

Eden District Council

Council Minutes

Date: 26 November 2020 Venue: This was a virtual meeting, therefore there was no venue. Time: 6.45 pm

Present:

Chairman: Councillor A Connell

Vice Chairman: Councillor D Banks

Councillors:	A Armstrong	A Meadowcroft
	P G Baker	G Nicolson OBE
	I Chambers	W Patterson
	M Clark	J Raine
	J Derbyshire	M Robinson
	P Dew	A Ross
	M Eyles	M Rudhall
	H Fearon	D Ryland
	K Greenwood	H Sawrey-Cookson
	M Hanley	G Simpkins
	L Harker	L Sharp
	D Holden	D Smith
	S Lancaster	V Taylor
	J C Lynch	M Tonkin
	E Martin	D Wicks
	N McCall	

Officers Present: Les Clark, Director of People and Place
Paul Sutton, Interim Director of Corporate Services
Les Clark, Director of People and Place
Lisa Tremble, Assistant Director Governance

Democratic Services Officers: Vivien Little, Nichola Baker and Karen Wyeth

CI/52/11/20 Apologies for Absence

At the start of the meeting, the Assistant Director Governance advised that this meeting was being hosted remotely using conferencing software which allowed Members, Officers and public attendance whilst being able to protect themselves and others, whilst observing the Government's social distancing measures.

The Assistant Director Governance also stated that all votes during this meeting would be taken through an informal recorded vote, though would not be noted as such in the minutes.

A Roll Call of all those Members in attendance remotely was then taken.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lawson and Councillor Thompson.

CI/53/11/20 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Eyles gave a personal explanation in that he was intending to audio record the meeting for personal use.

Mr L Clark, Director People and Place, gave a personal explanation with regards to Agenda Item 8 in that it related to his position as an officer. He advised that he would leave the meeting for the duration of this item.

Mr Sutton, Interim Director Corporate Services, gave a personal explanation with regards to Agenda Item 9 in that it related to his position as an officer. He advised that he would leave the meeting for the duration of this item.

Mrs Tremble, Assistant Director Governance, gave a personal explanation with regards to Agenda Item 9. She advised that she would leave the meeting for the duration of this item.

CI/54/11/20 Minutes

RESOLVED that the public minutes CI/39/9/20 to CI/51/9/20 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of those proceedings.

CI/55/11/20 Chairman's Announcements

Councillor Rob Orchard

Councillor Orchard, Eden District Councillor, recently passed away. Councillor Orchard served the Hartside ward for two and half years.

The Chairman asked for a minutes silence to be held as a mark of respect.

Councillor Kevin Beaty

Councillor Beaty has resigned from the Council due to business interests he is pursuing. Councillor Beaty served as a District Councillor for the Skelton ward for nine years, including four years as Leader of the Council.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Beaty for his service.

Member stories sought

What a year 2020 has been.

Officers would like to capture some of the stories and images that have unfolded across Eden during the course of this year and would like to ask our Members to contribute any tales, pictures or videos they may have of the people, places and events in their wards as they've endeavoured to overcome the worst that 2020 has thrown at them, be it flooding or coronavirus.

Please email john.everingham@eden.gov.uk with any comments.

New Business Grants

The Council can now confirm that two new Government support grants are available for businesses.

The Local Restrictions Grant and the Additional Restrictions Grant are now open for applications.

Local Restrictions Grant - The Council has emailed businesses which are thought to be eligible for this grant, and is looking to pay the majority of businesses without the need to make an application.

Additional Restrictions Grant - This discretionary grant is available for businesses which have been affected by the latest Coronavirus restrictions, but that aren't eligible for the Local Restrictions Grant.

Eden firms receive £40m of support since March

Eden District Council can share that it has helped over 2200 businesses in the area with almost £40m worth of support since March.

Since the start of the pandemic, Council teams have worked around the clock to administer grant applications from thousands of businesses, help dozens of firms with COVID advice through its environmental health team, and guide business owners with its Eden Business Assist programme.

New walk-in COVID Test Centre has opened in Penrith

A walk-through coronavirus testing facility has opened at Sandgate Car Park in Penrith, as part of the Government's drive to improve the accessibility of coronavirus testing for communities.

Testing at the new site started on Friday 20 November, with appointments available every day between 8am – 8pm. Testing is available for everyone, with additional support for vulnerable groups and people with disabilities.

Good work by track and trace team

Eden District Council's Environmental Health team has been lauded for its efforts in tirelessly tracking down and tracing COVID-19 cases in the area.

Working around the clock, the team is truly going above and beyond in their track and trace efforts, and have managed to meticulously track down contacts so that we have a handle on the positive cases in Eden.

Eden appoints new Homelessness Champion

Eden District Council has appointed Cllr. Doug Lawson to the newly created role of Homelessness Champion.

While Eden has historically low levels of rough sleeping, homelessness tends to be a hidden problem in the District as many people secure temporary and short-term accommodation, either through family and friend networks, or by presenting themselves to the council's homelessness service, which can provide basic, temporary accommodation.

