

TOWN COUNCIL OF GRANGE-OVER-SANDS

Chairman:
Cllr. Ron Shapland M.B.E.

Vice Chairman:
Cllr. Tricia Thomas

Town Clerk:
C. Benbow



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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held in the Victoria Hall, on Monday 14 March 2016 commencing at 7.00 pm.

Present: Cllr. R. Shapland – **Chair**
Cllr. Greenway, Cllr. Walmsley, Cllr. Hathorn, Cllr. Thomas
Cllr. Ingle, Cllr. Endsor, Cllr. J. Shapland, Cllr. Harvey
C. Benbow – Town Clerk

In attendance: 10 members of the public

The Chairman announced that tickets for the Cedric Celebratory Event on Saturday 2 April 2016 would be available in the Information Centre.

Minute Ref:	Agenda No:
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C15/214	Apologies for Absence	1
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NOTED There were no apologies received.

C15/215	Reports	2
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Police Report

Sergeant Bill Nolan reported that:

- Heating oil and metal has been stolen – these are national problems.
- The Police are open to feedback and questions from the community.

Cllr. J. Shapland asked if police could keep an eye on Park Road Gardens.

Cllr. Harvey asked about parking enforcement.

Cllr. Endsor asked about the Esplanade being closed for gas main work – the police response was they didn't know anything about this.

District Council Report

District Councillor Eric Morrell gave apologies for District Councillor Mary Wilson and reported that:

He was pleased to see that a public meeting was being held about the future of the Victoria Hall and hoped that similar efforts would be made towards the future of the Lido.

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County Council Report

County Councillor Bill Wearing sent his apologies and the following written report:

The Saturday bus service (532) will be starting again on the 19th March thanks to the contribution of funding from four local Councils (Upper and Lower Allithwaite, Lower Holker and Grange). These funds will subsidise this route so the more people that use it the less funds will be required from the Councils. Please support your local bus service. The timetable is available now. I must thank Town Councillor Martin Ingle for helping to compile it and my County Officers for overseeing the contract for the new service.

There will be a meeting later in the month for everyone who expressed an interest in volunteering to help in our Library here in Grange. All should have been contacted by County Officers as you read this article. If for any reason you have volunteered and not been contacted about this meeting please let me or Carol Last our County Engagement Officer know on 015395 713180 or e-mail carol.last@cumbria.gov.uk

The County ruling LIB/LAB administration has just approved a council tax increase of 3.99% for the coming year. Unfortunately they did not support an amendment which would have supported our rural communities. This would have saved parents hundreds of pounds on post-16 home to school transport and the funding of an extra two million pounds for drainage and gully repairs to our roads.

Mayors Report

Mayor Cllr. Ron Shapland reported that he had taken part in a photo-shoot with Two Castles at Berners Close.

C15/216 Public Participation: Public Have Your Say

3

Members of the public agreed that their names may be included in the minutes.

Margaret Brennand

Made a representation to members with regard to:

- Planning application for the change of use for the artist's studio on the Promenade – spoke in opposition to this being granted.
- Have Your Say protocol – noted that the version on the GTC website is slightly different to the one on the back table at meetings and asked that documents could be dated.
- Chairman – noted that it would be useful if the Chairman did a summary at the end of each item so it is clear to the public what has been resolved.

Peter Nightingale

Made a representation to members as Chairman of Prom Art, speaking in support of their grant application for portaloos for Prom Art.

Cllr. Greenway asked if Prom Art would be increasing their charges for exhibitors this year. Mr Nightingale said no.

Nick Thorne

Made a representation to members with regard to Morecambe Bay Cycle Way, that SLDC had held a consultation about whether the route should go along the Prom or Main Street but that the results had not been published. Mr Thorne asked GTC to find out what is happening and when a decision is going to be made.

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Nicola Mellor Made a representation to members on behalf of Grange Pre-School, speaking in support of their grant application to help them apply to upgrade their childcare status and offer more services.

Council Response Cllr. R. Shapland thanked Mrs Mellor for coming to the meeting.

Frank McCall Made a representation to members with regard to:

- Minutes from February 2016 – he requested that ‘GTC’ be added to show he is the GTC representative to Connecting Cumbria.
- Speed Data from CCC – he has created a report from the data provided by CCC for item 20 and he offered this to members.

George Parr Made a representation to members with regard to:

He had asked the Chairman a question twice in writing and twice verbally through the Public Participation section of the agenda and had not yet received an answer.

