

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Chairman:
Cllr. Ron Shapland M.B.E.

Vice Chairman:
Cllr. Tricia Thomas

Town Clerk:
C. Benbow



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Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held in the Victoria Hall, on Monday 11 April 2016 which commenced at 7.15pm after the Annual Town Meeting at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr. R. Shapland – **Chair**.
Cllr. Greenway, Cllr. Walmsley, Cllr. Hathorn, Cllr. Thomas
Cllr. Ingle, Cllr. J. Shapland.
C. Benbow – Town Clerk.

In attendance: 8 members of the public.

Minute Ref:		Agenda No:
C15/242	Apologies for Absence	1

Apologies were received and noted from Cllrs. Endsor and Harvey.

C15/243	Reports	2
	Police Report	

PCSO Firth sent apologies and the following written report regarding the previous month:
33 calls for service; 3 crimes - theft, public order offence and criminal damage to toilet door Pig Lane (no suspects).

Three boys admitted being responsible for watermelon damage in/outside Pig Lane toilets.

Members noted that the Town Council had received a letter of apology and a cheque for £100 as compensation from one of the boys.

District Council Report

District Councillor Mary Wilson gave District Councillor Eric Morrell's apologies as he was called away unexpectedly to an urgent meeting. She reported that:

- Rate Increases: SLDC has put the rates up, passing on cuts from central government.
- Planning: there have been concerns that comments on the Saltmarsh Studio application have not been placed on the SLDC website and SLDC's interpretation of guidelines has been queried. An inquiry into this is on-going and GTC was assured that all comments that have been sent in are there and are being considered.
- Lower Allithwaite update: the Parish Council has started their Neighbourhood Plan and will share progress.
- Quarry: work towards improving footpaths is continuing as this is open access and an important natural site.

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- Speeding: the ‘Twenty’s Plenty’ campaign is underway in the District.

Cllr. Greenway asked if the Saltmarsh Studio planning application would be heard by the Planning Committee.

District Cllr. Wilson replied that it would most likely be heard at the 28 April meeting and that regulations regarding public participation have changed. Public wishing to speak at a planning meeting no longer have to register in advance.

County Council Report

County Councillor Bill Wearing reported that:

- St Georges Day Event: funding has been secured for this.
- Saturday Bus Service: has started and he hopes will be successful.
- Library Service Volunteers: a meeting took place for volunteers, fourteen attended and volunteer packs were given out. These will also be available in the Library.
- Zebra Crossing: the Main Street crossing is one of four zebra crossings in the district that have trial halo LED lights.
- Flood Fact Sheet - CCC produce this every week, it is available in the Library and includes bridge updates – 15 bridges are still closed. The A591 will be reinstated before end of May; this has been complicated because the hillside above the road slipped.

Cllr. Walmsley asked about the kerb at the school and Cllr. Bill Wearing said that this was in the system for completion.

Cllr. J. Shapland thanked him for the new zebra crossing lights saying that they were a great improvement.

Mayors Report

Mayor Cllr. Ron Shapland reported that:

He attended the Cedric Event and thanked Cllr. Greenway for putting on such a fantastic event for the unveiling of the plaque.

C15/244

Public Participation: Public Have Your Say

3

Members of the public agreed that their names may be included in the minutes.

Kate Gaskin

Made a representation to members with regard to:

1. Have Your Say Guidelines – suggested that the Guidelines include that phones should be switched off during meetings.
2. Website – suggested that a list of the Lengthsman’s jobs could be put on the website.
3. Yewtree Road Playground Project – congratulated the Town Council on getting a grant towards this, questioned who would maintain the refurbished playground and asked that access for children with disabilities could be considered.

Council Response

Cllr. R. Shapland responded that the playground would remain the property of SLDC therefore they would continue to be responsible for maintenance.

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- Peter Nightingale** Made a representation to members with regard to:
1. Victoria Hall Public Meeting – congratulated Cllr. Thomas on holding such a useful and productive meeting.
 2. Have Your Say Guidelines – requested that there be the option for the public to talk about any matter in Have Your Say, not be restricted to agenda items.
- Council Response** Cllr. R. Shapland responded that Mr Nightingales’s comments would be taken into account when the Guidelines were discussed.
- Margaret Brennand** Made a representation to members with regard to:
1. General Conduct – she commented that phones should be switched off throughout the meeting, not just during the Have Your Say item.
 2. Have Your Say Guidelines – Mrs Brennand had responded to the request for feedback from Cllr. Thomas, approved of the draft Guidelines and requested that speakers were not restricted to agenda items.
- Council Response** Cllr. Thomas thanked everyone who had contributed to the revising of the Have Your Say Guidelines.
- Frank McCall** Made a representation to members with regard to:
1. Chairman/Mayor Roles – the law says the Chairman is *entitled* to be called ‘Mayor’ but is not *compelled* to.
 2. Zebra Crossing Lights - thanked Cllr. Bill Wearing for the zebra crossing improvement and requested that the white stripes are re-painted.
 3. Traffic Speed Measures – thanked Cumbria County Council Highways for the traffic speed measures beyond Meathop Road, saying that they were working and having an impact on speed.
 4. Speeding – hoped that GTC would get involved in the ‘Twenty’s Plenty’ scheme.
- George Parr** Made a representation to members with regard to:
- Mr Parr drew Members’ attention to the minutes for the previous meeting, saying that the record of what he said in the Have Your Say item was accurate.
- He reported that he still had not received a response from the question he asked the Chairman in November.
- He said that the previous Council had tended to let things ‘disappear down a black hole’ and it appeared to him that this was the case in this situation.
- Mr Parr informed the Council that he will persist in requesting a response from the Chairman to his letter.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 14 March 2016 were accepted as a true record.

