

WHITBY TOWN COUNCIL

Report of the meeting of the Town Council of Whitby, duly convened, and conducted over zoom on Tuesday 18 January 2022 at 6.00pm.

Present Councillor Mrs L Wild (Mayor) and Councillors Mrs H Coughlan, R Dalrymple, G Goodberry, J Harston, G Jackson, J Nock, S Smith, Mrs H Sumner and Mrs N L Wilson.

Also M King, Town Clerk, Mrs A Cowey, Deputy Town Clerk, with Mr N Edwards, Director, Scarborough Borough Council and Mr M Parsons, General Manager, Anglo American.

NOTICE OF MEETING – Public Notice of the Meeting was given. The meeting was held under the town council’s adopted scheme of delegation as an advisory meeting for decisions delegated to the Proper Officer.

220118-1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Barnett and J Redfern.

220118-2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENDED

220118-3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public Participation

STANDING ORDERS REINSTATED

220118-4. EXTERNAL REPORTS

To receive reports on behalf of external bodies if present

a) Anglo American

Mr Matt Parsons reported that there had been a change of leadership Chris Frazer has been replaced by Tom McCulley. There will be an expected capital expenditure this year of about £500,000 to move the project on, as well as further engineering designs on the underground mining to optimise productivity. A slide of the mine site was displayed identifying the two shafts which will be the only permanent buildings on the site when up and running. Drill and blast should start within the next fortnight on the transport tunnel. To support Social and Economic Development - funding has been given to the proposed Lobster Hatchery to develop a business plan and further funding of £25,000 was granted for the first phase of the project to get is underway. Funding has been made available for a business start-up scheme which has helped 15 new business in Whitby. an Education Programme Manager has been employed who will lead work in schools equipping disadvantaged students to meet their potential.

Councillors asked questions on

- Apprentices – 27 apprentices have been taken on 7 or 8 are from Whitby.
- Tunnel boring – this is ahead of target and is at almost 18km (just past Lockwood Beck). The shaft at Lockwood Beck is being connected to the tunnel for ventilation.

b) North Yorkshire Police

Not in attendance due to issues with logging on to zoom meetings. Monthly Police reports are circulated to members for information.

c) County & Borough Councillors –

No County or District Council representation present.

d) Scarborough Borough Council – Nick Edwards

Mr Edwards reported on Project Sunshine and the budget:

- railings on the West Cliff have been replaced and is on-going and should be completed by the end of the month
- Planting schemes and troughs - working in conjunction with Whitby in Bloom planting and troughs have been ordered and should come to fruition in Springtime
- A contractor has been appointed to paint the railings from the Battery Parade to Dockend which will include the Powder Houses
- Litter bin refurbishment is underway – a dog bin has been installed on White Point Bridge
- Parks department has been contacted regarding improvements to Calla Beck

Any other improvements Councillors would like to be seen in Whitby need to be given to the Town Clerk to be passed on to Mr Edwards.

The budget is subject to consultation – there is continuation of project Sunshine to help all areas of the borough. On-going debate and discussions are taking place regarding celebration of the 900th charter of Whitby as well as any potential asset transfers.

Councillors asked questions about: -

- The lack of provision in the budget for the upcoming elections – NYCC has made it aware that any parish/town council elections that will take place at the same time as Unitary elections will have no charge.
- Thanks was given for the installation of descent quality railings on the west cliff
- Damage to the sea wall by the RNLI Station - the Engineer will be asked to contact the Town Clerk regarding this issue
- The tops of the gas lights on the West Cliff need replacing – Mr Edwards will take this away to see what can be done
- Condition of litter bins – this is underway

MOVED by Councillor J Harston, seconded by Councillor G Jackson and

ADVISED unanimously that the above reports are noted

220118-5. **MINUTES**

MOVED by Councillor J Nock, seconded by Councillor G Goodberry and

ADVISED unanimously that the Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Full Council held on 19 October 2021 are confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Town Mayor

MOVED by Councillor Mrs H Coughlan, seconded by Councillor G Jackson

ADVISED unanimously that the following committee minutes are received en bloc:

Planning Committee	26 October 2021
Planning Committee	9 November 2021
Finance, Policy & General Purposes Committee	16 November 2021
Planning Committee 2	7 December 2021
Pannett Art Gallery Committee	14 December 2021
Finance Policy & General Purposes Committee	14 December 2021
Planning Committee	11 January 2022

220118-6. **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

a. FP&GP Committee 16 November

i) F128/21 APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE & NOTING OF INCOME

RECOMMENDED that the schedule of expenditure up to 10 November 2021 in the sum of **£41,119.52** (page 18) is approved and submitted to Full Council and that the income in the sum of **£233,016.81** is noted.

MOVED by Councillor J Nock, seconded by Councillor Mrs H Coughlan and

ADVISED that the schedule of expenditure up to 10 November 2021 in the sum of **£41,119.52** is approved and that the income in the sum of **£233,016.81** as recommended by the Finance Policy and General Purposes Committee is received and noted.

ii) F130/21 RESERVES REVIEW

RECOMMENDED (a) That the reserve movements at Appendix B (page 21), totalling £63,388.86 be approved at year-end; and
(b) That the following (zero balance) Earmarked Reserves be retired: East Side Facility, Staffing Contingency, Grant Surplus, Community Asset Reserve, Energy Reserve and Yorkshire Day.

MOVED by Councillor Mrs N Wilson, seconded by Councillor S Smith and

ADVISED unanimously that the reserve movements totalling £63,388.86 be approved at year-end; and
(b) That the following (zero balance) Earmarked Reserves be retired: East Side Facility, Staffing Contingency, Grant Surplus, Community Asset Reserve, Energy Reserve and Yorkshire Day, as recommended by Finance, Policy and General Purposes Committee is received and noted.

iii) F131/21 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

RECOMMENDED That the Medium-Term Financial Plan, as previously circulated, be adopted alongside the 2022/23 Budget.