Mr Parr asked the Chairman if he was going to answer the question and; if the Chairman did not answer the question, asked Full Council to consider that its Chairman does not respond to questions.

C15/217	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	4
	RESOLVED That the amended Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 8 February 2016 were accepted as a true record.	
C15/218	Declarations of Interests and Dispensations	5
	NOTED Cllr. Hathorn declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7d, Planning.	
C15/219	Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 – Excluded Item	6
	RESOLVED That item 18 should be considered without the presence of the press and public, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 2 as quotes from contractors were being compared and as sensitive commercial information was being considered.	
C15/220	Planning Report	7
	1. Members considered the following full or outline planning permission/reserved matters/discharge of conditions/listed building/change of use/advertising consent:	
	Application Number, Address and Specification	
	a. SL/2016/0012	
	20 Graythwaite Court	
	Replacement UPVC window frame to ground floor front lounge	
	Full Planning	
	RESOLVED NO OBJECTION	
	b. SL/2016/0066	
	Butterfingers, Main Street	

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Demolition & erection of replacement external toilet block

Full Planning

RESOLVED NO OBJECTION

c. SL/2016/0116

Former Public Convenience, Promenade

Change of use to holiday apartment

Full Planning

RESOLVED OBJECTION

Grange Town Council OBJECTS to the application on the grounds that it is breach of Planning Regulations, specifically:

1. This has planning permission for use as an artist's studio. The auction details informed the applicant that it was not suitable for residential purposes, and the pre-application advice from Development Management was that it was not suitable for either temporary or permanent residence. The applicant said the studio would only be used by him for painting, and planning permission was given on that basis. It is clear from the holiday let adverts on the internet that the applicant did not convert it into an artist's studio, nor comply with the original permitted design. It is a clear breach of planning regulations and Grange Town Council request that this further application is refused, and enforcement applied to return the building to its permitted use by at least insisting on the permanent removal of sleeping facilities. The planning permission goes with the building, not the owner, so a change of owner is not relevant. Consistency of SLDC policy demands that this further application be refused.
2. The reasons proposed by the applicant's agent for granting planning permission are without substance and outweighed by the overall negative impact on visitors' experience of the Prom. We are particularly concerned that a viewing room with large obscured glass windows would be situated next to a children's playground and near a popular teenagers' recreation area. There is no possible system for vetting the intentions of the adults hiring such a space, and even if the risk of actual paedophilic behaviour is small, it is likely to put off local families from using the play area. Should any illegal activity occur it could well remain undetected, as there are no residences near enough to provide informal surveillance.
3. The other potential negative impacts of its use as a holiday let are substantial and include illegal vehicle access, unauthorised use and disturbance of surrounding public gardens, lack of waste disposal facilities, noise and light disturbance in the late evenings, and unwelcome one-way 'surveillance' of Prom users. The Prom is a key Public Open Space for the town - tourist attraction, recreation space,

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exercise and sport area, and key pollinator, bird and bat habitat, recognized as such in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. Private residential rights here are incongruous and counter to the main functions of the space.

4. A holiday let in this location does not improve the quality of tourist accommodation in Grange – accommodation ratings are usually based on the range and quality of facilities offered, and this would lack most of them – no privacy, no vehicle access or parking, no private outside space, exceedingly compact interior space, minimum domestic utilities, no proper bedroom, passers-by and working Prom Gardeners at very short range. It is not in a designated area for residential use and would contribute little to the tourist spend.

d. SL/2016/0076

1 Church Buildings, Main Street

Illuminated fascia sign

Advertisement Consent

RESOLVED

OBJECTION

Grange Town Council OBJECTS to the application on the grounds that the amount of illumination appears to be excessive.

It is requested that in the interests of the residents opposite that:

- An environmental health assessment is carried out to assess the lighting for statutory nuisance.
- That the paintwork on the sign is matt to reduce glare.

e. SL/2016/0115

63 Grange Fell Road

Erection of detached hobby shed

Full Planning

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

Grange Town Council makes the following request:

That the application is granted on the conditions that there is no overnight occupancy and no commercial use, that the shed is just used for light domestic activity and that there is a time restriction on noise so the neighbouring properties are not affected.

f. SL/2016/0138

Telephone exchange, Hampsfell Road

Removal of 2 existing antennas, installation of 4 new antennas and a transmission dish and replacement of cabinet.

