

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF PENRITH

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY 23 APRIL 2018

6.00 PM – 7.00 PM

ROOM 2, PARISH CENTRE, ST ANDREWS PLACE

ATM1718/01 Introductions and Welcome

The Mayor, Cllr. Scott Jackson welcomed everyone present to the meeting.

ATM1718/02 Apologies

The meeting heard apologies from Cllr. Kenyon, Cllr Lawson and the representative of the 106 Bus Partnership.

ATM1718/03 Minutes

The meeting received the minutes from the Annual Town Meeting held on 24 April 2017 and agreed that the Mayor sign the minutes.

ATM1718/03 Civic Year 2017-18

The meeting received an overview of the civic year from Cllr Scott Jackson, the Mayor of Penrith

Councillor Jackson said it had been a great honour to serve as Mayor and to represent Penrith at the events he had been invited to and thanked everyone for the opportunity. He had attended various engagements ranging from the 150 Year celebration of The Lady of The Lake at Ullswater to the opening of the Triple A Project at their new premises in Penrith. Cllr Jackson praised the residents and community groups for their enthusiasm and involvement in Cumbria/Britain in Bloom which was reflected in the comments made by the judges and the fact that the whole town had now been invited to enter Britain in Bloom.

ATM1718/04 Speaker

The meeting received a presentation from the Triple A Project who are based in Penrith. The manager of the service which supports those with autism explained that she had sought to start the service initially to reduce offending for those with autism. An initial conference had attracted 83 professionals including the Police, Health Service etc. The project has now changed focus slightly and covers social issues, health and wellbeing, challenges and strengths as well as criminal justice. The success of the service is now being replicated throughout the county and has national recognition with the National Autistic Society looking to replicate the model elsewhere in the country.

Councillor Jackson thanked Triple A for their passion and vision in helping to make Penrith and the wider community a place where everyone could enjoy living.

ATM1718/05 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr. Baker, Chair of the Councils Neighbourhood Plan Group provided the meeting with an overview of the projects progress. It was explained that following the initial consultation a year ago, the group had considered all the responses and been working with the Planning Consultant to draw up policies and supporting actions that did not conflict with EDCs emerging Local Plan or national planning policies.

It was hoped that a draft document would be available shortly to enable more informal consultation to be undertaken before the process becomes more formalised. Following concern from a resident that there had been no public consultation on the proposals being made by EDC which had been in the local press, Councillor Baker assured those present that there would be consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan and urged everyone to get involved.

ATM1718/06 Grant Award Recipient Presentations

The meeting received representations from:

- **Eden and South Lakeland Credit Union** explained that the funding provided had help fund promotional material which had led to an increase in enquiries for loans and greater footfall in the arcade office;
- **Penrith Beekeepers Association** stated that the funding had enabled them to purchase their own gazebo for use at events such as Apple Day at Acorn Bank to help educate and spread the message about the importance of bees;
- **Penrith Lions** had used the funding to support and expand the May Day celebrations, purchasing additional bunting and entertainment for the day;
- **Fairhill Community Group** explained that the funding had been invaluable in attracting matched funding from other sources to improve the play area. The field is attracting more use. The group are now looking to provide goal posts, an accessible patch for wheelchairs and pushchairs, benches and a wildflower area. They said they were looking forward to working with the Town Council who were now the owners of the field;
- **Eden Mencap** thanked the Town Council for its support and provided the good news that they had now purchased their building. The next step would be to upgrade it to make it fit for purpose and to enable the building to be shared with the wider community;
- **Penrith Chamber of Trade** had received funding for Penrith on a Plate (as part of the Food and Farming Festival) and for Penrith Goes Orange both of which drew people into the town;

- **North West Ambulance Service** received funding to place defibrillators in area of need. It was explained that Penrith has a high incidence of calls for cardiac arrest and defibs increase the chance of survival. Three new defibs have just been installed in the town and Cumbria County Council has given permission for new ones to be sited on lampposts. Following a question from the public it was explained that anyone needing a defib calls 999 who provides a keypad number for the nearest publicly accessible one;
- **Eden Valley Artistic Network** explained that the group had been set up to provide a support network and promotion unavailable elsewhere and now had a membership of 120 artists including painters, photographers, potters, weavers and embroiderers. Funding had helped them set up the event Artists in Penrith which started with 37 artists last year and had 100 signed up already for this year's event. They would also be promoting an artists trail which would run over a 9 day period.

ATM1718/07 Keep Penrith Tidy – Love Where You Live

Penrith Community Gardeners promoted the nudge campaign 'Keep Penrith Tidy – Love Where you Live'.

It was explained that the campaign was an opportunity to change behaviours and get people to love where they live. There would be a number of events including a litter pick from Mansion House which it was hoped would fill a handcart with a representation of the Town Clock sticking out the litter. This along with a large whale made from wire and filled with single use plastic would be pulled through Penrith on Mayday. As well as this Cumbria County Council have agreed that 50 metal signs, designed by children at school could be put up encouraging people to pick up litter and keep Penrith tidy and a representative of the group would be going into schools to engage with young people

ATM1718/08 Close of meeting and vote of thanks

Before the close of the meeting Councillor Jackson offered his sincere thanks to all the groups who had attended saying that he was constantly in awe of how much volunteers within the town did, from saving lives to making life worth living.

He also offered his thanks to all the Councillors and the Penrith Town Council Staff for all their advice, support and hard work on behalf of the town and the Council and who had worked diligently for the best interests of the residents of Penrith.

A vote of thanks was given by Councillor Baker closed the meeting.

Mayor and Chairman of the Council:

Date: