



Garstang Town Council

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Full Council Extraordinary Meeting, 5th October 2020 Minutes

Minutes of the virtual Extraordinary Town Council meeting, held on 5 October 2020, 7.30pm.

Present

Chairman: Cllr Webster

Councillors present: Allan, Atkinson, Brooks, Halford, Hynes, Leech, Pearson, Ryder and Salisbury.

Also present: Town Clerk Edwina Parry, Wyre Cllr Dulcie Atkins, 1 member of the press, 4 members of the Royal British Legion and 5 members of the public.

123(2020-21) Apologies for Absence

Councillor Dyer

Wyre Cllr D Atkins gave County Cllr Shaun Turner's apologies. He was attending a LCC meeting discussing Covid.

124(2020-21) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr Webster, Item 4 declared an 'other' interest; Cllr Webster is a dual hatted Wyre Cllr for Brock with Catterall. However, she declared that she is not involved in the decision process of the future of Garstang swimming pool (with Wyre Council or the YMCA).

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to speak.

125(2020-21) Public Participation

The acting Chair of Garstang Swimming Pool Work Group spoke. She thanked the TC for looking into the opening of the swimming pool and for their hard work. The secretary commented that it was reassuring, as a member of the public, the lengths that the TC went into to discuss the issue of opening the pool. He noted that Wyre is the only council when looking at the neighbouring district councils, that does not have a public pool open. The group is going to formally constitute as a group. The group would like to continue to work with the TC in the short and long term.

The Mayor thanked the 2 speakers for their kind comments.

A 3rd member of the public spoke, he understood that Fylde council had paid additional money to the YMCA to get the pool open in Fylde.

126(2020-21) Garstang swimming pool, Cllrs Allan, Dyer, Halford and Webster

The Mayor gave a summary (detailed in the Appendix) of the information that the working group had ascertained. When asked, Cllr Webster reported that no information had been received about redundancies about the swimming pool. Cllr Pearson suggested that the TC should remain in contact with the group and assist where possible. Wyre Cllr Dulcie Atkins, said that it was important that the Town Council attended the Wyre Council meeting on the 21 October 2020 with the YMCA, so that the Town Council knows what is going on. The Clerk responded and asked Cllr Atkins to arrange for an invitation to be sent from Wyre Council, to the TC, to attend the meeting.

Resolved: The Town Council endorsed the working group's recommendation and resolved not to donate £12,000 to Wyre Council, to reopen Garstang pool. The Town Council further resolved that the TC be kept informed of developments from the 'Save Garstang swimming pool' group and that the TC working group bring back any further developments to the Town Council.

127(2020-21) Remembrance Sunday, Clerk, Cllrs Webster & Allan

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the Royal British Legion (RBL) to speak.

David Brewin reported that due to Covid, the RBL were not looking at organising a parade or a church service or arranging the laying of the wreaths due to safety concerns. The poppy appeal is still going ahead.

The Council noted the following statement made by Wyre Council (24/9/20)

Wyre Council is advising that to minimise risk for Wyre Cllrs and members of the public a very cautious and measured approach needs to be taken. They have stated that if Remembrance Service events do take place, then Wyre Council will not be making arrangements for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Members or Officers to attend.

The Council also noted the guidance from the Lancashire Resilience Forum (LRF) (25/09/2020)

(The LRF involves the emergency services; local authorities; health agencies; Environment Agency and Maritime Coastguard Agency)

Coronavirus restrictions in place for Lancashire

Taking into account all the regulations and guidance, our advice to the people and businesses of Lancashire is as follows:

- Do not socialise with anyone outside of your household or support bubble, either in your house, garden or anywhere else.

Resolved:

- i. That the Town Council follow the guidance of Wyre Council and do not organise any formal wreath laying ceremony on Remembrance Sunday.

- ii. The Mayor and Young Mayor will informally lay a wreath on behalf of the community of Garstang.
- iii. That the TC initiate discussion with the RBL to discuss a Remembrance Sunday event for 2021.

The Town Council further resolved that the TC should communicate through the normal channels of the media, Courier, Green Focus magazine and the TC Facebook page that there will not be an organised event this year for Remembrance Sunday.

The Meeting Finished at: 8.20pm