RSPCA give 10 out of 10 to Eden wardens

Eden's community wardens have made it a perfect 10 after receiving a top award from the RSPCA for their work with stray dogs.

It is the 10th year in a row that the charity has awarded the team at Eden District Council a gold standard for their stray dog service in its annual PawPrints Awards - the highest level of recognition for their work.

The council's work with stray dogs has continued despite the current Covid pandemic and the RSPCA was pleased to see the high level of service continue despite the pandemic.

Virtual Eden Tourism Summit hailed a success

The ninth Eden Tourism Summit looked very different this year, as businesses and delegates discussed the difficulties that the worldwide pandemic has brought to the region. The Summit was coordinated and hosted by the Council's Tourism Team last month.

Addressing the participants, the host for the day, Chair of the Eden Tourism Network Jim Walker said: "These last six months have been the most challenging that any of us in the tourism industry has ever faced. However, this summit is also a cause for celebration of what a great industry we have here."

New services added to My Account

We've added a range of useful new functions to My Account, our online tool for accessing council services and information.

My Account was launched in July of this year. Since then, over 450 Eden residents have used My Account to access information relating to their registered addresses and to manage an expanding suite of services, including refuse and recycling collections and domestic pest treatment.

Amey donates 2000 daffodils

Alongside generous donations from members the public, Amey has donated and planted 2000 daffodils towards the Eden Valley Daffodil Walk.

The six-mile memorial walk - lined with daffodils - connects three Eden villages and commemorates those who have been lost to COVID-19.

Tens of thousands of daffodil bulbs have been planted between Low Hesket, High Hesket and Armathwaite and will bloom next spring, marking the first anniversary of the virus which has claimed so many lives and plunged the UK into lockdown for months.

The Eden Valley Daffodil Walk is being coordinated by Eden District Councillor, David Ryland, and nurse Belinda Fox.

Penrith TIC launches 'reserve and collect' service for Charity Christmas cards

Penrith Tourist Information Centre's (TIC) wide range of national charity Christmas Cards, which are sold every year on behalf of Cards for Good Causes, are now available to buy via a new reserve and collect service.

The new service allows people to order cards in advance by telephone or email and collect them from the TIC on a pre-arranged day and time.

For over 15 years, Penrith TIC has been working in partnership with Cards for Good Causes – the UK's largest multi charity Christmas Card distributor – to offer people the chance to buy high quality Christmas cards on behalf of 25 well known national charities.

CI/56/11/20 Questions by the Public

No questions were received from the public under Rule 10 of the Constitution.

CI/57/11/20 Questions by Members

No questions were received from Members under Rule 12 of the Constitution.

CI/58/11/20 Motions on Notice

No motions on notice were received.

CI/59/11/20 Appointment - Acting Chief Executive

Members considered report F45/20 from the Interim Director of Corporate Services which sought to consider the recommendations of Human Resources and Appeals Committee their preferred option for the appointment of the acting Chief Executive and to create a post of Deputy Chief Executive.

Proposed Councillor Greenwood.
Seconded Councillor Eyles.

and **RESOLVED** that:

1. Council agreed with the recommendation of the Human Resources and Appeals Committee to implement the preferred option for sharing a Chief Executive with Carlisle City Council by appoint Jason Gooding as acting Chief Executive to May 2021, on the terms set out at 6.1 of the report, subject to the agreement of Carlisle City Council;
2. The Interim Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources, was authorised to conclude any outstanding terms relating to the appointment;
3. Council amend the post of Director of People and Place to that of Deputy Chief Executive and that Les Clark was appointed to act in the absence of the acting Chief Executive; and
4. That an honorarium be added to the Deputy Chief Executive post to May 2021, as set out in 6.1.

CI/60/11/20 Appointment of Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer

Members considered report G44/20 from the Assistant Director Governance which requested that Council appoint a Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer for Eden District Council.

Proposed by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Taylor

and **RESOLVED** that:

1. Paul Sutton was appointed, with immediate effect, as the Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer for Eden District Council;
2. Lisa Tremble was appointed as Deputy Electoral Registration Officer; and
3. Council gave permission for the Assistant Director Governance (Monitoring Officer) to amend the Constitution to reflect these changes.

CI/61/11/20 Treasury Management Strategy and Plan 2020/21 Six Monthly Review

Members considered report F40/20 from the Interim Director Corporate Services which sought to provide Members with a half yearly report on the Strategy and Plan for Treasury Management during the financial year 2020/21.

Proposed by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Holden

and **RESOLVED** that the report was noted.

CI/62/11/20 Licensing Act 2003 - Review of Statement of Licensing Policy

Members considered report PP39/20 from the Assistant Director Community Services which asked Members to give consideration to the response to the consultation on the proposed amendments to the Statement of Licensing Policy and sought Council's formal resolution to approve the amended policy.

Councillor Armstrong left the meeting at 7.43pm.

Councillor Rudhall left the meeting at 7:47pm.

Proposed by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Eyles

and **RESOLVED** that approval be given to the draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy as set out at Appendix A of the report.

CI/63/11/20 Allocation of Seats on Committees

Councillor Rudhall returned to the meeting at 7.57pm.