MOVED by Councillor G Jackson, seconded by Councillor Mrs H Coughlan and

ADVISED unanimously that the Medium-Term Financial Plan, as recommended by the Finance Policy and General Purposes Committee, be adopted alongside the 2022/23 Budget.

b. i) F159/21 APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE & NOTING OF INCOME

RECOMMENDED that the schedule of expenditure up to 8 December 2021 in the sum of **£40,639.45** (page 39) is approved and submitted to Full Council and that the income in the sum of **-£747.35** is noted.

MOVED by Councillor G Goodberry, seconded by Councillor G Jackson and

ADVISED unanimously that the schedule of expenditure up to 8 December 2021 in the sum of **£40,639.45** is approved and submitted to Full Council and that the income in the sum of **-£747.35** as recommended by Finance Policy and General Purposes Committee is received and noted.

ii) F1601/21 DRAFT BUDGET

RECOMMENDED That the draft budget (as attached) is recommended to council at its meeting on 18 January 2022.

MOVED by Councillor J Harston, seconded by Councillor R Dalrymple and

ADVISED That the draft budget as recommended by Finance Policy and General Purposes Committee is noted and received.

c. Any other matters arising from the minutes noted above.

Councillor Nock clarified a comment at the planning meeting of the 26th October 2019 regarding the deregulation of taxis.

MOVED by Councillor G Jackson, seconded by Councillor Mrs H Coughlan and

ADVISED unanimously that the above clarification is noted.

220118-7. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL BODIES

Councillor Mrs Wild reported on the external meetings she had attended since the last meeting of Full Council - Anglo American and 2 harbour Users Group meetings. It was agreed that the minutes of the Harbour User Group be circulated to members once received.

There was no report from the Coastal Parish Forum – apologies had been sent.

Councillor Jackson informed members that the next meeting of the YLCA will take place virtually on 4th February 2022 – anyone can attend but only official representatives can vote.

Councillor Mrs Coughlan attended the Friends of Pannett Park – minutes are sent to WTC – she reported that she always thanks the volunteers and gardeners on behalf of WTC for all their hard work.

MOVED by Councillor Mrs H Coughlan, seconded by Councillor G Jackson and

ADVISED unanimously that the above reports be received and noted.

220118-8. MAYORS REPORT

The Town Mayor reported on her Mayoral engagements including a Royal Navy Event she attended in Leeds – Cemetery Consultation at Larpool Lane – Toilet Review Meeting – Remembrance Service – Dockend which was well attended – Whitby and Fishing Industry Awards – zoom meeting with Commodore Phil Waterhouse discussions which included the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Falkland Islands conflict and setting up of the sea Cadets – judging the Fancy dress competition at the Boxing Day Dip .

MOVED by Councillor J Harston, seconded by Councillor J Nock and unanimously

ADVISED that the Mayoral report is received.

220118-9. BUDGET SETTING 2022-2023

The Town Clerk reported on the effect the misquoted tax base from SBC had on the proposed budgets set by Town and Parish Councils, resulting in a seven and half percent reduction in the precept and the need for WTC to identify £18,500.00 difference from various budget headings.

- Councillors asked questions raised concerns on the following:
- The proposed salary for a Maintenance Supervisor not being an appropriate for the position - The position will be part time 3 days a week.
- Reduction in budget for gas – The gas rate is fixed for the next two years
- An obligation to repay £6000.00 per year for the footbridge extension – this could be paid from reserves

MOVED by Councillor Mrs H Coughlan, seconded by Councillor G Jackson

ADVISED unanimously that the Revised Budget is received and noted

MOVED by Councillor G Jackson, seconded by Councillor J Harston

ADVISED unanimously that the revised budget is submitted to the next meeting of the Full Council.

220118-10. CLERKS REPORT

The Town Clerk went through his report which was circulated prior to the meeting and answered questions from Councillors.

- There was a lot of interest in taking over the Pavilion, is there a business plan being worked up for this – Community facilities of this type are not a priority at this time and will be looked at post unitary status by the incoming unitary council

- WTC asked for an urgent review of parking in the town, has there been any feedback
- The response as to why the Park & Ride cannot be open 24 hours because it is in the National Park, when Anglo American has set a precedent with its workers using the park 24/7. The Park and Ride should be open throughout the year due to the large numbers of visitors to Whitby and the major parking issues within the town. When first built National Park did not want stadium type lights on and low-level lighting was not considered – but the Stable and Victoria Farm have lights on throughout the night some of which are very bright – this needs to be revisited as residents use this facility as well as visitors.
- Will the toilets at Ruswarp be refurbished next year? The work on these toilets should hopefully be completed by the end of March.

MOVED by Councillor Mrs H Coughlan, seconded by Councillor G Goodberry

ADVISED unanimously that the Town Clerks report is received and noted and (a) Contract variations in the arrangements with Danfo are issued in line with the prescribed process to agree a split of operating surplus income in 2021/22 of 50:50 above the contractual sum (£110,000 +RPI) and to mandate additional refurbishment works to New Quay Road and Ruswarp toilets; and
 (b) Whitby Town Council records its congratulations to Sir Robert Goodwill on the award of a knighthood in the New Year's Honours List.

220118-11. FLOODING AWARENESS - STANDING ITEM

Tides above 5.5 metres up until February 2022
 1-5 February 2022

MOVED by Councillor R Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Mrs H Coughlan and unanimously

ADVISED that the information be received.