

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

**Chairman/Mayor:**

Cllr. Peter Endsor

**Vice-Chairman/Deputy Mayor:**

Cllr. Ann Walmsley

**Town Clerk:**

Mrs. C. Benbow



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V.A.T. Reg.No: 164 8707 80

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held remotely on Monday 11 January 2021 commencing at 7pm.

**Present:**

Cllr. P. Endsor – **Chair**

Cllr. Greenway, Cllr. Hathorn, Cllr. Bailey,

Cllr. Thomas, Cllr. Logan, Cllr. Handley, Cllr. Howson

Mrs. C. Benbow – Town Clerk

**In attendance:**

4 members of the public

County Cllr. Bill Wearing, District Cllr Robin Ashcroft (left meeting following his report)

**Minute Ref:**

**Agenda No:**

**C20/124 Apologies for Absence**

**1**

Apologies were received and approved from Cllr. Walmsley who was absent due to other commitments.

**C20/125 Reports**

**2**

**Police Report**

PCSO Debbie Ross sent her apologies and the following report:

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

## CRIME FIGURES

Crime figures can be obtained via the Cumbria Police Website:

<https://www.cumbria.police.uk/Your-Area/Your-area.aspx> or <https://www.police.uk/>

## INCIDENTS OF NOTE

During the period from 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 to 9<sup>th</sup> January 2021 there were 19 incidents of note in the Grange over Sands area. These are as follows:

2 crimes of assault ABH – 2 arrests made

1 crime of assault without injury – 1 arrest

1 crime of criminal damage – 1 arrest

1 missing person reported

1 crime of fraud recorded

2 crimes of burglary 1 residential, 1 business

1 damage only road traffic collision

5 concerns for welfare – both safe and well

5 possible breaches of Covid regulations reported

## District Council Report

District Councillor Robin Ashcroft reported:

1. **Covid-19 Restrictions** - SLDC have Covid Marshals in place.
2. **Covid-19 Support Grants** – these are being administered by SLDC. See District Council website for more details.
3. **Unitary Authority** – Government will make a decision on this; they have requested more details of the Morecambe Bay Authority proposal.
4. **'Kendal Futures'** – this organisation is fundraising, and working with SLDC, to develop Kendal Town Centre. They want to work with other settlements, are currently working with Ulverston and Sedbergh and would be happy to meet Grange to discuss ideas.

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## County Council Report

County Councillor Bill Wearing reported:

1. **Covid-19** – will continue to send GTC updates from County.
2. **Vaccine Scam** – vaccinations are underway in Grange. Residents are warned of a scam where text messages are sent offering the vaccine for a charge.
3. **Highways** – the scheduled resurfacing works are underway on Lindale Road.
4. **Drainage** – work continues with the Windermere Road Residents Group.
5. **Kents Bank Traffic** – a further meeting is scheduled with residents, Cllr. Greenway and CCC Highways Officer about parking and access for the Cross Bay walks.
6. **Play Equipment** – Cllr. Wearing hoped that the I-Play would be replaced.

## Mayor's Report

There were no civic events due to the pandemic.

### C20/126 Public Participation: Public Have Your Say

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**Resident 1** Made representation to members as a **Director of Light Up Lives and on behalf of the Grange and Peninsula (GAP) Wellbeing Hub**. The Group has worked to support the Community during the Pandemic, secured funding and kept their helpline open throughout the crisis. This has shown the benefit of having a permanent community hub. The Group are now working with others to help with the vaccination programme.

The Town Council was thanked for all their support. The Group wish to carry on working to support the Community and welcome ideas and feedback.

#### **Council Response**

The Chairman thanked the Group for all their work for the community.  
County Cllr. Wearing said there was still funding available at County.

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

- Resident 2** Made representation to members regarding the **Lido and Prom Refurbishment:**
- In SLDC revised refurbishment plans, the water feature should be retained, as the concept of having water is essential to the project.
- It is important that the basics are completed, and that the children’s playground is renewed. Assurance was sought that the play area is still included in the works.
- Costs could be reduced by scrapping the cable laying for lighting as it is unlikely that there will ever be funds to provide lighting. Reducing the decorative installations would also save money.
- Further concerns are that a swimming pool could not be a success, that Grange did not want another closed swimming pool and that it is not clear who would manage and be responsible for it.
- Council Response** The Chairman responded that it is the Town Council’s understanding that the play area is still definitely included in the plans. This was discussed at the meeting on 9 December 2020.
- Resident 3** Made representation to members regarding:
1. **SLDC Planning Committee:** that the Thornfield Road decision was good but the Allithwaite Road one was not.
  2. **Covid-19** – concern that people are not following the rules. The Civic Society Facebook is encouraging rule adherence.

