



BARROW TOWN COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the Meeting of Barrow Town Council held on 19th November 2024 at 18.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness. LA14 LD

C Aلتree	Present	D Morrison	Apology
G Beddoes	Apology	J Murphy	Present
F Chatfield	Present	D Petrova	Present
A Coles	Apology	N Phillips	Present
B Elliot	Present	C Thomson	Present
P Griffiths	Present	J Tyson	Present
S Hall	Apology	P Jackson	Present
S Herbert	Present	J McEwan	Present
K Hyland	Present	R Worthington	Apology
B Morgan	Present	W McEwan	Present
M Leach	Present		

In Attendance: Town Clerk; Westmorland and Furness Councillor T Callister; Two Members of the public.

The Mayor welcomed Cllr Callister and the two members of the public in attendance.

162/24/25 Apologies for absence

Received and accepted from Cllrs Coles, Worthington, Beddoes, Hall and Morrison.

163/24/25 Declarations of Interest

Received from Cllr W McEwan, Cllr N Phillips and Cllr B Morgan in respect of their Membership on the Westmorland and Furness Council, and Cllr W McEwan for Agenda Item No. 6 (a) in respect of his Membership on the Westmorland and Furness Council Planning Committee.

164/24/25 Exclusion of Public and Press (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

Exclusion for Agenda Item No. 17. – Part Two.

165/24/25 Presentation by Cllr T Callister (Westmorland and Furness)

Cllr Callister, chair of the Furness Locality Board, expressed his thanks for the invitation to the meeting and presented to the Members an update on the work of the Board, noted below: -

1. The established quarterly meetings with the Town and Parish Clerks.
2. Update on the work of the W&F four thematic groups and their reinforced remit.
3. Launching of the W&F 'First Four You' website.
4. The 'Furness Community Network'.
5. Active Travel – a network of cycleways initially commencing with Walney and Abbey Road.
6. W&F review of Assets.
7. The proposed Joint Sports Stadium.
8. The Work Well Programme for education/transition supporting people back into work.
9. The two-year plan for 'Priority Wards' focusing on the deprived Wards of Barrow Island and Hindpool. Community engagement is vital, and confirmation was given to Cllr P Jackson that she will be invited to attend all future meetings.
10. Team Barrow structure, consisting of five work streams focusing on the Central, Hindpool and Barrow Island Wards. Secured funding of £20m per year over 10 years.

Cllr Callister was thanked for his detailed report and retired from the meeting at 18.20pm

166/24/25 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th September 2024

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

Resolved:

To receive the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17th September 2024 and to authorise the Chair to sign them as a correct record.

167/24/25 Mayor's Communications and Announcements

The Mayor reported on her attendance at Events since the last meeting:

- 18th September - Town Hall cake sale for Cancer Charity
- 21st September - Barrow Dreams Town Centre march
- 27th September - Coffee morning for 'A Stitch Different'
- 27th September - Coffee morning at Moorfield School
- 27th September - Opening of the Dock Museum
- 1st October - Visit to St Mary's Hospice
- 6th October - Silver Sunday in the Forum
- 7th October - Jobs and skills fare for schools
- 8th October - Town Hall tour for Grange U3A Association
- 15th October - Cumbria in Bloom, Kendal
- 16th October - Town Hall tour for Askam Scouts
- 17th October - Judges Service, Carlisle Cathedral
- 21st October - Dane Ghyll school
- 23rd October - Furness Academy Awards
- 25th October - BAE Systems Awards
- 25th October - Meeting regarding Tall Ships
- 25th October - Trafalgar Ball
- 26th October - Barrow Market Pumpkins Stall for Mayor's Charities
- 26th October - Male Voice Choir concert in Town Hall
- 29th October - Meeting with Barrow Bid
- 6th November - Video production for Every Life Matters

- 8th November - Hospice Charity Event in the Town Hall. **‘Judge Judy’**
- 9th November - Remembrance Service at Barrow train station
- 10th November - Remembrance Services at Barrow
- 10th November - Remembrance Service at Askam.
- 11th November - Barrow remembrance Service for Barrow schools linking with Flanders Field
- 15th November - Rotary club dinner
- 16th November - Barrow lights switch on for Barrow Bid.

Cllr B Morgan, on behalf of the Council, thanked the Mayor for her commitment and hard work.

167/24/25 Reports and Minutes from the Committees of the Council

Planning Committee

Cllr. Chatfield reported on the recent work of the Committee.

Resolved:

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 3rd October 2024.

Proposed by Cllr Herbert and seconded by Cllr Petrova.

Finance Committee.

Cllr. Herbert reported on the recent work of the Committee noting the 24-25 Budget is in a healthy position.

Resolved:

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Finance Committees held on 11th September and 3rd October 2024. Proposed by Cllr Chatfield and seconded by Cllr W McEwan.

Allotment Committee

Cllr Chatfield reported on the recent work of the Allotments Committee.

Resolved:

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Allotments Committee held on 19th June 2024.

Proposed by Cllr W McEwan and seconded by Cllr Thompson

168/24/25 Finance Report

The Members considered the documents distributed prior to the meeting: -

1. Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st October 2024.
2. Schedule of payments for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st October 2024. **(attached Appendix 1)**

Resolved:

To receive and approve the Receipts and Payments Account and the Schedule of Payments for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st October 2024. Proposed by Cllr. Elliot and seconded by Cllr. Herbert. All agreed.

169/24/25 Allotments Service Account

The Members considered the documents distributed prior to the meeting, noted below, and a request from the Clerk and Chair of Allotments that the Service be ring-fenced.