Members considered report G42/20 from the Assistant Director Governance which proposed the distribution of seats in accordance with the rules of political proportionality and to make appointments to the Committees for the remainder of the 2020/2021 municipal year.

Proposed by Councillor Connell
Seconded by Councillor Wicks

and **RESOLVED** that:

1. The following allocation of seats be approved:

Group	Proposed number of seats
Conservative Group	20
Liberal Democrat Group	18
Independent Group	15
Labour	3.5
Green	3.5
Total	60

Committee name	Number of seats
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Planning	11
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Independent Group	3
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Conservative Group	4
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Liberal Democrat Group	3
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Labour Group*	0
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Green Group*	0
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*One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Planning Committee

Licensing	10
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Independent Group	3
Conservative Group	3
Liberal Democrat Group	3
Labour Group*	0
Green Group*	0

*One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Licensing Committee

Overview and Scrutiny Committee 12

Independent Group	3
Conservative Group	4
Liberal Democrat Group	3
Labour Group	1
Green Group	1

Budget Scrutiny Committee 9

Independent Group	2
Conservative Group	3
Liberal Democrat Group	3
Labour Group*	0
Green Group*	0

*One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Licensing Committee

Accounts and Governance 9

Independent Group	2
Conservative Group	3
Liberal Democrat Group	3
Labour Group*	0
Green Group*	0

*One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Licensing Committee

Human Resources and 9

Appeals

Independent Group	2
Conservative Group	3
Liberal Democrat Group	3
Labour Group*	0
Green Group*	0

*One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Licensing Committee

The appointment of Members to Committees as set out below was approved:

*Accounts and Governance Committee – 9 Members

Independent Group	S Lancaster, D Ryland
Conservative Group	P Dew, J Lynch, G Nicolson
Liberal Democrat Group	A Connell, M Eyles, N McCall
Labour Group	0
Green Group	D Lawson
Standing Deputies	M Clark, W Patterson H Fearon, A Meadowcroft, A Todd P Baker, L Harker A Ross

* One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Planning Committee

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 12 Members

Independent Group	D Banks, M Clark, D Ryland
Conservative Group	E Martin, G Nicolson, J Raine, D Wicks
Liberal Democrat Group	D Holden, G Simpkins, D Smith
Labour Group	M Hanley
Green Group	D Lawson
Standing Deputies	S Lancaster, W Patterson, H Sawrey-Cookson P Dew, H Fearon, A Todd P Baker, M Eyles A Ross

***Budget Planning Committee – 9 Members**

Independent Group	S Lancaster, D Ryland
Conservative Group	P Dew, G Nicolson, D Wicks
Liberal Democrat Group	P Baker, M Eyles, N McCall
Labour Group	M Hanley
Green Group	0
Standing Deputies	W Patterson, H Sawrey-Cookson I Chambers, A Todd D Holden, L Harker A Ross

* One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Planning Committee

***Human Resources and Appeals Committee - 9 Members**

Independent Group	D Banks, M Robinson
Conservative Group	A Armstrong, G Nicolson, D Wicks
Liberal Democrat Group	P Baker, G Simpkins, V Taylor
Labour Group	0
Green Group	A Ross
Standing Deputies	D Ryland, W Patterson P Dew, J Raine, J Thompson A Connell, J Derbyshire D Lawson

* One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Planning Committee

***Licensing Committee - 10 Members**

Independent Group	S Lancaster, W Patterson, H Sawrey-Cookson
Conservative Group	E Martin, A Meadowcroft, J Raine,
Liberal Democrat Group	P Baker, L Harker, D Holden

Labour Group	M Hanley
Green Group	0
Standing Deputies	M Clark, D Ryland I Chambers, J Lynch, J Thompson M Eyles, G Simpkins, D Smith A Ross

* One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Planning Committee

***Planning Committee - 11 Members**

Independent Group	M Clark, W Patterson, H Sawrey-Cookson
Conservative Group	I Chambers, J Lynch, J Thompson, D Wicks
Liberal Democrat Group	D Holden, M Eyles, G Simpkins
Labour Group	0
Green Group	A Ross
Standing Deputies	D Banks, S Lancaster, D Ryland A Armstrong, E Martin, A Meadowcroft, G Nicolson P Baker, L Harker, D Smith D Lawson

* One seat remaining to be allocated to either Labour or Green on Planning Committee

3. The Green Group and the Labour Group adopt a reciprocal arrangement where the nominated Members can act as Standing Deputies

CI/64/11/20 Information Security Policies

Members considered report G43/20 from the Assistant Director Governance which asked that consideration be given to the approval and adoption of the revised information security policies and related user agreements.

Proposed by Councillor Greenwood
Seconded by Councillor Ross

And **RESOLVED** that:

1. The Information Security Policy at Appendix A of the report, the ITC Acceptable User Policy at Appendix B of the report and ITC Authorised User Agreements at Appendix C and D of the report were approved and formally noted.
2. A process of biennial acknowledgement and signing of the documents by all authorised users was approved.

CI/65/11/20 Date of Next Scheduled Meeting

The date of the next scheduled meeting was confirmed as 28 January 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.06 pm

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