

Full Council Meeting 28.4.22

1. Chairman's Announcements. Andy Connell.

There is a council rebate of £150. Those who pay by direct debit will get this automatically. There are reports of a few people sleeping rough in Penrith. If anyone sees them they can be reported to Street Link who will alert the appropriate services.

The council has lit up the Town Hall in yellow and blue in support of the Ukraine. There is £30k available to parish and town councils for Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

Construction has started on Voreda House (the base for EDC). EDC is proposing extra funding for Arts and Culture: Inspiring Eden with a fund of £780k.

2. Questions from the Public

Jonathan Davis (Cumbria First): Up to September there were monthly reports on council spending over £500. Why has this stopped?

Virginia Taylor (VT): This was an error when a member of staff left. The reports will recommence.

3. Questions from Members.

Henry Sawry-Cookson: Is the council going to sponsor refugees from The Ukraine?

VT: The council is not able to sponsor Ukrainian refugees. There is a national scheme. The resettlement team is working with all the other district councils. Checks have to be made on sponsors: accommodation DDRB etc. There are 186 sponsors in Cumbria, 38 in Eden.

4. Review of Deputy Chief Executive's Salary.

Mary Robinson: Les Clark took over this role in 2020. The salary recommendation was made by the Human Resources Committee: £89,463 per annum.

Councillor Atkinson: This does not sit well with me in a cost of living crisis.

Ian Frost (Chief Exec): This is the salary agreed in 2020, there is no extra. The duties are the same. We still need the work of a deputy chief executive. The burdens of local government organisation are additional to the role. We need the role to continue until the new authority comes in.

David Ryland (DR): Are the additional costs to met from the reserves?

Andy Connell: We will give you a written reply.

DR: I hope my written reply comes quicker than the last time.

Paul Sutton (officer): I cant see that there will be any strain on reserves andthe work needs to be done and paid for.

Vote: Four voted against, one abstention and everyone else voted in favour. Proposal approved.

5. Allocation of Seats.

Councillor Elaine Martin left the Conservative Group to join the Independent Group. There are 60 places on the various committees. The allocation will now be: Independent Alliance: 8,

Conservative: 19, Liberal Democrat: 19, Labour: 3, Green: 3, Independent Group: 8.

The committees are: Accounts and Goverance, Overview and Scrutiny, Finance and Scrutiny, Human Resources and Appeals, Licencing, Planning.