

Holme East Waver Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Parish Hall, Newton Arlosh on Thursday 10th November 2022 at 7-30 p.m.

Present: Chairman V Hodgson
Councillors: Graham, Roper, Stockdale and Welsh.
Also Present: County Cllr Markley, Borough Cllr Johnson
Public attendance: None.
Clerk: M Abbs

The Chair opened the meeting and Cllr Welsh thanked Cllrs for distributing the questionnaires to parishioners in his absence.

1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

The clerk to report any requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

No dispensation requests were made.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

No declarations of interest were made.

2 Minutes

2.1 To approve the draft minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th September 2022 – **approved and signed.**

3 Report on action taken...

3.1 ...by members of the Council

No matters were reported at this point.

3.2 ...by the clerk

The clerk confirmed that a further letter to OFCOM about the poor mobile reception had been sent – to date no response had been received.

The clerk had been contacted by the existing authority concerning the Parish Council elections which would be held next May. Confirmation had subsequently been received that the authority had all the up-to-date information it required. - **noted.**

3.3 **Public participation.** (At the chairman's discretion)

No members of the public were present so the Chair invited the Borough Cllr and County Cllr to give their reports.

Borough Cllr Johnson apologised for not attending some recent meetings but this had been impossible due to clashes with other meetings. The focus at Allerdale BC was on Local Government Re-organisation with staff busy to ensure this went smoothly. He was asked about job losses and replied that there may be some as re-structuring was taking place. He answered questions on job descriptions, payments and responsibilities.

County Cllr Markley also commented on the work that was taking place concerning re-structuring. Significant work was taking place to repair potholes in the area. Cllr Graham expressed his concern over the fact that repairs were 'not lasting'. Cllr Johnson commented on the fact that the 'surface dressing' programme had been reduced but was unsure why this had happened. Cllr Markley responded to a question from Cllr Roper concerning the upgrading of property in the Abbeytown area. He closed by advising tourism was still being promoted across the area.

The Chair then took item 5.5 whilst the Borough and County Cllr were present.

Cllr Johnson and Cllr Markley were thanked for their contributions and then left the meeting.

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4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 Great North Air Ambulance – request for grant support.

The clerk outlined the request which was **noted without action**.

4.2 Mark Jenkinson MP – response to letter concerning heating oil prices.

The clerk outlined the response and pointed out that no body was responsible for the regulation of oil prices. Following discussion it was **agreed** that the clerk should send a letter to the energy minister expressing its concern over the increases in oil prices and the impact on rural communities.

5 New business

5.1 Grass cutting – review of the season.

Cllr were happy with the work carried out by Mr Rumney in the first year of the two-year contract.

See also item 6.2.3

5.2 Poppy Appeal – possible donation to Royal British Legion.

A donation of £50 was **agreed** in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The expenditure, in the opinion of the council, being in the interest of the area and its inhabitants.

5.3 Playground – report on developments since last meeting. Update on seat purchase and commemorative plaque.

Possible decision on any required maintenance following receipt of the Inspection report.

The clerk confirmed that a seat had been ordered from Marmax Ltd.

He was awaiting an updated quote for the sign for the 'Platinum Jubilee Tree'.

A quote had been received for a metal tree guard and following discussion it was **agreed** that Cllr Graham would seek alternative quotes based on the same specification.

Cllrs **agreed** to circulate a copy of the recent Inspection report and then visit the site for a meeting which would be arranged by the clerk. The invoice for the report had not yet been received but Cllrs **agreed** that it could be paid if it was for the anticipated amount.

5.4 Parish Plan – review of progress. See also item 5.5.

A further letter had been sent by the clerk to OFCOM – see also 3.2.

The clerk had attended a meeting at the AONB in Silloth to discuss how the Parish Council could work with them on the desired Information Board/Panel. The AONB had a number of useful contacts and was keen to work with the PC but could not support the project financially. It was envisaged that the cost would be in the region of £1000. Following discussion, the clerk was authorised to continue to work with the AONB on the project.

See also item 5.5 concerning the footway extension which features in the Parish Plan and 7.1 with regard to the speed warning sign.

5.5 Results of the Parish questionnaire concerning the footway extension.

The clerk provided details of the questionnaire results he had been able to process prior to the meeting.

100 had been issued with 31 responses being received.

97% of respondents felt that a continuous pavement through the village was needed.

97% of respondents said they would use the pavement if it was installed.

6% of respondents had indicated that they were happy with the existing pavement through the village.

Cllr Welsh asked if there were any existing 'pots' of money under the current Council structure which could be allocated to provide the footpath and reminded Cllrs Markley and Johnson that he thought an application could be made to the Rural England Prosperity Fund to seek funding for the work. Cllrs Johnson and Markley stressed that the Highways Department would have to feel that there was a need for the requested work as there were a number of demands on funding.

Following discussion it was **agreed** that the clerk should take the matter forward by sending details of the questionnaire results to the Highways Department requesting a site meeting. Other key parties would be copied in and invited to the meeting.

