



BARROW TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness LA14 2LD

Minutes of the Meeting of Barrow Town Council held on 18th July, 2023 at 18.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness. LA14 LD

C Atree	Present	D Morrison	Present
G Beddoes	Present	J Murphy	Present
F Chatfield	Present	D Palmer	Present
A Coles	Present	D Petrova	Apologies
B Elliot	Present	N Phillips	Present
P Griffiths	Present	K Raymond	Present
S Hall	Present	C Thomson	Present
S Herbert	Present	J Tyson	Apology
K Hyland	Present	M Younger	Present
P Jackson	Present	R Worthington	Apology
J McEwan	Present		

In Attendance: Town Clerk

Also Present: Mr M Cumming (P.Cllr. Askam & Ireleth & Chair of Barrow District Association).
Mrs R McIlgorm (Save Roanhead Action Group). One member of the public.

Public Participation: There were two short presentations.

Mr M Cumming.

Mr Cumming welcomed the Town Council to the CALC Organisation and outlined its history, development, and its current existing roles and responsibilities under the title of Barrow District Association. The current Executive Committee require a Chair and Vice-Chair and he would welcome Members of the Town Council to be active members within the Association. The Annual General Meeting of the BDA is on 19th July, 2023 at 18.00pm to which all Town Councillors are invited.

The Chair thanked him for his attendance and he retired from the meeting at 18.05pm.

Mrs R McIlgorm

Mrs McIlgorm spoke passionately about the reasons for the campaign to stop the development at Roanhead. She noted the complex geology of the area and the devastating effect the development will have on the wildlife (149 species of birds alone) and Flora (620 species which equates to 50% of all Flora in the County).

The Chair thanked her for her attendance and she and her accompanying guest retired from the meeting at 18.10pm.

26/23/24 Apologies for absence

Received and accepted from Cllr Tyson, Cllr. Petrova and Cllr Worthington.

27/23/24 Declarations of Interest

Received from Cllr Coles, and Cllr Phillips in respect of their Membership on the Westmorland and Furness Council.

28/23/24 Exclusion of Public and Press (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

There were no excluded items on the Agenda.

29/23/24 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th May, 2023

It was proposed by Cllr. Younger and seconded by Cllr. Thomson and, a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

To receive the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 24th May, 2023 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a correct record.

30/23/24 Mayor's Communications and Announcements

The Mayor gave a verbal report on his Mayoral visits since the last Council Meeting:

1. Furness Carers Health & Well Being Event
2. Dalton Civic Sunday
3. Barrow Heritage
4. St. Paul's Junior School 180th Anniversary
5. Armed Forces Day
6. CAST Theatre – School of Rock
7. Ormsgill School Open Day
8. BID Festival of Transport
9. Bram Longstaffe Nursery

Civic Sunday will be held on 20th August, 2023.

31/23/24 Reports and Minutes from the Committees of the Council**Planning Committee:**

Cllr. Chatfield gave a verbal report on the actions of his Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr. Palmer and seconded by Cllr. Herbert and, a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 1st June, 2023 and 29th June, 2023.

Allotments Committee:

Cllr. Younger gave a verbal report on the actions of his Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hyland and seconded by Cllr. McEwan and, a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Allotments Committee held on 27th June, 2023.

Finance Committee:

Cllr. Jackson gave a verbal report on the actions of her Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr. Chatfield and seconded by Cllr. Phillips and, a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 6th June, 2023.

32/23/24 Membership of Brilliant Barrow Deal Board

Nominee: Cllr. Murphy Proposed by Cllr. Elliot and seconded by Cllr. Palmer and, a vote having been taken.

Resolved:

That the Council accept the invitation from the Assistant Director of Inclusive and Green Growth for a Member of Barrow Town Council to join the 'Brilliant Barrow Deal Board, and that Cllr. Murphy has been elected to that position.

33/23/24 Piel/Roa Island Safety Equipment

To consider the Report from Cllr. Griffiths distributed with the Agenda.

Cllr.Griffiths noted Barrow has commercial operations at both Piel and Roa Island which attracts thousands of visitors per year, who are travelling by Ferry to and from the islands without adequate safety equipment.

He outlined his proposal to install a defibrillator on Piel Island and sought funding approval from the Council. The benefit and need of having this piece of life-saving equipment in such a remote area of Barrow is evident. The new landlord of the Piel Castle Inn has confirmed his willingness to assist in fundraising. Funding is also requested for the purchase of a lifebuoy for the Island.

