



# Fleetwood Town Council

Onward to a Better Future

## Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting AND Full Council Meeting of the Town Council on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7p.m.

### 2596 Opening of the meeting.

The meeting was opened by Cllr Rogers who welcomed everyone.

**In attendance:** Cllrs Rogers, Stuchfield, Stirzaker, Tilling, Barrowclough, George, E Stephenson, B Stephenson. The Clerk.

Presentations: Sgt Giffin, John Woodman. 13 members of the public.

### 2597 Apologies for Absence accepted from: Cllrs Hewitt, McLaughlan, Glasgow, Raynor and Anderton.

### 2598 To record Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None disclosed

### 2599 To record Other (Personal or Prejudicial) Interests from members

As a member of the planning committee Cllr B Stephenson will not vote on any planning matters

### 2600 To accept the minutes of the meetings of 30<sup>th</sup> January and 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 (enclosed)

Both sets of minutes were accepted - - unanimous

### 2601 OPEN SESSION FOR THE ELECTORATE

Questions and comments were received from members of the public as follows:

1. As of 5pm tonight (13<sup>th</sup> March) the trustees of Fleetwood Museum will take over the running of the museum from the 1<sup>st</sup> April (Mr K Porter). Congratulations were offered by all members, and the trustees thanked FTC for all their support and hard work on the Museums behalf.
2. In the minutes of the 30<sup>th</sup> January there was mention of councillors meeting to discuss the Cumberland Hotel – did anything come from that. Cllr Rogers advised that following discussions with Regenda he was satisfied that the building was in such as state (insecure) that demolition was the only safe option. It was suggested

#### Councillors

T Rogers (Chairman) E. Anderton B. Glasgow M. Barrowclough (Vice Chairman) N.Stuchfield M. Stirzaker  
P. Tilling C. McLaughlan B. Stephenson E.Stephenson R. Hewitt C. Raynor R. George



that the façade could be saved and Cllrs. said they were happy to make representations on this issue.

3. Fleetwood at Risk – Civic society has made representations to Wyre to be included on any Wyre Council ward walks. Individual ward (borough) councillors have the powers to invite who they want – there was a suggestion that Town Councillors could also join in.
4. Christmas 2018 – last year the lights were great, suggested a competition for shop keepers for best decorated frontage, committee members said this was certainly something they were looking at for this year – invited MOP to join the committee.
5. When is the sea wall going to be completed? Sewage issues at Chatsworth Ave have delayed this but should be completed for this Spring. The eco-park at Rossall will be developed later. There should be an official opening ceremony.
6. Has there been any further news on the pier development planning issue – Cllr Anderton reported (via written report) that the section 106 agreement could not be agreed between the parties, so there has been no decision confirmed as yet. One MOP asked if there could still be representations made to clean up the site as it is still a mess.
7. Ages ago MOP believed that covenants existed that governed what could be done on the site, e.g. leisure facilities only. The 4 existing/conflicting leases are confusing and FTC are not privy to the legal issues around the problem.

Cllr Rogers thanked all that attended for their support and hard work in the town.

**2602 Chairman's Report**

None provided this month.

**2603 Clerks report**

See appendix A

**2604 CDO report**

See appendix A

**2605 Ward reports**

See appendix A

**2606 Neighbourhood police team report**

Sgt Bill Giffin was in attendance for the Neighbourhood policing team.

Reported on: Crime figs – burglaries - no increase overall, there has been an increase in auto crime – many due to cars being left unlocked, some offenders have



been identified and are being investigated. Please can everyone lock their vehicles – this will help reduce these figures. Violent crime remains static, alcohol is a big factor, also domestic related. 5 new PCSO will be starting in Easter, based in and working in Fleetwood and engaging with the community. Running a plain clothes operation to ID auto crime offenders. Executed a drugs warrant on Lindel Rd 2 weeks ago- one person arrested and on bail. ASB – emphasis & patrols will be on Marine Hall, McDonalds, Asda Car park and Memorial Park. Working with UR Potential to offer lifestyle classes for young people in the town. Cllr B Stephenson asked about unlit cyclists – are police having issues with any accidents related to this – is there anything police can do? It is an issue, and whilst there are many priorities the police do stop unlit riders and caution/warn them, tickets also get issued although prosecutions are not common.