1. Financial Statement 1st April to 31st October 2024.
2. Revised Scheme of Delegation

Resolved:

To approve the request that the Allotment Service be ring-fenced, and the Clerks' recommendation that all future committee meetings now be held monthly.

Proposed by Cllr Tyson and seconded by Cllr Herbert. All agreed.

The Clerk to submit a 'Monetary Policy' to the next Finance Meeting.

170/24/25 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023-2024

The Clerk sought Council approval on the following recommendations: -

- To open three individual Bank Accounts for the depositing of Reserves, under the FSCS protection of funds ruling.
- Future Year End Accounts be prepared on an Income and Expenditure basis to facilitate the accounting for accruals.

Resolved:

Proposed by Cllr Herbert and seconded by Cllr W McEwan that approval be given. All agreed.

171/24/25 Council Official Photographer

Cllr Griffiths recommended the appointment of an official photographer at all Council Events, on a voluntary basis. This would greatly improve publicity both on the Council Website and on social media.

Resolved:

Proposed by Cllr Griffiths and seconded by Cllr W McEwan, that the concept be agreed. The Clerk to investigate the practicalities.

Cllr Phillips retired at 18.46pm

172/24/25 Deputy Town Clerk

The Clerk sought approval of the Job Description previously distributed.

Resolved:

To approve the document and defer the matter to the Staffing Committee. Agreed.

173/24/25 Brilliant Barrow Report

Cllr Chatfield noted the MP for Barrow, Michelle Scrogg, has now officially replaced the former MP Simon Fell on the Board and that Morecambe Bay NHS have received an invitation to join the Board. The Mayor thanked Cllr Chatfield for his report.

174/24/25 Council Action Sheet

The Clerk noted all actions and resolutions have been actioned, and she is awaiting responses from Westmorland and Furness Council on the following issues:

- The Barrow Plan and the Devolution Committee which have both been deferred pending a decision on any asset defrayment from Westmorland and Furness Council.
- Barrow Cenotaph Patio Cleaning.
- Inclusion of Barrow Town Council in the Community Infrastructure levy.

175/24/25 Brighten Our Corner

The following Grants were approved in October 2024: -

1. Abbots Vale Community Centre – Purchase of a Cooker. £500
2. Furness Railway – Santa Express in Barrow Park. £500

176/24/25 Barrow Community Support

The following Grant was approved in October 2024: -

1. Barrow AFC Community Foundation – Christmas Market. £2,500

177/24/25 Get Barrow Moving

No applications submitted for approval in October 2024.

Members of the public retired at 19.52pm

178/24/25 Part Two. Exclusion of Public and Press (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

179/24/25 Any Other Business

1. Precept 2025-2026

The Clerk reported on a Notice of Precept for 2025-2026 received from Westmorland and Furness Council with a submission date of 15th January 2025. The Clerk has written to the Assistant Director of Finance at W&F requesting a deferral to 22nd January 2025 to facilitate the matter being debated at Finance Committee on 15th January 2025 and approved at Full Council on 21st January 2025. The Notice referred to Westmorland and Furness Council introducing a streetlights policy in 2026-2027 and the subsequent recharging of this service to Town and Parish Councils. It is noted there is to be no charge for streetlighting in 24-25 and 25-26 to the Town Council.

2. Service Disruption

The Members debated at length regarding services previously maintained by the former Barrow District Council but no longer being maintained, i.e.

- Footpath lighting at Roose and Hawcoat.
- Alleyways – hedge cutting and lighting.
- Broken footpaths.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk invite a member of the Westmorland and Furness Highways Department to address the next Full Council in January.

3. Proposed Post Office Closure – Town Centre.

Proposed by Cllr Morgan and seconded by Cllr Chatfield that the Town Clerk write to the Barrow MP noting the Council's concern and their willingness to assist in any actions she thinks suitable.

Cllr J Tyson retired at 19.13pm.

4. Proposed Hospital Closure

Cllr Chatfield noted the Barrow MP has agreed to act on this matter and has called for a public meeting, and he and Cllr Griffiths are to write to the Morecambe Bay Health Authority expressing the views of the Town Council.

5. Kendal Town Council

Cllr Morgan enquired if any member wished to visit a Council Meeting in Kendal as an observer, with due reference to their past history in accepting additional responsibilities through defrayed services.

180/24/25 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 18.00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.20 pm.

Lesley Smyth

Town Clerk

Cllr Chatfield	Barrow Central Ward
Cllr D Petrova	Barrow Central Ward
Cllr Phillips	Barrow Hawcoat Ward
Cllr Worthington	Barrow Hawcoat Ward
Cllr Morrison	Barrow Hindpool Ward
Cllr Tyson	Barrow Hindpool Ward
Cllr Jackson	Barrow Island Ward
Cllr W McEwan	Barrow Newbarns Ward
Cllr M Leach	Barrow Newbarns Ward
Cllr Altree	Barrow Ormsgill Ward
Cllr J McEwan	Barrow Ormsgill Ward
Cllr Coles	Barrow Parkside Ward
Cllr Hall	Barrow Parkside Ward
Cllr Herbert	Barrow Risedale Ward
Cllr Morgan	Barrow Risedale Ward
Cllr Beddoes	Barrow Roosecote Ward
Cllr Griffiths	Barrow Roosecote Ward
Cllr Elliot	Barrow Walney North Ward
Cllr Hyland	Barrow Walney North Ward
Cllr Murphy	Barrow Walney South Ward
Cllr Thomson	Barrow Walney South Ward