Full Planning

RESOLVED

NO OBJECTION

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2. Decisions - Members noted that the following decisions had been made since the last Full Council meeting:

SL/2015/1164

White Garth House, Kents Bank Road, Alteration to existing driveway

Approved with Conditions 23/02/2016

SL/2015/1195

3 Priory Crescent, Two storey extension with Juliet balcony & raising roof to create accommodation in loft

Approved with Conditions 23/02/2016

3. Delegated Authority

No items had consultation deadlines which fell between the meetings.

C15/221	Finance - Monthly Payments	8
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a. Verification of Expenditure

NOTED	That prior to the meeting two Councillors verified invoices received and payments made since the last full council meeting prior to the council meeting and could verify their authenticity.
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b. Verification of Accounts Reconciliation

NOTED	That prior to the meeting two Councillors verified that the monthly bank reconciliation had taken place.
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c. Approval of Payments

RESOLVED	That the payments of the accounts and wages for this finance period as recorded in the payments list were approved as below.
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d. Identification of Councillors to approve next finance period payments

RESOLVED	That Cllrs Walmsley and J. Shapland would verify the invoices and payments for the next payment period.
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e. Identification of Councillors to complete online authorisation of payments

RESOLVED	That Cllrs Thomas and Greenway would complete online authorisation of payments for the next payment period.
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GRANGE-OVER-SANDS TOWN COUNCIL

Payments for Approval

March 2016

1 Accounts for Payment

£

Cheques (Nat West)

Grange Chamber of Trade (grant)	200.00
Petty Cash	32.41

Direct Debits (Nat West)

335	British Gas - V Hall gas Jan 2016	753.03
347	Npower - Prom Lido PC elec 1 Nov to 31 Jan 16	40.12
348	Npower - Church Hill PC elec 1 Nov to 31 Jan 16	143.21

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349	Npower - V Hall elec 1 Nov to 31 Jan 16	796.45
357	Barclaycard transaction fees February 2016	28.05
365	British Gas - V Hall gas Feb 2016	817.94
366	SAGE - monthly Payroll software & support Mar 16	33.60
Total Nat West account		£ 2,844.81

Unity Trust

334	Robinsons Elec - Xmas tree repair/lights (recoverable)		639.60
336/	Troy Hayes Planning - Neighbourhood Plan	1,905.00	
362	Troy Hayes Planning - Neighbourhood Plan	712.20	2,617.20
337	Yellow Publications - IC stock		106.41
338/	PR Books - IC stock	112.93	
356	PR Books - IC stock	140.40	253.33
339	Lakeland Leisure Walks - IC stock		36.25
340	Thyme Out - working lunch Neighbourhood Plan		26.00
341	Westmorland Fire/Sec - intruder alarm repair		68.40
343	R Rhodes - V Hall disabled toilet repair		264.00
345	Performing Rights to 5 Jan 16 (recoverable)		85.99
346	YPO – stationery		133.78
351	CPC - V Hall stage lighting		88.51
352	Grange Now - Monthly ad Feb 16 T Council details	48.00	
352/	Grange Now - V Hall Open Day ad	105.84	
358	Grange Now - posters V Hall Open Meeting	12.00	165.84
353	Gedyes Solicitors - advice re Leisure Management contract		180.00
354	Lengthsman - February 2016		330.00
355	Healthmatic Public Conveniences cleaning Feb 2016		1,590.00
361	Planet - Neighbourhood Plan consultants		500.00
363/ 364	Intouchcrm - website monthly hosting Feb & Mar 2015		71.98
367	P Dalton - repair Crazy golf/fencing ball park/skate park (recoverable)		2,076.00
	Helen Dent (Status Quo) tickets payment on account		720.00
	Bayscapes - IC stock correction inv 316 shortfall Feb List		14.00
			£ 9,967.29
Total accounts			£ 12,812.10

2 Salaries, PAYE & N.I. (Unity Trust)

	Total Salaries		£ 5,558.58
	HMRC PAYE & NI - Tax Month 11		£ 1,484.46
			£ 7,043.04
Total Unity Trust account			£ 17,010.33
Total all payments for approval			£ 19,855.14

3 Accounts paid in previous month – approved

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Unity Trust

Accounts paid in previous month - not yet approved

Nat West

Cheques

332a	West County Agri - Xmas tree barriers (recoverable)	74.76
350	CPC - V Hall stage group lighting (recoverable)	182.34

Direct Debits

359	Plusnet 09/02 to 8/03 2016 - tel & broadband	34.31
360	XLN calls & line rental March 2016	30.90
333	Barclaycard transaction fees January 2016	25.09

Total Accounts paid in previous month

£ 347.40

Grand Total

£ 20,202.54

4 Alto Prepaid Card (Pre-Authorised £1,000.00)

342	Partyrama - banquet roll Cedric's party	16.44
344	Screwfix - V Hall paint for parking lines	24.98
368	A J Products - paper storage cabinet	162.00

5 Bank Balances

NatWest Current Accounts	84,890.01
Unity Trust Bank	67,922.34
Alto Prepaid Card	914.93

6 Transfers between bank accounts

Nat West Info Centre to Nat West T Council	3,000.00
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C15/222	Finance and Governance	9
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a. SLDC Grant – Victoria Hall Running Costs

- i. Members noted correspondence received from the District Council regarding the Victoria Hall funding arrangement coming to an end and being replaced by a fixed three year term grant.
- ii. Members noted that SLDC had allocated the Town Council £10,000 as "*Financial contribution to Victoria Hall business plan study*".
- iii. Members noted that the Town Clerk will organise the study during the current quarter as noted in SLDC's Action Plan.

RESOLVED That the Clerk would write to SLDC thanking them for their support towards the Victoria Hall.

b. Asset Register

Members noted that the asset register had been reviewed and updated to 31 March 2016.

C15/223	Have Your Say Protocol	10
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Members noted and reviewed the Have Your Say Protocol as published on the website and available at meetings.

- RESOLVED**
- a. That the Protocol would be discussed as part of the next training session on 30 March.
 - b. That Councillors would bring any suggestions for reviewing the Protocol to the next meeting of Full Council.

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- c. That members of the public were invited to contact Cllr Thomas with any ideas or feedback regarding the Protocol.

C15/224

Grants

11

Members considered grant applications from:

- a. Grange Pre-School for grant towards pre-OFSTED preparation.

RESOLVED That £200 was granted to Grange Pre-School for grant towards pre-OFSTED preparation.

- b. Prom Art for grant towards portable loos on the Prom for the event.

Members discussed that they would like to support Prom Art and that it was important that the organisation worked towards funding the loos themselves. Towards this end, Cllr. Harvey suggested that £200 was granted this year and that for the next two years; a £200 grant application from the group for loos would be viewed favourably.

Members voted to agree with this suggestion.

RESOLVED That £200 was granted to Prom Art towards portable loos on the Prom for the event.

C15/225

Consultations

12

Members considered participation by Councillors in the Lake District National Park's Statement of Community Involvement Consultation.

- RESOLVED**
- a. That Members would respond as individuals if they wished.
- b. That the Clerk would write to thank the National Park for including GTC in the consultation and requesting that this continues.

C15/226

Meeting Updates from Members

13

Members noted the following reports from meetings and briefings attended since the last full council meeting.

Cllr. Greenway – Morecambe Bay Partnership.

- Update from National Grid about the tunnel under the Bay; the National Grid want ideas for what to do with arisings from tunnelling.
- A Coastal Access Path is being developed and there has been no progress on creating cycle/pedestrian access along Arnside viaduct.

Cllr. Thomas – Edwardian Committee.

- The event will be on Saturday 11 June this year.
- More volunteers are needed particularly to help on the gate and to act as volunteer tour guides for the bus.
- The festival committee request that people dress up for the event.
- The Age UK forecourt will be used as part of the festival.

Cllr. Thomas – Grange in Bloom.

- The group has suggested plants for sustainable planting in the wall tops alongside the Ornamental Gardens.
- Garden in front of station – the group has improvement ideas including a bug

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hotel.

- Been working with Age UK about wall planting.

Cllr. Shapland – SLDC Community Spaces – meeting with SLDC’s Principle Community Spaces Officer on 19 February.

- The interpretation panel in the Orchard has been replaced.
- The moat around the bandstand has been repaired and they are still working on the roof.
- Continental Landscapes are doing felling and chipping work in Ornamental Gardens.
- Car Park back boards – are scheduled to be installed before Easter.