**2607 Presentation from Cllr Michael Vincent, Wyre Council portfolio holder for Health and Community Engagement.**

Deferred to April – Cllr Vincent sent his apologies as he is ill.

**2608 Presentation on the proposed dockside development. Jessica Zhang, Chris Snow, John Woodman, Frank Heald.**

John Woodman attended, apologised on behalf of the other presenters, and gave an update on progress so far. A decision on how to go forward is hoped for in May 2018 based on a report (not currently public). Merlin entertainment have been invited to consider running of the proposed botanical gardens and will be visiting this month to survey the site. The group are consulting with Cat Smith on transportation and visitor number issues which need to be addressed for any successful business case.

Potential investors include a major Chinese group who have expressed an interest. Working with LCC and Business in the community groups plus FTC to encourage local interest and investment. Keeping a watching brief on developments in the fishing industry in light of Brexit negotiations, with a view to including regeneration of the industry as part of the project. Looking at other locations where dockside development has been successfully done on the continent to learn lessons and pick up best practice. Benefits of a successful dockside redevelopment include: job regeneration, improved transport links, particularly rail, and improved visitor numbers/tourism for Fleetwood.

Cllr B Stephenson asked how long the timescales would be for the project considering the current planning and investment position. Does the consortium think it will get off the ground? Mr Woodman confirmed that ABP and the consortium had commissioned a leisure group to assess the proposals who have advised it is viable with some amendment. A common interest is shared in moving the project forward. Cllr Stuchfield spoke in support of the efforts of the group, and whilst it was early days a positive approach was essential.

**2609 To consider a resolution to implement the General Power of Competence for FTC.**

Approved – unanimous



- 2610 To note and approve the proposed amendments to the Allotments policy/rules/tenant's handbook. To take effect from 12 months after the date of approval – enclosed as a separate document with tracked changes.**  
Approved unanimously – the revised documents will take effect from 13/3/19.
- 2611 To note and approve the proposed amendments to the Fleetwood Marsh Nature Park Memorandum of understanding, as e-mailed to councillors on 5<sup>th</sup> February. If approved, the 12-month pilot partnership to commence with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018**  
Approved unanimously – the pilot will commence from 1/4/18.
- 2612 To note and approve the annual review of the following documents as part of the standard annual review and for the governance section of the annual audit. (enclosed). Proposed amendments are in bold and underlined:**
- Internal Control Document (amendments at 8.4, 8.5 and 10.4)  
Approved unanimously
  - Risk Management Plan (amendments at page 2 – quantified risks)  
***NB: Employee fidelity is actually covered to £300,000 - not £25,000 as stated.***  
Approved unanimously
  - Risk management Register (no amendments identified)/  
Approved unanimously
  - Schedule of Assets (changes/additions marked with X)  
Approved unanimously – with an amendment to line 12 to note the beacon has been written off as an asset.

**In addition, the following documents also require review prior to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018.**

**Due to their size they are available on the council's website on:**

**[https://fleetwoodtowncouncil.org/what-we-do/documents-and-publications.](https://fleetwoodtowncouncil.org/what-we-do/documents-and-publications)**

**Members are asked to advise the clerk of any requested amendments before the above date.**

- **Financial Regulations**
- **Standing orders**
- **Publication scheme**

- 2613 To note and approve the Terms of reference and scope of internal audit for 2017-2018. No changes identified from the previous year.**  
Approved unanimously



- 2614 To consider adopting the draft business plan as per the clerk's e-mail of 25<sup>th</sup> January.**  
Noted and Approved unanimously – the business plan to be adopted and placed on the website. To be reviewed every 3 months.
- 2615 To ratify the Festive Lights Committee proposal for County Cllr L Beavers to re-join the committee.**  
Approved unanimously
- 2616 To ratify the Fleetwood In Bloom Working Group proposal for Cllr Stuchfield to re-join the group.**  
Approved unanimously
- 2617 To consider and approve one of 3 quotes from Panther Press for window stickers for In-Bloom sponsor**  
Approved unanimously – 250 window stickers to be purchased
- 2618 To approve payment of £298 to Mr K Blundell for services in splitting allotment plots, re-laying paths, clearing fences and foundations on 20/2/18.**  
Approved unanimously
- 2619 To note and approve a quote from Enviroguard for additional pest traps on the allotments.**  
Noted and approved unanimously
- 2620 To consider and approve a quote of £225.00 (no VAT) to clear the garage and back yard of 122 Poulton Rd of 8 years of accumulated rubbish.**  
Approved unanimously
- 2621 To consider and approve a budget of no more than £170 (including contingency) for the purchase of materials to maintain the towns large street furniture for the summer events season.**  
Approved unanimously
- 2622 To consider and approve a request from CAB to reduce the utilities contribution at 122 Poulton Rd to 25% (currently 40%) as CAB will be reducing its operating sessions from 9 half days to 5 half days.**  
Two alternative proposals were put forward:
1. To charge a nominal amount of £100 per annum towards utilities. – 2 votes in favour.
  2. To waive all contributions from 1/3/18 – 6 votes in favour.

Council resolved to waive all utilities contributions from CAB with effect from 1/3/18.



- 2623 To consider a request for ergonomic desk top equipment following a re-organisation of the office space at 122 Poulton Rd and the subsequent DSE workstation assessment.**  
Approved unanimously
- 2624 To consider a proposal to fund the clerk's attendance and travel costs at the SLCC regional training seminar on 27<sup>th</sup> June. Flat rate cost is £75 plus VAT, however there are early bird discounts available.**  
Approved unanimously
- 2625 To note planning applications considered by members and agree any action to be taken or response to the planning authority.**  
Noted
- 2626 To receive items for information and items for inclusion in the next agenda**  
Cllr M Vincent to be invited to give the presentation deferred at item 2607 on 24<sup>th</sup> April.
- Cllr E Stephenson requested an agenda item to approve Cllr George joining the Fleetwood Marsh Working Group
- Jessica Zhang Chinese/British Business Council to be re-invited to speak on the dockside development proposal.
- 2627 To agree Accounts for Payment, including clerks and CDO salaries– see enclosed information sheet.**  
Approved unanimously

**The next meeting will be on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at the North Euston Hotel at 7pm**

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Cllr T Rogers  
Chairman Fleetwood Town Council



## APPENDIX A – OFFICER AND WARD REPORTS

### CLERK'S REPORT

- Agenda and packs prepared for Full Council and Festive Lights meetings
- Dealt with several customer enquiries by phone, e-mail and in person at the office.
- I was notified of successful completion of my CiLCA qualification on 31<sup>st</sup> Jan.
- Attended Healthier Fleetwood Tea and Talk event 14<sup>th</sup> Feb and final homecoming meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> February.
- Obtained quote for rubbish removal from the garage and back yard at 122 Poulton Rd – see agenda item.
- The development of the basic template and content for the new FTC website has now been completed and the webpages went live in early Feb. Like all websites it's a work in progress with new information being added on a weekly basis, I have had some excellent feedback, and some fantastic contributions from local photographers. Both myself and the CDO are now fully trained on the admin system and review/update the content on a daily basis, so if you would like any articles/news posting please submit your wording, and any accompanying pictures (not copyrighted) by e-mail and we will post them.
- The work on splitting allotment plots 1 and 2 has now been completed and the topographical surveyor will be visiting the site on 15<sup>th</sup> March to complete the survey. All tenants have been notified and asked to clearly mark their plot boundaries prior to this date so the survey will be accurate.
- Following my approach to the Parishes liaison officer at Wyre Council the clerk plus one other attendee/councillor from each of Wyre's Parishes and Town Councils have been offered a FREE training session (my e-mail of 7<sup>th</sup> March to all councillors refers). I have reserved 2 places on the training on Weds 16<sup>th</sup> May, 6pm.
- **REMINDERS:** Could the three councillors who have not returned the signed front sheet of the agreed media policy document, which was sent to you in October 2017 all please do so asap.
- **Can I please remind all councillors apart from those co-opted since September 2016, that their declarations of interest are due for an update as e-mailed a couple of weeks ago. The publication of these declaration is a legal requirement.**



## **CDO report**

- 1/ Poppy Making workshops: -  
Delivered a poppy making workshop at Fleetwood museums – drop in sessions are being planned when the museum opens.  
Delivered a poppy making workshop at the Memorial Park – 2 subsequent drop in sessions have been organised for 31/3/2018 and 4/4/2018  
Delivered a poppy making workshop at Larkholme Primary school with Councillor R. George on 6/3/18  
Delivered a poppy making workshop at Chaucer Primary school with The Willow Garden Project on 7/3/18  
Additional workshops planned at: -  
Cardinal Allen; Fleetwood High; Flakefleet Primary; Stanah Primary.
- 2/ Meetings attended: -  
ASB meeting at the Marine Hall on 2/2/18  
Wyre in Bloom steering group meeting at Wyre Civic Centre on 7/2/18  
Fleetwood in Bloom working group meeting on 22/2/18  
ASB meeting at the Marine Hall on 2/3/18
- 3/ Events attended: -  
Tea and talk event at The Marine Hall on 14/2/18 – to promote volunteer opportunities
- 4/ Poppy Benches: -  
The original delivery of benches arrived and we declined payment due to all six benches being damaged in transit – new benches have now been delivered and are awaiting siting. I carried out a walk around with Councillor Rogers for the siting of the 6 new poppy benches. The report and photos will be included in the April agenda for your decision.
- 5/ Training: -
  - I have received training on the new council website
  - I have started my Microsoft publisher course – 4 modules now complete

## **Cllr Norah Stuchfield**

Planning Schedule Laidleys walk build 17/00745/FULMAJ

Attended hearing at the civic centre with residents and fellow Councillors to hear the decision from WC as prior panel ended with deferment for more information. As it stands WC refused planning of 80 bed build due to

Size, scale and mass of build

Parking as not adequate and associated risks to community

However, as this is a positive for the residents: it is also a decision that WC will have no power over as it has gone to the Inspectorate for deliberation on.

Outcome to be awaited.

Wyre dock Development

Attended meeting with Cllr Stirzaker and Raynor and LCC Cllr Beavers regarding ABP land and its future. No decision has been made about this land currently. The meeting was initially to meet with Chinese/British Council delegate Jessica Zhang. Establishing links with the Chinese and establishing a positive working role with the Chinese/British Council and to gain the understanding of the processes. Jessica is looking at twin town with China for Fleetwood.



Invitation was offered to attend Full Council to update

Fleetwood back on track meeting  
Tea and Talk Marine hall  
FTC in Bloom meeting

Brine Watch/Halite

I attended this information meeting which was very informative and gives a great insight to the salinity damage and its impact on the estuary and further. Also, to look at alternative avenues of brine disposal.

To be invited to Full Council as a guest speaker

Halite CLP update

Next panel meeting 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Attended Extra ordinary meeting 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018

Avon Green Project

Due to considerable hurdles being overcome the land at Avon green has been cleared and flattened Meeting with Regenda, myself and CDO for a positive way forward. CDO attending at my request due to FTFC Community Liaison worker leaving post.

This is a good piece of multi -agency working demonstrating best practice and cohesive community working. Involved with project URPotential, Simon Lawton CVS, West View Community centre.

### **Cllrs E and B Stephenson**

We would like to put in order of importance, to Ward residents the following items, which we deal with on a regular basis.

1. Dog muck.
2. Fly tipping.
3. Anti-social behaviour.
4. Potholes.
5. Speeding.
6. Charges for removing rubbish.

There are many more frivolous complaints, which are beyond our control.

Please note.

This is a standard report, that should be presented at each monthly meeting.

If the order of priorities changes etc, I will keep you informed.

### **Cllr Cheryl Raynor**

Meetings – Back on Track, Brine Watch Group presentation, Final Homecoming, Healthier Fleetwood afternoon tea and talk session and the anti-social behaviour task group. FTC extraordinary meeting.

I attended Transport for the North briefing at County Hall, Preston.

Working with Rotary Club on a 'beach wheelchair' project, very early days yet but looks promising.

Attended a couple of coffee mornings/fundraisers.

Reported various incidents of fly tipping. Also working with residents and Lancashire County Council to try and get some work done on potholes and pavements.

Helped a resident with benefits and rent problems.

I volunteer every week at one of the food co-ops I've helped set up in Fleetwood.



## **Cllr Stirzaker - St Wulstans Ward**

### Meetings attended

Planning with Cllr Stuchfield regarding Laidleys Walk application

Met, along with other councillors, with John Woodman from Wyre dock developments Ltd, Jessica Zhang, China business advisor for China-Britain business council, Chris Snow, Eric Wright construction, regarding plans for Wyre dock area of Fleetwood and invited them to speak at full council.

Tea and talk to support volunteers and made some poppies for Fleetwood in bloom

Back on track where Cllr Peter Murphy confirmed the track will stay in place at the enterprise zone entrance road.

Allotment working group to finalise the new tenancy agreement

Fleetwood in bloom. I'm very much looking forward without planting this year's submission, hopefully, winning a gold for Fleetwood.

Extraordinary Town Council meeting to ensure our staff receive payment for their hard work.

### Events attended

I attended the Brine watch event at the North Euston and have invited them to speak at a Town Council meeting soon.

### Ward work

Reported, repeatedly, potholes around the ward. Picked up doggy poo from outside my house not from my own dog I may add.

I've been working with the neighbourhood police and community regarding theft from a property, thankfully this was successful I believe.

## **Cllr R Hewitt**

met with Wyre Borough Officers to discuss ways forward to stop dumping of rubbish on Jameson Road

\*Several case studies involving constituents

\*dealt with planning applications for Mount Ward sent by the Town Clerk

\*supported constituents in application on private matters

\*helped residents to deal with flooding issues

\*made several walkabouts of Mount Ward



\*I am still waiting for the Chairman to apologise in public for unlawfully stopping me speaking in meeting as instructed by the Wyre Monitoring Officer

\*I will of course be standing for re-election in May for Mount Ward as requested by my constituents

### **Cllr R George**

Since the last meeting I have attended.

Healthy Fleetwood tea and talk event.

A meeting about beach wheelchairs ( ongoing and will report when there's more to report on) with Cllr Raynor

West view centre on 2 afternoons for my drop-in session

Reporting potholes

A meeting at larkholme school about a community project. Again I will report when there's more to discuss

Allotment working group meeting.

A community coffee morning in aid of helping prem babies

Met with Deborah regarding the allotment working group ( so she could help me type up my notes and discuss any questions )

Halite has storage meeting. I believe they are presenting at the meeting.

Attended larkholme school to do a poppy workshop with dawn

Ward work. I met with a resident about potholes with Cllr Raynor and this work is ongoing.

### **Cllr E Anderton**

Meetings attended:

- Meeting with officers from Wyre to discuss concerns about The Mount Pavilion (01/02/2018)
- Allotment Working Group (20/02/18)
- Extraordinary Town Council (27/02/18)

Events Attended:

- Presentation by Brine Watch Group on the impact of discharging brine into the Irish Sea resulting from Halite Gas Storage cavern preparations. (26/02/18)

Ward Work

- Dealing queries from residents.



#### Other

- Fleetwood Pier. Investigated current position on the planning application. Planning permission has not been granted by Wyre Council due to a dispute with the applicant on the amount of money to be set aside for offsite affordable housing via a Section 106 agreement. Negotiations are continuing.