## C20/127 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4

### RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 14 December 2020 were accepted as a true record and would be signed physically in due course.

## C20/128 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

5

### NOTED

There were no requests received for dispensations or declarations of interest.

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

**C20/129 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 – Excluded Item 6**

**RESOLVED** That no items should be considered without the presence of the press and public, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 2.

**C20/130 Planning Report 7**

- 1. Members considered the following full or outline planning permission/reserved matters/discharge of conditions/listed building/change of use/advertising consent or appeal:**

There were no applications to consider.

- 2. Decisions - Members noted that the following decisions had been made since the last Full Council meeting:**

- a. **SL/2018/0898** Land south of Allithwaite Road Kents Bank OUTLINE PLANNING Grant with Conditions
- b. **SL/2020/0754** 2 Charney Court FULL PLANNING Grant with Conditions
- c. **SL/2020/0534** 6 Thornfield Road FULL PLANNING Refuse
- d. **SL/2020/0793** Low Fell Gate Caravan Site Cartmel Road Non-Material Amendment Grant

- 3. Withdrawals/Not Progressing – Members to note that the following application(s) has been withdrawn/are not progressing.**

- a. **SL/2020/0980** Little Seawood Carter Road Kents Bank Withdrawn

**C20/131 Finance - Monthly Payments 8**

- a. Verification of Expenditure**

**NOTED** *Usual wording: That prior to the meeting two Councillors verified invoices received and payments made since the last full council meeting prior to the council meeting and could verify their authenticity.*

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

That the above did not take place due to Covid-19 National Restrictions.  
The Town Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer) completed the verification.

### **b. Verification of Accounts Reconciliation**

**NOTED** *Usual wording: That prior to the meeting two Councillors verified that the monthly bank reconciliation had taken place.*

That the above did not take place due to Covid-19 National Restrictions.  
The Town Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer) completed the verification.

### **c. Approval of Payments**

**RESOLVED** That the payments of the accounts and wages for this finance period as recorded in the payments list were approved as below.

### **d. Identification of Councillors to approve next finance period payments**

**RESOLVED** *Not applicable due to ongoing Covid restrictions.*

### **e. Identification of Councillors to complete online authorisation of payments**

**RESOLVED** That Cllrs Hathorn and Logan would complete online authorisation of payments for the next payment period.

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

## GRANGE-OVER-SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

<u>Payments for Approval</u>	<u>January 2021</u>
<u>Accounts for Payment</u>	<u>£</u>
<b><u>Bank Account No. 1 - Direct Debit</u></b>	
242 Public Works Loan Board - Prom PC's half year repayment	3,067.68
<b><u>Bank Account No. 1 - Cheque</u></b>	
<b>Total Bank Account No. 1</b>	<b><u>£ 3,067.68</u></b>
<b><u>Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Debits</u></b>	
241 Lloyds Bank Plc - Card December 2020 - Monthly fee	3.00
244 SLDC - 9/10 Non Dom Rates V Hall	574.00
245 SLDC - 9/10 Non Dom Rates Rooms 1 & 3 / Council office	154.00
246 SLDC - 9/10 Non Dom Rates Room 4	87.00
247 SLDC - 4/6 Non Dom Rates Information Centre	102.00
248 Npower - Elec V Hall 01/11-30/11/20	95.61
249 Npower - Elec Prom PC 01/11-30/11/20	13.03
250 Npower - Elec Church Hill PC 01/11-30/11/20	27.03
251 Npower - Elec Xmas Tree lights 01/11-30/11/20 (Recoverable)	8.04
252 Waterplus - Orn Gdns PC 26/08-14/12/20	244.87
254 Waterplus - V Hall 20/05/20-09/12/20	204.52
255 Waterplus - Church Hill PC 23/08/20-11/12/20	135.35
256 Corona Energy - Gas V Hall 01/11-01/12/20	402.46
257 Sage - Support 01/01-31/01/21	72.00
<b><u>Bank Account No. 2 - Direct Bank Payments</u></b>	
258 WB Electrical - V Hall Portable appliance testing	60.00
259 WB Electrical - V Hall Replace emergency & LED light & socket	<u>179.00</u>
260 Westmorland Fire & Security - V Hall Maintenance intruder alarm	72.00
261 Westmorland Fire & Security - V Hall Maintenance fire alarm	<u>92.30</u>
262 A Thould - V Hall external window cleaning	30.00
263 Healthmatic - Public Conveniences cleaning 01/01-31/01/21	1,500.00
264 SLDC - Elec recharge Orn Gdns PC 09/09-18/12/20	94.08
265 Lengthsman - To 31/12/20	286.00
266 N Watson Ltd - Repairs to Room 4 window and door	243.19
267 KTD - 2 x laptops MS 365 Business support 17/01/21-16/01/22	379.20
268 KTD - Photocopying 26/11-21/12/20	25.46
269 KTD - IT system support 30/11/20-29/11/21	<u>2,422.80</u>
<b>Total Bank Account No. 2</b>	<b><u>£ 7,506.94</u></b>
<b>Total Accounts</b>	<b><u>£ 10,574.62</u></b>

