closed the meeting.

CHAIR:	

DATE:

FOR INFORMATION FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL