

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF PENRITH

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY 29 APRIL 2019

6.00 PM – 7.45 PM

ROOM 2, PARISH CENTRE, ST ANDREWS PLACE

ATM1819/01 Welcome

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

ATM1819/02 Apologies

The meeting received apologies from Councillor Ron Kenyon (Penrith Town Councillor), Councillor Virginia Taylor (Eden District Councillor) and Councillor Pat Bell (Cumbria County Councillor).

ATM1819/03 Minutes

RESOLVED THAT the minutes from the Annual Town Meeting held on 23 April 2018 be received and that they be signed by the Mayor.

ATM1819/04 Civic Year 2018-19

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

He reported that he had attended various engagements ranging from attending a tree planting for the Queens Commonwealth Canopy in Castle Park to presenting mini Police students with certificates and lanyards for an initiative aimed at getting young people involved in society. Councillor Jackson said it had been an honour reading the names of the fallen on the Beacon for Armistice day, in the company of so many people who had made their way up with headtorches and representing the town in Belfast for Britain in Bloom. He thanked all the groups individuals and members of the public who had made these events possible, for their enthusiasm and the sense of civic pride in Penrith.

ATM1819/05 Speaker

The meeting received a presentation from Penrith Dementia Action Alliance on 'Making Penrith a Dementia Friendly Town'. The manager of the service explained that the initiative, started by the Alzheimer's Society, which was

aimed at raising awareness and understanding of dementia, the help and support that could be given to those with Alzheimers and the problems faced by carers. Those with Alzheimers want to be able to have choice and control and to continue with as normal a life as possible supported by people who are accepting and supportive.

It was explained that everyone could help and that over 30 businesses within Penrith had signed up to as Dementia Friendly and developed plans to show how they would support the initiative, although these really need to be updated annually.

Councillor Jackson thanks Penrith Dementia Action Alliance for raising the awareness and understanding of dementia and their vision in helping to make Penrith a place where everyone could feel supported and enjoy living.

ATM1819/06 Grant Award Recipient Presentations

The meeting received representations from:

- **Penrith AFC** - explained that the funding provided had enabled them to extend their facilities which were used for match catering, sponsors hospitality, community use (band practice), community and support group meetings, conferences, celebrations, fitness and wellbeing and fundraising events. Improved facilities and access had increased diversity of use and it was hoped to attract more usage to ensure the club could be self sustaining going forward as they celebrate 125yrs in 2019;
- **106 Bus Partnership** – stated that it was brilliant that support had been given to an existing service in order to subsidise and maintain it, and to ensure that people who both worked in Penrith and accessed it as the main service centre, but who had no transport, were able to continue doing so;
- **4 Eden** – explained that this was the new branding for Eden Mencap. The funding provided helped with the provision of fully accessible toilet provision, not only for users but also available for those visiting Penrith who required these facilities;
- **Blue Jam** – explained that they provided music services for different groups and that the funding given by the Town Council would provide sessions for Looked After Children;
- **Cumbria Youth Alliance** – were a county wide charity who had received funding to run Dreamscape, a nationally recognised programme, in Penrith for approximately 90 young people who would be undertaking a number of community projects;
- **Eden Valley Artistic Network** – explained that the event 'Artists in Penrith' had been run successfully in previous years and would be run again in 2019 thanks to the funding provided;
- **Fell Runner Minibus** – were a grateful beneficiary of funding which allowed them to continue to provide community transport to allow people from the villages to access Penrith as the main service centre;

- **Penrith Air Cadets** – explained that they engaged approximately 30 young people per week, and that the funding granted by the Town Council had contributed towards a new flight simulator;
- **Penrith Bee Keepers** – stated that the funding had been used to provide remote hive monitoring equipment which monitored the weight of the hive, surrounding air temperature and hive condition without being intrusive. It was hoped to use the information gathered with schools and youth groups to enthuse them through IT;
- **Penrith Divers** – are affiliated through Scottish Sub Aqua and have members ranging from 14 to 70+ who train every week in Penrith and provide help and support to various individuals and organisations. The funding contributed to the cost of a new compressor which is used to fill the air tanks and the inflatable dingy used by Mountain Rescue;
- **Penrith Lions** – thanked the Town Council for their continued financial support for May Day and reported that it was hoped to host Tea in the Park, in Castle Park on 14th July;
- **Penrith Parish Centre** – reported that as a community charity maintained by the users, in excess of 500 people use the facility every week in a variety of activities. The Town Council was thanked for its support which had contributed towards essential roofing work;
- **Penrith Reading Round** – was set up in 2014 as a community group promoting amongst other things, improved mental health and social inclusion. The funding has helped the group carry on and fund professional writers who lead some of the sessions

ATM1819/07 Close of Business and Vote of Thanks

Before the close of meeting, Councillor Jackson offered his sincere thanks to all the groups who had attended and who volunteered their time to do so much for the town. He stated that he was pleased that the Town Council could provide support and open doors and pointed out that the doors were open to anyone who wished to seek advice.

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 praised staff for providing support to any visitors to the office whether on Town Council business or not.

The Mayor closed the meeting.