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

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## Salaries, PAYE & N.I. (Bank Account No. 2)

Total Salaries	£ 4,943.05
HMRC PAYE & NI - Tax Month 9	£ 2,623.60
LG Pension Scheme Month 9 - Employer payment	£ 2,959.76

£ 10,526.41

Total Bank Account No. 2 £ 18,033.35

Total all payments for approval £ 21,101.03

## Accounts paid in previous month - approved

### Bank Account No. 1

### Bank Account No. 2

## Accounts paid in previous month - not yet approved

### Bank Account No. 1

### Direct Debits

### Cheques

### Bank Account No. 2

### Direct Debits

243 XLN - Info Centre calls & line rental 01/01-31/01/21 46.85

## Direct Bank Payments

Total Accounts paid in previous month £ 46.85

Grand Total £ 21,147.88

## Bank Balances

Bank Account No. 1 As at 31/12/20 177,155.64

Bank Account No. 2 As at 31/12/20 116,250.16

## Transfers between bank accounts

## Transfer to Petty Cash account to replenish float



**a. Council Tax Base**

Members noted that:

This is the number of dwellings liable for Council Tax, expressed as an equivalent number of band D dwellings for the Town. The number is calculated by South Lakeland District Council (SLDC).

Previous draft 2021/22 budgets considered by the Town Council (GTC) were calculated on the assumption that the Council Tax Base would remain at 2,138.24.

SLDC has now confirmed the Council Tax Base for 2021/22 is 2,140.13. This is a 1.89 increase in properties.

The draft Budget and Summary have been amended to show this.

**b. Street Lighting Charge**

Members noted that:

SLDC have confirmed that the District Street Lighting Charge for 2021/22 will be £13,646.72. This a 15% increase from £11,915.11 in 2020/21. Last year, the charge increased by 11%.

This is the money that shows on residents' bills as part of the GTC Precept demand.

However, it does not come to the Town Council. It is retained by the District Council.

**c. Council Tax Grant**

Members noted that:

The Council Tax Grant is given by SLDC to supplement the Precept. SLDC have confirmed the Council Tax Grant for 2021/22 will be £8,511.41.

This is a 10% decrease (£917.84) from £9,429.25 in 2020/21.

The difference between the Street Lighting Charge and the Council Tax Grant is the amount that is charged to Grange residents but retained by SLDC. It is listed on the Council Tax bills as a charge from GTC.

In 2020/21 this amount was £2,485.86.

For the new financial year 2021/22 it will be £5,135.31.

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

### **d. How the SLDC Lighting Charge affects Council Tax bills for Grange Residents**

Members received an explanation from the Town Clerk that:

The fact that SLDC retains money that appears on Council Tax bills as raised by the Town Council has an effect on residents' bills.

**This year, the amount raised, but not retained, by the Town will be £5,135.31.**

The charge to each (Band D) household will be £2.40.

This number is calculated by dividing the amount that goes to the District Council (5,135.31) by 2,140.13 which is the number of households paying (Council Tax Base).

