

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Chairman/Mayor:

Clr. Tricia Thomas

Vice-Chairman/Deputy Mayor:

Clr. Ann Walmsley

Town Clerk:

Mrs. C. Benbow



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V.A.T. Reg.No: 164 8707 80

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend the Meeting of the Town Council in accordance with Schedule 12 para.10(2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972, to be held in the Victoria Hall, on Monday 8 August 2022 at 7.00pm.

Note: Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 this meeting was advertised as a public meeting and as such could be filmed or recorded by broadcasters, the media or the public.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Benbow', written over a light blue horizontal line.

C. Benbow, Town Clerk

AGENDA FULL COUNCIL MONDAY 8 AUGUST 2022

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive and approve apologies from members.

2. Public Participation: Have Your Say

Have Your Say: Members of the public are invited to speak.

3. Reports

To receive the following reports:

- a. District Council Report
- b. County Council Report
- c. Shadow Unitary Council Report
- d. Mayor's Report

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 11 July 2022 as a true record.

5. Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

Members to disclose their interests in matters to be discussed and to decide requests for dispensations.

6. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

To consider if any items should be considered without the presence of the press and public, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 2.

7. Planning

To consider Planning Applications as circulated and to note submissions to planning applications considered under delegated authority.

8. Monthly Payments Councillor Verification and Payment Approval

- a. To note that prior to the meeting two councillors verified invoices received and payments made since the last full council meeting and can verify their authenticity.
- b. To note that two councillors verified that the monthly bank reconciliation has taken place.
- c. To approve and authorise the payment of accounts and wages as recorded in the payments list.
- d. To identify and approve two councillors to verify the invoices and payments for the next payment period.
- e. To identify and approve two councillors to complete the online authorisation of the payments for the next payment period.

9. Finance and Governance

a. Casual Vacancy

There is still a casual vacancy on the Town Council due to the resignation of Tracy Hathorn in August 2021. This continues to be advertised; anyone interested is invited to contact the Town Clerk or the Chairman for more information, or see www.grangeoversandstowncouncil.gov.uk

b. Meeting Dates

To note an amendment to the Town Council's meeting dates, that the April 2023 meeting will now be held 10 April (*circulated*).

c. Street Workout Equipment Invoice

To note that the total paid to Kompan Ltd for the Street Gym equipment was reduced. This followed queries raised by the Town Council's Finance Administrator, that the Heras site security fencing and Portaloo hire were included in the quote, but not supplied.

The price quoted, and approved, for the Combi 5 Street Workout Equipment was £32,505.06 (including VAT).

The amount actually paid was £31,933.86. Kompan are crediting the difference of £571.20.

d. Cost of Living Price Increases

i) Insurance

At the previous meeting, it was noted that the Council's insurance premium had increased by 184% to £8,593.99 for 2022-23.

ii) Gas and Electricity

Heating and lighting costs for the Victoria Hall and the 3 blocks of public conveniences have increased. The Council is a business customer, so is charged a commercial rate and the bills will not be capped, as they are for domestic households.

To note correspondence from the Council's energy supplier, Corona Energy, regarding increase in prices (*circulated*).

These calculations show how the increase in prices will affect the Victoria Hall:

Gas – this has increased by nearly five times. The rate per kWh has increased from 2.2p to 10.9p.

The gas charge for the Hall for 2021-22 was £3,807 so based on the above, we could be looking at an annual charge for 2022-23 of approximately £19k.

Our contract is managed by Cumbria County Council and runs from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2025.

The current pricing period is 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. Whether the price falls in 2023-24 is anybody's guess.

Electricity - the rate per kWh has gone up from 14.4p to 30.8p, so more than doubled.

The electricity charges for 2021-22 were £2,542 so we may be looking at annual charges in the region of £5k for 2022-23.

10. Consultations

To consider the Council's participation in appropriate consultations: None received.

11. Updates from Members

To receive Councillor updates on works in progress, and meetings and events attended, including:

- a. Cllr. Thomas – Prom Art Meeting

12. Victoria Hall

- a. **Hire Rates Review**

To note that the hire rates have been reviewed, and new rates proposed, in light of increased running costs, and to provide a standardised pricing system that is clear and fair.

To consider the proposed new rates for implementation from 1 January 2023 (*circulated*).

- b. **Chimney Works**

To note that the works to remove the rear chimney (resolved January 2022 C22/160) are complete.

- c. **Front of House/Caretaking**

To note that advertising and recruitment for Front of House/Caretaking team members is underway. This has been advertised in 'Grange Now,' on the noticeboard, website and social media.

13. SLDC Updates - Promenade and Lido Refurbishment and Prom Playground

To note any updates received from SLDC, as requested at previous Town Council meeting.

The following was received by email 13 July 2022:

I can confirm that we are still progressing with the design and the concrete survey report will be completed within the next couple of weeks. This will give us a good steer on completing the final construction drawings and moving a step further to getting the project underway. I will be reporting to Cllr Jonathan Brook and Cllr Robin Ashcroft within the next couple of weeks.

14. Recreation Ground

- a. **Tender**

To consider draft tender, and tender process timeline, for the exchange of services contract to operate and maintain the Recreation Ground (*circulated*).

- b. **Working Party**

To appoint a Working Party to open tenders on Wednesday 28 September, 7pm, and report to Full Council with recommendation for decision on Monday 10 October 2022.

15. Allotment Correspondence

At the previous meeting, it was resolved to request that the County Council review the speed limit for the fell road, consider moving the National Speed Limit sign so the allotment entrance is in the 30mph zone, install a concealed exit warning sign and clear the verges near the entrance to the site.

To note the response from Cumbria County Council (*circulated*).

To note any update from Cllr. Mason, about golf balls coming over the road, from the Golf Club.

To note that the allotment holder has been in further correspondence, asking whether the gate into the allotment car park could be moved to the other end, as this could be safer for users.

16. Next Meeting

To note that the next Full Council Meeting will be held:

Monday 10 October 2022 at the Victoria Hall, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands, 7pm