

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Chairman/Mayor:

Cllr. Roger Handley

Vice-Chairman/Deputy Mayor:

Cllr. 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 11 November 2024 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

C. Benbow, Town Clerk

AGENDA FULL COUNCIL MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2024

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. Westmorland and Furness Council Report
- b. 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 14 October 2024 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 (*circulated*).

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 complete the online authorisation of the payments for the next payment period.
- e. To identify and approve two councillors to verify the invoices and payments for the next payment period.

9. Finance and Governance

a. Six-Month Financial Report

To consider the six-month Financial Report to 30 September 2024 (*circulated*).

b. Victoria Hall Support Group Expenditure Report

To note that there have been no purchases in the quarter to 30 September 2024 using funds from the VHSG donation reserve account.

The balance in the account on 30 September 2024 was £7,858.38.

c. Council Aims and Objectives

To note that the annual budget working party was scheduled for Wednesday 6 November, 7pm, to discuss the Town Council's aims and objectives and for training for new councillors.

To consider the Town Council's aims and objectives, last approved August 2024 (*circulated*).

d. **Draft Budget and Precept 2025/26**

To consider the draft budget and precept 2025/26, noting that WFC have now withdrawn the Council Tax Grant so income will be down £7,850 (*circulated*).

e. **Staff Pay Award**

To note National Association of Local Councils (NALC) announcement of staff pay award, from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. This was negotiated by the National Joint Council for local government services and applied to staff payments as contracted (*circulated*).

f. **Bank Authorisation**

To consider approving Cllr. Wlodek Tych as a signatory to authorise bank payments.

g. **Casual Vacancies**

There is a casual vacancy on the Town Council. Informal meetings will take place on Wednesday 29 January and voting at the February 2025 Town Council meeting. Anyone interested in getting involved is invited to contact the Town Clerk or the Chairman for more information, or see www.grangeoversandstowncouncil.gov.uk

10. Consultations

Cumbrian Association of Local Councils (CALC) Survey

To note that the CALC Membership Survey, as delegated at the previous meeting to the Chair and Clerk, was completed and submitted.

11. Updates from Members

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

- a. Cllr. Tych - Kents Bank Station House Meeting on 28 October to discuss grants for proposed lavatory at Kents Bank station.

12. Remembrance

To note that the Lengthsman cleaned the War Memorial, in preparation for the Act of Remembrance, as a voluntary service.

To note any update following the event scheduled for Sunday 10 November.

13. Westmorland and Furness Council Updates

a. **Footway Lighting**

To note correspondence from WFC regarding footway lighting charges (*circulated*).

b. **Bus Service 530**

To note correspondence from WFC regarding Stagecoach Service 530 (*circulated*).

c. **Allithwaite Road Development – Controlled Explosion**

To note a statement from Lancet Homes forwarded by Cllr. Hull:

I write by way of an update on this incident. We are today issuing the statement below:

Statement by Lancet Homes Ltd & Modlar Ltd.

Following the incident at our development site at Allithwaite Road, Kent's Bank, on the afternoon of Friday 27th September, the matter was reported to the Health & Safety Executive (HSE), notifying the HSE of all parties involved, including ground works contractor Metcalfe Civil Engineering, and specialist explosives contractor BAM Ritchies.

The HSE appointed an inspector who met a number of times with all parties involved, raised queries of the parties involved, and carried out numerous site inspections. All four parties co-operated fully with the HSE inspections, meetings and requests for information. The outcome of the exercise was the issuing of advice to the parties involved, with a series of actions to prevent such an incident occurring again. The HSE have now concluded their inspections, and we have been advised that the case is now closed.

In addition to specific procedural points relating to blasting, lessons learnt include notifying residents and the emergency services in advance. We can confirm however that no further blasts are planned for this site.

All parties involved are committed to safe working practices, and the safety of people both on site and affected by site operations.

We are grateful for the patience and co-operation of all those involved during the exercise. Clearly, valuable lessons have been learnt.

14. Yewbarrow Lodge

Update from South Lakes Housing

To note an update received on 15 October 2024 from South Lakes Housing:

We are writing to keep you updated on the progress regarding the redevelopment of Yewbarrow Lodge.

To allow better access to the site for large vehicles and machinery, Westmorland and Furness Council are arranging for tree surgeons to attend to some of the trees that overhang the road leading to Yewbarrow Estate. This will involve removing branches that currently restrict the access of larger/taller vehicles required on site, to avoid damage to both the trees and vehicles. We will not be removing any of these trees during the process of the redevelopment.

You will have noticed that demolition works by L&W Wilson are currently underway at Yewbarrow Lodge. They have started with the removal of internal fittings, before they move on to the removal of external materials. All being well, we hope that the demolition works will be fully completed by Christmas this year.

If you have any concerns regarding the redevelopment works, please get in touch. We appreciate your continued patience throughout this process.

15. Allotments

National Allotment Society

To approve renewal of the annual subscription costing £66.00.

16. Training

CALC Councillor Training

To note that Cllr. Thomas attended the CALC 'Being a Good Employer' online training on 16 October 2024 at 7pm.

17. Staffing

a. **Staffing Committee Meeting**

To note that the annual Staffing Committee Meeting to review staff appraisals and salaries is scheduled for Wednesday 20 November, 7pm.

b. **Recruitment**

To note that recruitment for a Hall Cleaner and Hall Team staff is underway.

18. Next Meeting

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

Monday 9 December 2024 at the Victoria Hall, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands, 7pm