Further the RNLI Lifeboat Station at Roa Island has a lifebuoy but when the premises are locked it is unavailable in the case of an emergency. Therefore the report proposes the purchase of an additional lifebuoy.

The estimated cost for a defibrillator is £1,500. Life buoys £200 each. Total cost £1,900.

All items of equipment can be obtained through the British Heart Foundation.

Cllr. Murphy noted his connection with the Walney First Responders and agreed to enquire if they would be agreeable to offer financial assistance towards the purchase of the defibrillator and he outlined the importance of having competently trained persons to operate the equipment. He thanked Cllr. Griffiths for raising this vital issue.

Cllr. Phillips noted his agreement to the Report but said there are further wider issues to be considered, for example the key site at the Dock Museum. A 'Safer Water Campaign' is needed to look at the hot spots within the wider Town Area.

The Council noted that Piel Island is an asset of the new Westmorland and Furness Council and therefore they requested the Clerk to contact the afore mentioned Council and inform them of the Town Council's safety concerns and their proposal and seek their assistance in this matter.

Having been proposed by Cllr. Griffiths, and seconded by Cllr. Murphy, and a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

The Town Clerk to confirm the expenditure and the request for funding to be forwarded to the Finance Committee. The Town Clerk to contact Westmorland and Furness.

34/23/24 Roosecote 20 MPH Zone Request

To consider the Report from Cllr. Griffiths distributed with the Agenda.

In June, 2023 Westmorland and Furness Council announced a £300,000 fund to introduce 20 mph limits within the area, following a majority of positive responses following a public consultation. Having been proposed by Cllr. Griffiths, and seconded by Cllr. Murphy, and a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

All Councillors to undertake a similar consultation within their wards and to let the Town Clerk have their initial results by the 18th August, 2023.

35/23/24 Town Twinning

To consider the Report from Cllr. Griffiths distributed with the Agenda.

The basic research having been undertaken the advantages for the Town were noted, including the creation of a sense of identity for the Town, and the economic, cultural and direct and indirect benefits of increased tourism.

Cllr. Phillips voiced his support and referred to the economic benefits for the shipyard if Adelaide is a selected location, and Cllr. Elliot recommended approaching BAE in that instance.

Cllr. Murphy noted this concept had been proposed some years ago with a suggested twinning to Mikasa in Japan due to the large numbers of Japanese visitors to the Lake District.

The concept having been proposed by Cllr. Griffiths, and seconded by Cllr. Coles, and a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

To formulate a Town Twinning Association of Councillors. Once established to then include stakeholders within the Town.

36/23/24 Ward Expenses Allowance

To consider the Report from Cllr. Griffiths distributed with the Agenda.

Proposed by Cllr. Griffiths and seconded by Cllr. Herbert, and a vote having been taken (one abstention),

Resolved:

All Wards to receive £500 per year to enable the Councillors to effectively undertake their roles and responsibilities.

37/23/24 Piel Island Ferries

Cllr. Murphy gave a verbal report.

There are presently two ferry operators catering for the many local and foreign visitors travelling from Roa Island to Piel Island, and regrettably there is conflict between the two parties creating a contentious atmosphere.

Proposed by Cllr. Murphy and seconded by Cllr. Phillips, and a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

The Clerk to investigate both Operators licensing requirements and authorisation.

38/23/24

‘Brighten Our Corner’

To consider the Report from Cllr. Herbert distributed with the Agenda.

Cllr. Herbert outlined the background and purpose of his proposal which will empower our Communities and provide excellent communication opportunities for the Councillors to liaise with their Constituents. Further it will re-establish through non-partisan collaboration the commitment of all members of the Council to the Town.

Proposed by Cllr. Herbert and seconded by Cllr. Palmer, and a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

1. This to be a standing item on future Agenda.
2. Formalise the Governance - Financial Control procedures to be determined.
3. £2,000 per ward plus £1,000 administration costs per year to be incorporated within the Budget.

39/23/24 Barrow Events Supports Grants

To consider the proposal forwarded from the Finance Committee, proposed by Cllr. Phillips, and distributed with the Agenda.

Proposed by Cllr. Phillips and seconded by Cllr. Jackson, and a vote having been taken,

Resolved:

1. This to be a standing item on future Agenda.
2. £50,000 for 2023-2024 to be incorporated into the Budget
3. Approval of Grant Applications during the month of August (Council Recess) to be made via electronic mail.

40/23/24 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 26th September, 2023 at 18.00pm in the Council Chamber, Barrow Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness. LA14 2LD.

Lesley Smyth

Town Clerk