**There was an error on the agenda – the £5,135.31 SLDC charges would represent 3% of the total Precept demand – not a 3% increase to residents.**

This is because the total Precept demand, including SLDC charges, would be £197,135.31.

**This year, the bills will show a 0.5% increase from the Town Council which will be retained by the District Council.**

### **e. Budget 2021-22**

Members considered the revised draft Budget 2021/22 and the Budget Summary and Key Features.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the budget as presented in the draft Budget 2021/22 and the Budget Summary and Key Features were approved.

### **f. Precept 2021-22**

Members considered the Precept for 2021/22.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Precept for 2021/22 was approved as below, with 2% per Band D household increase from the Town Council, and that Cllrs. Endsor, Howson and the Town Clerk physically sign the application in due course.

Consequently, Council Tax bills this year should show 2.5% increase for Grange Town Council. 2% of this goes to the Town Council and 0.5% to the District.

This means that a Band D household pays an extra 19 pence per month. 15 pence goes to the Town Council and 4 pence to the District.

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

A	Parish Purposes (General Spending) before grant (Box E)	£195,840.00
B	Parish Elections	£0.00
C	Parish Council Footway Lighting costs paid by District Council	£0.00
D	<b>Total of A + B + C</b>	£195,840.00
E	Grant paid by SLDC	-£8,511.41
F	<b>Total Amount for Parish Purposes (D + E)</b>	£187,328.59

### g. Covid Local Restrictions Support Grants

Members noted that the Town Council received a further three £1,334 support grants from SLDC in December 2020 due to November Covid-19 lockdown.

### h. IT Support Annual Renewal

Members approved renewal with KTD for IT Support contract quoted at £2,019 noting that the annual fee this year is £93.25 lower than last year.

C20/133

Updates from Members

10

Members received the following updates from Councillors on works in progress and meetings and events attended:

#### a. Kents Bank Traffic and Cross Bay Walks – Cllr. Greenway

A further meeting is to take place on 14 January with Kents Bank residents, Cllr. Wearing and Cumbria County Council officers about possible solutions to the parking and traffic problems. They are considering asking the Guide if it is possible to come ashore at Grange instead of Kents Bank.

#### b. Water Supply Tankers – Cllr. Greenway

United Utilities are continuing to pump tankers of water into the water supply system around Grange, so there seems to be an ongoing problem with the water supply to the town. This should be taken into account when commenting on proposed new developments.

## TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE – OVER – SANDS

### c. Cllr. Handley – Chairman of Victoria Hall Support Group

#### Chairman's Review of the Finances 01.06.2019 to 31.05.2020

Speaking as Chairman of the Group, Cllr. Handley reported on the finance year end 5 May 2020:

*Despite the very challenging conditions that turned up in the first quarter of 2020, we were pretty successful at raising funds from our efforts.*

*We opened the year with a bank balance of £10,508.83. Over the 12 months we generated an income of just over £31,000. We spent just over £34,000 but of that figure £20,227 was donated to the Vic. In addition to the direct donation, £1135 was paid in box office commissions and a further £1250 was paid to the Vic in hall hire charges. The Hall benefitted to the tune of £36,481 and we ended the year with £7,511 in the bank. Not bad – I think we should be proud of ourselves.*

*During the year we held 16 events – including Cinema – and 9 bingo sessions.*

*Films and events averaged a profit of just over £500 each, taking into account bar, raffle and ice cream takings, netting a total of £8,226. Bingo door and card sales generated a further £585, plus bar and raffle which I have not isolated. As mentioned above, all these events also contributed Hall hire and, in most cases, box office commissions to the Vic.*

*Looking at individual profit centres, the bar grossed £5051.60, netting £2691.08 – a profit of 53.27% of income.*

*Raffle gross was £1861.40, net £1799.86, i.e., 96.69%, the kitchen grossed £869.66, net £673.13 giving 77.40% profit. Ice cream sales were £789.50, netting £318.67, a profit of 40.36%.*

*Money was donated by the public and £2,000 grant fundraised.*

*Paid for painting in the Hall -*

*The last two figures are not quite as they seem because the distinction between kitchen and ice cream sales was rather blurred earlier in the period. Also, sometimes bottles from the bar stock were used as raffle prizes, which rather muddies both results.*

*Looking at the events, Swede Dreams, the Abba tribute band, netted £1,243.17, a really super return. The bar did exceptionally well, with takings of £761. Abba fans do seem to like a drink. The Fool's Gold event was a flop and made a small loss – the only one of the year. The 60's disco was also not well attended but did make a contribution, albeit small.*

*Can we all please spend some time in Lockdown thinking of events which should make money when the world opens up again.*

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Handley for all the work of the Group.