C15/227	Chairman’s Update	14
	<p>Members received an update from the Chairman about works in progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • War Memorial – delayed due to flooding, works have been re-scheduled. • Skip for Lengthsman – slow progress. • Glass Passage specification – delayed due to staff changes at Norfolk Property Services. 	
C15/228	Neighbourhood Plan	15
	<p>Members noted a progress report from the Steering Committee Spokesperson Cllr. Greenway.</p> <p>The Plan is now being drafted by the consultants and a six week public consultation by SLDC will follow. There will be a full update at the Annual Town Meeting on 11 April.</p>	
C15/229	Recreation Ground	16
	<p>Members noted that the contract with Horton Landscapes was prepared by the Town Clerk, approved by Gedyes Solicitors (<i>cost £150 ex VAT</i>) and sent to Horton Landscapes.</p> <p>Members noted that the contract was signed on 9 March 2016.</p>	
C15/230	Lido	17
	<p>Members noted that the suggestions put forward by GTC from the previous meeting (C15/209) had been received by SLDC and assurance given to GTC that the ideas would be taken into account as work progresses.</p>	
C15/231	Victoria Hall	18
	<p>This item was considered in Part 2.</p>	
C15/232	Signage	19
	<p>Members considered a proposal from Cllr. Endsor to contribute in the region of £100 (from Public Domain Maintenance Budget) to complete the signage at Berners Close car park.</p> <p>RESOLVED That funds in the region of £100 (from Public Domain Maintenance Budget) is allocated to complete the signage at Berners Close car park.</p>	
C15/233	Speed Data Monitoring	20
	<p>Members considered any response to CCC’s presentation at the previous meeting and the subsequent data received about speed data monitoring.</p>	

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RESOLVED That the Clerk forward the information to the Neighbourhood Plan consultants, to Holker and to CCC.

C15/234 Two Castles 21

Members considered response to correspondence from Two Castles Housing Association about progress on selling the shared ownership properties at Cedric's Walk and their marketing plans.

RESOLVED

- a. That the Clerk write to SLDC to draw attention to the evidence that there is a high demand for rental and lower for affordable housing and requesting that SLDC accommodate this in their considerations as the Local Plan is due to be reviewed.
- b. That the correspondence is also sent to the Neighbourhood Plan consultants as it demonstrates the situation in Grange.

C15/235 Newsletter 22

Members considered a proposal from Cllr. Thomas that GTC produces a bi-annual newsletter for the town funded from the Communication Budget.

Members voted not to produce a newsletter.

C15/236 Yewtree Road Playing Field Playground Refurbishment 23

Members noted that SLDC and GTC had been working together to refurbish the children's playground and a joint fundraising application towards the work had been made by GTC to the SLDC Locally Important Projects Fund.

C15/237 Allotments 24

Members considered the quote to complete the works at Grange Fell Allotments agreed at the previous meeting (C15/212).

Cllr. Endsor advised the meeting that the Allotment Committee had agreed the work.

RESOLVED That the quote of £520 to complete the works at Grange Fell Allotments agreed at the previous meeting was approved.

C15/238 Cumbria in Bloom 25

a. Members noted that at the November meeting, it was resolved (C15/133):

That the Town Council decided not to take on entering Cumbria in Bloom for at least the coming year and to review matters in the Spring when SLDC would have resolved the changes to their current landscape management contracts.

b. Members considered the proposal from Cllr. Thomas that a meeting be held Wednesday 27 April, 7pm at the Victoria Hall for any individuals or groups interested in Cumbria in Bloom.

RESOLVED That a meeting would be held Wednesday 27 April, 7pm at the Victoria Hall for any individuals or groups interested in Cumbria in Bloom.

C15/239 Part Two 6

RESOLVED That the meeting move to Part Two.

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C15/240

Victoria Hall

18

- a. Members noted a request from Room 6&7 tenants to move into the Chamber (circulated) and considered the suggestion from the Victoria Hall Action Group that the following response be made:

In the immediate term, the use of the Victoria Hall in its entirety is under review due to anticipated SLDC grant income changes.

SLDC are providing part-funding towards a study to determine the future use of all the spaces.

The Victoria Hall Action Group suggests that any decision regarding change of use for the Chamber is therefore postponed.

RESOLVED That the Clerk send the suggested response to the tenants.

- b. Members considered quotes for Maintenance Programme works

RESOLVED That the quote of £3,980 from WJ Crowe and Son for painting works is accepted.

C15/241

Next Meeting

26

NOTED That the next Full Council Meeting would be held at:

Monday 11 April 2016 at the Victoria Hall, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands.

This will commence after the Annual Town Meeting at 7pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.47pm

Signed:

Date:

Chair of Grange-over-Sands Town Council