



Town Development & Planning Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1st June 2020 at 5:00pm

Due to the Covid19 pandemic and related restrictions the meeting was held
remotely using video-conferencing software

Present: Councillors Watkins (Chair); Branyon; Bromilow, Grisenthwaite, Holbrook, Parker, Smith and Watson

In attendance: Bob Bailey, Town Clerk

20025 **Apologies:** There were no apologies

20026 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

20027 **Urgent Business:** Cllr Smith requested that better use be made of the Town Council's noticeboards to promote Town Council activities and the wider town. It was acknowledged that little has been able to be done during the lockdown due to Covid19 but that the noticeboards could be utilised better. **ACTION:** Town Clerk to liaise with Councillor Smith on making better use of the Council's noticeboards.

The 'Stay at home – VE Day 75 party' had been promoted on the Town Council's website and social media and had been well supported and enjoyed by the local community;

20028 **Minutes:** It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th May 2020 be approved.

20029 **Planning Applications & Policy Matters:** No planning applications or planning policy matters had been received at the time of the meeting.

It was reported that there had been no response from the Leader of the Council on Planning application 16/00335/OUT. There has been no further update on the Local Plan. The Town Clerk will contact the planning case officer seeking a (remote) meeting to discuss aspects of planning application 20/00059/FUL - Erection of 3 industrial buildings (B1) and construction of internal roads and parking areas; Ironworks House Warton Road Carnforth.

20030 **Town Development / events:** With the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic and the subsequent lockdown, it was recognised that resources had been concentrated on other areas in recent weeks, but the following general updates were provided:

- 1) **Victory in Japan Day:** Plans will be made to have a celebration service to mark VJ 75 day on 15th August 2020 from 11am. A resident has offered to help with the



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planning of the event.

- 2) **Walking / cycling routes:** There was a discussion around encouraging people to undertake more walking and cycling to improve health and well-being and reduce use of public transport because of the difficulties with social distancing. It was felt that whilst several routes are well established more could be done to raise awareness of local footpaths/public rights of way, including the possible production of a map indicating the best places to walk and cycle.
- 3) **Heritage building funding:** Historic England have announced that they have launched a second emergency fund to support the heritage sector to recover from the Coronavirus pandemic, with grants of up to £25k to fix urgent problems.
ACTION: Cllr Parker to consider further and, if appropriate, speak to contacts of the West Coast railway on whether they can take advantage of these additional funds.
- 4) **Land Purchase:** The Town Council had considered a suggestion from Cllr Holbrook that the Town Council investigate the possible acquisition of land at Kellet Bridge as a potential car park for patrons of Carnforth Civic Hall. It is understood that this piece of land is currently owned by Homes England. If the land is for sale a sound business case for the proposal will need to be produced and considered further by the Town Council.

20031 **Public Realm:**

- 1) **NHS/Keyworkers seat:** The proposal to provide a bench dedicated to our NHS and keyworkers was considered and it was suggested that an ideal place for this would be in the proposed Pocket Park at Windermere Road. **ACTION:** Cllr Holbrook to follow up with Lancaster City Council, Council Housing Services to gain permission to install such a bench in this location;
- 2) **Trees – footpath No.8:** It was noted that Carnforth Cricket Club had completed the improvements adjacent to this path and now more needs to be done to deal with the weeds, vegetation and overgrowth along footpath no. 8. **ACTION:** Outdoor Maintenance Operative to be asked to draw up options on how best to sustainably deal with the growth along footpath no 8.
- 3) **Pocket Parks:** Little progress has been made but will be followed up (see also 20031 1))



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20032 **Updates on activities / community matters:** Members considered any updates on ongoing actions and activities including:

- 1) **Eden project update:** Following on from previous discussions on whether Carnforth could/should be connected to the Eden project as part of a wider offer to travelling visitors, some options were considered around the town's railway heritage. Specifically, whether with the appropriate support, collaboration and funding there may be an opportunity that West Coast Railways could be encouraged to develop their site as a public attraction, as it was over a decade ago. some 10 years ago.

Given the towns location it was also felt that the offer could explore promoting shopping and accommodation in the town and its proximity to popular areas to the west of Carnforth, the lakes and western dales etc. **ACTION:** Cllr Grisenthwaite to draft a short business case on how the 'Carnforth offer' can strongly support the Eden Project North.

- 2) **Household Waste Recycling Centre (FWRC) & Library:** It was reported that the Carnforth HWRC is due to re-open on Thursday 4th June 2020. There is no advice as yet as to when Carnforth Library will re-open.
- 3) **Neighbourhood plan:** More potential local green spaces and photographs of the towns heritage sites have been sent to our planning consultants, Troy Hayes Design for consideration as part of the emerging neighbourhood plan. The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group have a Zoom meeting arranged for Monday 8th June 2020 to consider the draft Design Code document received at the end of February that has generated several comments from the group

The meeting closed at 5:55pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert B. Bailey". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Town Clerk

11 June 2020

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