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C15/246	Declarations of Interests and Dispensations	5
	NOTED	Cllr. Walmsley declared a personal interest in Item 7, Planning, as she is a neighbour.
C15/247	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.
C15/248	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:	
	Application Number, Address and Specification	
a. SL/2016/0121	Old Coach House, Fernleigh Road Conversion of storage building to dwelling (revised scheme SL/2012/0687) Full Planning	
	RESOLVED	NO OBJECTION
		Grange Town Council makes the following request: As the site is within a Conservation Area, it is requested that limestone is used for the wall at the boundary of the property so it remains in keeping with the surroundings.
b. SL/2016/0190	46 Priory Lane Two storey and single storey extensions Full Planning	
	RESOLVED	NO OBJECTION
		Grange Town Council makes the following request: That provision is made for drainage for the hard standing – such as a gully or the use of a permeable surface.
c. SL/2016/0210	9 Nutwood Crescent Replace front (ground floor) window with composite door & frame Full Planning	
	RESOLVED	NO OBJECTION
	2. Decisions - Members noted that the following decisions had been made since the last Full Council meeting:	
a. SL/2016/0037		

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20 Kirkhead Road

Granted with conditions

b. SL/2016/0066

Butterfingers, Main Street

Full Planning Granted with conditions

c. SL/2016/0151

Butterfingers, Main Street

Listed Building Consent Agreed

3. Delegated Authority

No items had consultation deadlines which fell between the meetings.

C15/249 Finance - Monthly Payments

8

a. Verification of Expenditure

NOTED

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.

b. Verification of Accounts Reconciliation

NOTED

That prior to the meeting two Councillors verified that the monthly bank reconciliation had taken place.

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

That Cllrs Ingle and Hathorn would verify the invoices and payments for the next payment period.

e. Identification of Councillors to complete online authorisation of payments

RESOLVED

That Cllrs Thomas and Greenway would complete online authorisation of payments for the next payment period.

GRANGE-OVER-SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

Payments for Approval

April 2016

1 Accounts for Payment

£

Cheques (Nat West)

Direct Debits (Nat West)

380	Npower - Xmas Tree elec (recoverable)	14.91
387	Barclaycard transaction fees March 2016	26.47
1-	M1 SLDC - Non Dom Rate. V. Hall	553.00
2-	M1 SLDC - Non Dom Rate Rooms Rooms 1 & 3/Council Office	137.40

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3-	M1	SLDC - Non Dom Rate Police Room 4	88.20
4-	M1	SLDC - Non Dom Rate Tourist Information Centre	59.10
	5	U Utilities - IC wastewater 1 Apr 2016 to 31 Mar 2017 -1st half	62.24
	6	U Utilities -Room 4 wastewater 1 Apr 2016 to 31 Mar 2017 -1st half	62.24
Total Nat West account			£ 1,003.56

Unity Trust

369	Shorrock Trichem - toiletries/cleaning materials		356.33
370/	YPO - toiletries/cleaning materials	62.02	
376/	YPO - toiletries/cleaning materials	3.24	
377	YPO – stationery	1.44	66.70
371	Lancasters - V Hall paint & drill bit	15.50	
	- saw for Lengthsman	8.00	23.50
375	SLDC - Orn Gdns PC recharge electricity to 14 Mar 16		160.67
378	CPC - upgrade of V Hall PA system (recoverable)		83.81
379	Grange Now - Monthly ad Apr 16 T Council details		48.00
381	Postlethwaites - Lengthsman 2 buckets		
		25.98	
	Postlethwaites - V Hall small misc (batteries, bulbs, tape)	58.37	84.35
382	Lamont Pridmore - accountancy fees 9 Nov 15 to 31 Mar 16		684.00
383	Bodian - IC stock		80.00
384	Canon - photocopying 31 Dec 15 to 30 Mar 16		56.17
385	Pestforce - rabbit proofing fencing Grange Fell Allotments		520.00
386	Lengthsman - March 2016		253.00
7	Healthmatic Public Conveniences cleaning March 2016		1,590.00
8	CALC - 10 copies Good Councillor Guides		26.50
Total Unity Trust account			£ 4,033.03

Total accounts

£ 5,036.59

2 Salaries, PAYE & N.I. (Unity Trust)

Total Salaries			5,892.00
HMRC PAYE & NI - Tax Month 12		£	1,500.66
		£	7,392.66

£ 11,425.69

Total all payments for approval

£ 12,429.25

3 Accounts paid in previous month – approved

Unity Trust

Grange Pre School Grant C15/224a			200.00
Grange Prom Art Grant C15/224b			200.00

