Fleetwood Town Council

Onward to a Better Future

**Minutes of the Full Council**

**held on 31 October 2023**

**at The North Euston Hotel - 7.00 pm**

**Minutes**

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| **3933** | **Opening of the meeting*. Chairman***  The Chairman, Cllr Cheryl Raynor opened the meeting at 7:00pm and welcomed everyone in attendance. She acknowledged that there were no representatives from Fleetwood Area Police and assumed, as it was Halloween Night, they would be busy in the town.  **Present:**  Cllrs C Raynor, L Beavers, J Martin, M Moliner, R Raynor, H Swatton, C Smith, K Nicholson.  J Kuruvakadua, A Craig, C Stephenson, Irene Tonge (Clerk) and Members of the Public (MOP). |
| **3934** | **To receive apologies for absence. *Chairman***  Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs M Belshaw and M Blair. |
| **3935** | **To record Disclosable Pecuniary Interests from members (including their spouses, civil partners, or partners) in any item to be discussed. Committee members MUST NOT make representations or vote on the matter therein. *Chairman***  None declared. |
| **3936** | **To record Other (Personal or Prejudicial) Interests from members in any item to be discussed. Committee members should state if they need to bar themselves from discussion and voting on any related matters. *Chairman.***  None declared. |
| **3937** | **To accept the minutes of the meetings of 26 September and the EOM of the 2 October (enclosed in pack) *Chairman***  The minutes of the 26 Sept were approved by all; the minutes of the 2 October were amended – **Items 3924 and 3925** as Cllr Martin was not present and did give her apologies – minutes amended. |
| **3938** | **To adjourn the meeting for a period (1) of public participation. Please note the Council cannot make any decision on any matter raised which has not already been included on the formal agenda’ such items may be considered for future meetings. *Chairman***   * **Fleetwood Area Police** – Noted no representation. * **MOP**   Meeting was adjourned.  Chairman invited MOP to speak/ask questions.   * MOP - Collette Fairbanks addressed the Council in regard to the current approach for assigning housing to Fleetwood people; her concern is around people from out of town having priority over Fleetwood people. Collette mentioned that Hambleton Parish Council (HPA) administer different rules.   A discussion took place and it was left that Cllr L Beavers, who also sits on the Board for Regenda and Cllr C Raynor (Chair) would look at this in more detail for bringing back to another meeting.  **Action Point – LB and CR**  **Action Point – Clerk to pass on contact details for the Clerk at HPC**  **Update:** Contact details are Clerk: Mrs Juvina Janik, Tel: 01757 229885  [jjhambletonpcclerk@gmail.com](mailto:jjhambletonpcclerk@gmail.com)   * MOP Carole Vance asked if we could publish where all the defibrillators are within the town; there was some discussion within the meeting about where the information can be found.   Clerk said she would ask the CEDO to copy the link to our FB page and also our website, although it was mentioned that not everyone does FB.  **Action Point – CEDO to promote the location of defibs in Fleetwood, on: Website, social media platforms, the office window, also to introduce a monthly task to check for new/redundant sites and update accordingly.**   * The future of the Marine Hall was a topic brought up by MOP and a lengthy debate followed; the public were clearly upset about what may happen to this iconic Fleetwood Landmark. The councillors were asked the Question; “ Why are you not contesting this in your capacity as a town Council? Other Qs were: “have you approached the MP Cat Smith;” “Get MP involved;” have you thought about looking into the building being ‘listed’ one suggestion was the try to list the Dome.   Chairman C Raynor told the meeting that she has a meeting tomorrow (3/11) with Cllr Michael Vincent from Wyre and she will feed back at the next FTC meeting  The consultation was also discussed and it was said that Future Fleetwood Board reported 300 residents had their say.  Both the MOP and the Cllrs were in agreement that the management of the MH and its facilities could be better, but a lot is governed down by Wyre District Council and costs are a problem, as well as the issue that Wyre do not invest in anything, particularly for Fleetwood – a Q was put forward here “to consider putting forward a FOI request”; Chairman said she has already thought about this. One issue discussed re costs was that the MH only have ‘Approved Catering,’ which appears not to be cost effective or fair. MOP said it sad as the MH, with its gardens, could be a Flagship Venue for Wyre Council – all agreed.  **Action Points – Chairman to provide feedback from her meeting with Michael Vincent, speak with Cat Smith and feedback, consider the FOI submission and the possible listing of the MH/Dome.** |
| **3939** | **To reconvene the meeting. *Chairman***  The meeting was reconvened. |