On 9 December 2020, SLDC invited Town Councillors to receive an update on progress towards the Lido and Prom works.

The meeting took place remotely; Cllrs Endsor, Handley, Thomas, Howson, Bailey and Walmsley, District Cllr. Ashcroft and the Town Clerk attended.

The presentation from SLDC was circulated with the agenda.

The District Council had identified the following requirements and Grange Town Council was asked to consider a response to points (2) and (4).

### SLDC Requirements

- (i) To source additional funding so that an additional £850k contribution can be committed for the delivery of the Lido scheme.
- (ii) Secure support from Grange Town Council for the revised scheme in order to move forward with next steps.
- (iii) Continue to work with SGL, to see if any works can be scaled back and see where savings can be made and where work could be picked up in their scheme in the future if they are successful in meeting the 4 points set out by SLDC.
- (iv) To explore the future of the Berners Close site to see if Grange Town Council would support in disposal of this site if SGL were not successful in securing grant funding to take the site through to Phase 2 to offset the additional expenditure that the Council have made in the site. This would not be used to support SGL, simply to put money back into SLDC's Capital pot for future schemes.

Members noted that at the presentation meeting with SLDC, they were asked to support the revised scheme Option 3A or 3B and to express a preference. The revised Options offered were as follows:

- (v) *Option 3A – Structural repairs to Sea Defence Wall and Connectivity scheme. Street lighting has been removed from the costs, but infrastructure will be installed for future installation if needed. Value Engineered Scheme to Lido to include for Main Pavilion, Diving Board structure, central circulation space, infill of pool, terracing etc. Inc water feature.*

£5,328,903.96 inc Contingency/ Fees

- (vi) *Option 3B - Structural repairs to Sea Defence Wall and Connectivity scheme. Street lighting have been removed from the costs, but infrastructure will be installed for future installation if needed. Value Engineered Scheme to Lido to include for Main Pavilion, Diving Board structure, central circulation space, infill of pool, terracing etc. Omit water feature.*

£5,181,047.02 inc Contingency/ Fees

# TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

## RESOLVED

- a. In response to SLDC requirement (ii):

That, as at the 9 December meeting with SLDC, Councillors were asked to support Option 3A or 3B, Grange Town Council responded that it would support Option 3A, to include the water feature:

*Option 3A – Structural repairs to Sea Defence Wall and Connectivity scheme. Street lighting has been removed from the costs, but infrastructure will be installed for future installation if needed. Value Engineered Scheme to Lido to include for Main Pavilion, Diving Board structure, central circulation space, infill of pool, terracing etc. Inc water feature.*

£5,328,903.96 inc Contingency/ Fees

- b. In response to SLDC requirement (iv):

That the Town Council drew to the District's attention the fact that this land was designated in the Neighbourhood Plan for use as extra-care housing. The Community voted in 2018 to adopt the Plan and it was approved by SLDC as valid until 2027.

In its role as representative of the Community who voted for the Plan, Grange Town Council could only support the disposal of this site on the provision that it was used in accordance with the designation in the Neighbourhood Plan.

**C20/135**

**I-Play on Prom**

**12**

At the previous meeting, it was noted that the I-Play is not working and the matting under it is damaged. A quote for repairs from the supplier of £8,170.01 (ex VAT) was not approved (C20/117).

Members considered quote of £2,342.90 (ex VAT) for removal by Playdale Playgrounds Ltd.

## RESOLVED

- (i) That the equipment should be removed.
- (ii) That a decision on this quote was deferred and that Cllr. Endor would investigate options and report to the February Council meeting.
- (iii) That options to replace the equipment be explored, in collaboration with SLDC as part of the refurbishment of the Prom and that Cllr. Howson would research grants.

**C20/136**

**Next Meeting**

**13**

Members noted that the next Full Council Meeting would be held remotely:

Monday 8 February 2021, 7pm

## **TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

**Signed:**

**Dated:**

**Chair, Grange-over-Sands Town Council**