5.6 CALC - Emergency Information (EIS) Sheet.

The clerk had forwarded the relevant documentation to the Cllrs and it was **agreed** that the representatives that were also on the Parish Hall Committee would arrange for it to be discussed there, and would advise the clerk if the item needed to feature again on the January agenda.

5.7 Saltcotes pond.

Cllr Graham provided information for consideration and it was agreed that the clerk would make enquiries with the AONB and report back to the January meeting.

5.8 Cinematic equipment for use in the village hall.

Cllr Welsh presented documentation concerning a grant request for assistance from the Newton Arlsoh Community Committee to provide the service to the Community. Following discussion Cllrs **agreed to award a grant of £750** to be used solely for the provision of a Community Cinema Club.

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Cllr Roper gave her apologies and left the meeting at this point.

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts to 30th September and possibly 31st October (available at the meeting). – **approved**.

6.1.2 Confirmation of receipt of second Precept payment from Allerdale BC **£3500 – noted**.

6.1.3 **Budget for 2023/24: see prepared sheet**

& therefore, **precept request to Allerdale BC for 2023/24**

The clerk outlined the latest situation relating to the setting of the Precept and reminded Cllrs of their current financial position. Members then considered the estimates for the rest of this year, and at the same time considered the grants usually paid to parish organisations. The need to keep the Council in a sound financial position was a major consideration in the discussions. Together with the anticipated expenditure for 2023/24 and some allowance for possible contingency, a budget was **approved** and it was **agreed** unanimously that the precept request for 2023/24 would be £7500. The Clerk was authorised to send the precept to Allerdale District Council.

At 9.30p.m. Cllrs continued the meeting in order to complete the business on the agenda.

6.2 To approve the following payments

6.2.1- Clerk: salary **£348.83- approved**.

6.2.2 Clerk: expenses: phone and broadband £40.82, postage etc. £5.08, mileage 61 miles at 45p /mile £27.45 Total **£73.35**

6.2.3 – I Rumney – Grasscutting (VAT £130) **£780.00 – approved**.

6.2.4 Paragon Veterinary Group – printing costs - **£5.66 – approved**.

6.2.5 Grants to village organisations including

Newton Arlosh Brownies, Newton Arlosh P.C.C.,

Newton Arlosh Community Committee and Newton Arlosh Parish Hall

No donations were made to the Brownies or the Parish Hall at this point but future request for funding would be considered, if necessary.

A donation of **£400** to Newton Arlosh Parochial Church Council was agreed in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The expenditure, in the opinion of the council, being in the interest of the area and its inhabitants. See item 5.8 with regard to the Newton Arlosh Community Committee.

7 Highways

7.1 Highways steward

Consideration of comments received from a Parishioner concerning warning signs.

Update on the request for speed warning sign for the village.

The clerk advised that the request for a speed warning sign was to be discussed by the Casualty Reduction and Safer Highways (CRASH) group. A further response was expected at the end of November. – **noted**.

Cllr Welsh reported that the 'Neston Arlosh' sign situated at the Eastern end of the village had been refurbished. – **noted**.

A number of previously reported items had not been attended to and Cllr Hodgson said he would report these again.

A request for warning chevrons at the dangerous corner at RABY would be submitted.

8 Planning.

8.1 Applications on which Allerdale BC decision is awaited.

8.1.1 OUT/2022/0021 Outline planning with access for up to two dwellings, Part Field 7800, Newton Arlosh. (Mr K Foster)

The clerk advised that since the agenda was issued permission had been granted. – **noted**.

8.2 Applications decided by Allerdale BC.

8.2.1 FUL/2022/0183 Concrete existing farm yards Raby Cote, Kirkbride, Wigton, CA7 5HJ (Messrs Steel)

- permission granted.

8.2.2 Reference No: FUL/2022/0202 The proposal is a new silage pit at Moss Side House, together with ancillary concrete yard connecting to existing yard. Moss Side Farm, B5307 Raby Grange To Newton Arlosh, Newton Arlosh. (Mr David Reed)

- permission granted.

The above were **noted**.

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8.3 Applications dealt with under standing order

None – noted.

8.4 Applications to be considered at this meeting.

None – noted.

9.1 Documents received for comment.

None – noted.

9.2 Documents received for information (available on request to clerk)

9.2.1 CALC Circular for October and November. – noted.

10.1 Any information brought by members of the Council

No further information was given.

10.2 Any information brought by Borough Councillor.

The report had been given earlier.

10.3 Any information brought by County Councillor.

The report had been given earlier.

10.4 Any information from the clerk.

No further information was given.

10.5 Police report

There had been no contact from the Police.

11 Meeting dates.

11.1 Date of next meeting **Thursday 12th January 2023 at 7.30p.m in Newton Arlosh Village Hall**

11.2 Future date: **Thursday 9th March 2023 at 7.30p.m. in Newton Arlosh Village Hall**

The dates were noted and the Chair closed the meeting at 10.10p.m.