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Accounts paid in previous month - not yet approved

Unity Trust

15TC	Grange Amateur Operatic Soc - ticket reimbursement	2,388.08
16TC	Helen Dent Quo Concert - balance payment	362.40

Nat West

Direct Debits

368a	Plusnet 9/03 to 8/04 2016 - tel & broadband	33.81
372	U Utilities Church Hill PC water 6 Dec 15 to 8 Mar 16	94.36
373	U Utilities V Hall water 6 Dec 15 to 5 Mar 16	347.71
374	XLN calls & line rental April 2016	30.65

Total Accounts paid in previous month

£ 3,657.01

Grand Total

£ 16,086.26

4 Alto Prepaid Card (Pre-Authorised £1,000.00)

5 Bank Balances

NatWest Current Accounts		129,044.68
Unity Trust Bank		47,796.88
Alto Prepaid Card		914.93

6 Transfers between bank accounts

Nat West current account to Unity Trust Bank		100,000.00
Nat West IC current account to Nat West TC current account		2,500.00

C15/250

Finance and Governance

9

Elected Officers of the Council – Chairman/Mayor.

Members considered the report and the recommendations made.

Members noted that in law:

- a. The Chairman is entitled to be called Mayor but cannot be compelled to take the title.
- b. There is no obligation for the Vice Chairman to automatically become Chairman the following year.

RESOLVED

- a. That in future the Chairman holds the title Mayor and the Vice Chairman holds the title Deputy Mayor.
- b. That the Constitution is renamed 'How Your Council Works for You' with an introduction clarifying the statutory status of the document, that the Standing Orders take precedence and that the document is for information and reference.

C15/251

Grants

10

There were no grant applications to consider.

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C15/252	Have Your Say Guidelines	11
	<p>a. Members noted that Have Your Say was discussed in a training session on 30 March 2016.</p> <p>b. Members considered the amended Have Your Say Guidelines.</p> <p>Cllr. Ingle suggested that Have Your Say be opened up to emailed contributions but this did not find general favour and was not taken forward.</p> <p>RESOLVED That the Guidelines were approved with the following amendments:</p> <p>a. That members of the public speaking in Have Your Say are not restricted to topics on the agenda.</p> <p>b. That the agenda is amended to reflect this.</p> <p>c. That the Standing Orders are amended to reflect this.</p>	
C15/253	Consultations	12
	<p>There were no consultations.</p>	
C15/254	Meeting Updates from Members	13
	<p>Members noted the following reports from meetings and briefings attended since the last full council meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr. R. Shapland – Ornamental Garden Wall Top Planting. Community meeting to discuss the sustainable planting trial in the wall tops took place. Next meeting - 19 April, 2pm.• Cllr. Thomas - Edwardian Festival Committee. Progress towards the festival is good, there will be new stalls this year and help is requested by the committee for the day of the event.• Cllr. Thomas – Furness Line Community Rail Partnership. There will be timetable changes in May, fewer through trains to Manchester; travellers will have to change at Lancaster.	
C15/255	Chairman’s Update	14
	<p>Members received an update from the Chairman about works in progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• War Memorial – repair work has been commissioned and has been delayed by the flooding this winter.• Skip for Lengthsman – Cllr. Walmsley working on this.• Fire Risk Assessment for Victoria Hall – in progress.• SLDC Cycle Route consultation query – no response from SLDC – Town Clerk to continue to follow up.• Victoria Hall Future Study – the tender is being sent off to consultants.	
C15/256	Neighbourhood Plan	15
	<p>Members noted a progress report from the Steering Committee Spokesperson Cllr. Greenway, that the first final draft was being discussed by the Steering Group the next day.</p>	

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C15/257

Victoria Hall

16

a. **Victoria Hall Action Group**

Members received a progress report from the Victoria Hall Action Group Spokesperson, Cllr. Thomas:

The open meeting was very well-attended, nearly 90 people came and were very enthusiastic about keeping the Hall alive. It was an excellent meeting, we now need to focus on getting younger people involved too.

b. **Maintenance and Repairs**

Members noted an update from the Chairman about:

- Glass Passage – delay in getting specification as NPS has had a change of staff.
- Stage Floor – got one quote and want to get more quotes in.
- Roof Repairs – have a quote that needs clarification and need more quotes.

C15/258

Yewtree Road Playing Field Playground Refurbishment

17

Members noted that the bid to SLDC Locally Important Projects fund was successful and that £20,000 had been granted by SLDC to GTC to go towards the project.

Members noted that there would be a meeting of the project Steering Group on 18 April at Grange Primary School. GTC are working in partnership with SLDC to deliver this project.

Cllr. Greenway requested that the paths around the playground and through the field were looked at to improve access and said that she would send her thoughts through by email.

C15/259

Next Meeting

18

Members noted that the next Full Council Meeting would be the Annual Meeting of the Town Council and would be held:

Monday 9 May 2016 at the Victoria Hall, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands, 7pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm

Signed:

Date:

Chair of Grange-over-Sands Town Council