

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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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 10 June 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

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

C. Benbow, Town Clerk

AGENDA FULL COUNCIL MONDAY 10 JUNE 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 13 May 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

a. Planning Report

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

b. Allithwaite and Cartmel Neighbourhood Plan

To note that following a successful referendum, Westmorland and Furness Council has decided to 'make' (adopt) the Allithwaite and Cartmel Neighbourhood Development Plan.

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 – Internal Audit

The Internal Audit took place on 23 May 2024. To note the Internal Audit Report, and that the Town Council is fully compliant with the Account and Audit Regulations (*report circulated*).

10. Finance and Governance – External Audit Annual Governance and Accountability Return

- a. To approve the Annual Governance Statement in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2024, specifically noting Assertion 4 (*circulated*).
- b. To approve the Accounting Statements in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2024 (*circulated*).
- c. To authorise the Chairman and Town Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer) to sign the statements.
- d. To authorise the submission of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2024 for external audit to commence following the prescribed period for public examination from 12 June 2024 to 23 July 2024 (*circulated*).

11. Finance and Governance

a. **Casual Vacancies**

To note that, as fourteen working days elapsed since the announcement, and there was no notification of a local election being called, the Town Council is now able to co-opt. The casual vacancy has been advertised in 'Grange Now,' on Facebook, on the Victoria Hall noticeboards, and on the website. Meetings with candidates are booked for the evening of Wednesday 7 August ahead of voting at the August Town Council meeting.

b. **Statement of Tenders and Contracts – Transparency Code**

To note the Statement of Tenders and Contracts, dated 30 May 2024, as required as good practice for publication on the Town Council website by the 2015 Transparency Code (*circulated*).

c. **Nationwide Account**

To consider opening a savings account with Nationwide as the Precept is now paid in one lump sum and it is good practice to spread funds between providers.

d. **Reserves**

To review the Reserves Policy and consider the reserves allocation at the opening of the new financial year (*policy and breakdown circulated*).

12. Consultations

To consider the Council's participation in appropriate consultations:

NALC (National Association of Local Councils) Committee on Standards in Public Life Consultation

The draft response to this was considered, as resolved in the previous meeting, on 22 May after the Christmas lights meeting.

To consider the draft response (*circulated*).

13. Updates from Members

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

- a. Cllr. J. Walmsley – Cumbria Tourism

14. Band Concerts

To note that, as requested by WFC, the Town Council applied for permission to hold the 'Music in the Park' Sunday Band Concerts in Park Road Gardens. The application fee was £30. The season started on Sunday 2 June. To note any further update.

15. Victoria Hall

- a. **Emergency Lights**

To note that works to upgrade and replace failed units were undertaken costing £350.

- b. **Annual LOLER Testing**

To approve the quote for the annual safety checks of the stage hoists costing £1,365 (*circulated*).

16. Westmorland and Furness Council (WFC)

- a. **Council Plan Delivery Framework 2024-25**

To consider correspondence from WFC and their Council Plan Delivery Framework (*circulated*).

- b. **Local Plan Briefing**

To note correspondence from WFC inviting communities to an 'Early Conversation' via Teams on 27 June at 7pm (*circulated*).

- c. **Town and Parish Council Event: Making the link and encouraging the flow**

To note correspondence from WFC and the invitation to their event via Teams on 19 June at 7.15 pm (*circulated*).

17. Correspondence – Cumbria Divest

To consider correspondence received 23 May from Cumbria Divest regarding Cumbria Pension Fund's investments in fossil fuel companies (*circulated*).

18. South Lakes Housing – Yewbarrow Lodge

To note an update from the Head of Development at South Lakes Housing as follows:

We're still waiting for the final planning approval to be issued, we were hoping to get this in May, but it's now looking like this will arrive in June. With this in mind, we are working towards demolishing the Lodge as soon as possible, with an aim to start the works in mid-late June. We appreciate that the demolition and subsequent construction works will have an impact on the community, and if there are any concerns that the Town Council would like to raise, please get in touch. We will of course reach out once we have any further updates, and we have also continued to post in Grange Now to keep community members informed.

19. Training

To note that an informal working party, to include all councillors, was scheduled for Wednesday 19 June, 7pm, for training and induction about Local Government Reorganisation, specifically the WFC Delivery Framework and Local Plan and the GTC Priorities and Action Plan.

This is to be rescheduled.

20. Staffing

To note that there will be a meeting of the Staffing Committee at 7pm on Wednesday 12 June 2024 (*circulated*).

21. Next Meeting

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

Monday 8 July 2024 at the Victoria Hall, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands, 7pm