| **3940** | **Accounts:**   * **To consider and approve the Income and Expenditure for 1 September to 26th October (enclosed).**   Noted   * **To note the bank reconciliation for the HSBC current account run against I&E in Scribe Accounting (enclosed).**   Noted   * **To consider and approve to purchase RBLI’s Tommy Lamp Post signs at a cost of £211.99 for a pack of 50.**   Cllr R Raynor proposed to approve and Cllr C Smith seconded; all Cllrs approved   * **To consider and approve the 10% price increase proposed by Easy Web sites, effective from Jan 2024.**   Cllr C Smith proposed to approve and Cllr A Craig seconded; all Cllrs approved.   * **To retrospectively consider and approve the October Salaries, Tax/NI and Pension contributions, which were paid on 25th October.**   Cllr L Beavers proposed to approve and Cllr Kuruvakadua seconded; all Cllrs approved.  **To note the enclosed letter from our Internal Auditor, stating that she will cease trading WEF 31 October 2023; Clerk will need to appoint someone else.**  Cllr R Raynor proposed to approve and Cllr Kuruvakadua seconded; all Cllrs approved. |
| **3941** | **To consider and approve for the clerk to source a desk and chair for the downstairs office to support Cllrs who wish to do their council work from the office.**  Approved – unanimous |
| **3942** | **To consider and approve a donation to Marine Hall toward the purchase of a Xmas Tree, as Wyre Council have withdrawn their support for 2023.**  A discussion took place regarding this item and, as we do not know how the fundraising is going, it was proposed to defer until we do know. It was also decided that as time is of the essence the Chairman will call an EOM if it is required. |
| **3943** | **To note that 2023 is the final year of the contract for the 4 X 20-ft Christmas trees, supplied by Nurture Landscapes Ltd (formally Barton Grange).**  Noted. **Action Point – Clerk to diarise a 2024 date for obtaining new quotes.**  **Members to consider any preferences for suppliers going forward. Clerk is happy to source three separate quotes, to include Nurture Landscapes Ltd and bring back to a future meeting for approval. However, given the situation with the MH Tree (item 3942 refers), members to consider and approve if we are to include a 5th Tree for 2024.**  A discussion took place, which included the issue of vandalism that FTC experienced when they previously provided this tree; Cllrs therefore agreed to defer until a later meeting.  **Action Point – Clerk to ensure this is placed on a future 2024 meeting.** |
| **3944** | **To consider and discuss the email from Zero Hour, which has been emailed to all members as there are several links within the email. The Clerk will ask Cllr Robbie Raynor, as FTC Climate Lead, if he would like to open this item up for discussion at the meeting.**  Defer to November’s meeting. |
| **3945** | **To note the 3-year review (enclosed) from Wyre and the consultation window, which is open until 18th November.**  Noted |
| **3946** | **To adjourn the meeting for a period (2) of public participation. Please note the Council cannot make any decision on any matter raised which has not already been included on the formal agenda’ such items may be considered for future meetings. *Chairman***  The meeting was adjourned.  Chairman invited MOP to speak/ask questions.  MOP Carole Vance asked how she would go about obtaining permission to install some raised flower beds at the abandoned tram stop site at Broadwater, Cllrs were impressed with her idea and a discussion took place. It was suggested that FIB volunteers could get involved. Cllr Beavers said that LCC owns the pavements so they would be who to contact and she offered to find out more.  **Action Point – to approach LCC regarding installation of flower beds at the Broadwater disused tram stop site. Cllr Beavers.**  Margaret Daniels reminded members that before the Tree at Ash Street was located at Fisherman’s Walk it used be over the road outside of the old Post Office and she wondered if it would be worth investigating if the junction box is still there and working, if so, a bigger tree could be place there, as there are no issues of overhead tram cables.  **Action Point – To ask Richard Ryan if he would take a look. Clerk** |
| **3947** | **To reconvene the meeting. C*hairman***  The meeting was reconvened. |
| **3948** | **To note the planning applications considered by members and agree any actions to be taken or responses to the planning authority.**  Noted – no actions to be taken or responses required. |
| **3949** | **To receive items for information and items for inclusion in the next agenda subject to full information being available. Members are reminded that no discussion or decision may be taken.**  Cllr Beavers asked if the approved officer appointments have been advertised. Clerk responded that, given she was absent for 4 weeks and had some pre-planned annual leave, there hasn’t been the time, owing to the enormity of the backlog of her workload. However, she has made a start and hopefully will be completed by the end of next week.  **Action Point – to complete the draft adverts, Job Specifications and Person Specifications and to arrange an Employment Working Group meeting to sort out the arrangements for pay scales and interviews. Clerk** |
| **3950** | **To note the date and time of next FC meeting is 28 November 2023.** |