

Kirkbride Parish Council



DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Held on Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7.00pm in Kirkbride School.

Present:

Councillors: Kirk (Chair), Benson, Day, A Hedworth, J Hedworth, Noblett and Simpson.

County Councillor: M Johnson

Borough Councillor: A Hedworth

Public attendance: one parishioner attended.

Clerk: M Abbs

1.1 Apologies for absence, declarations of interest and dispensation requests from Cllrs.

Cllr Irving had submitted his apologies to the clerk and the work related reason was accepted as a 'fair reason' for absence.

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

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

Cllr Kirk requested a dispensation to speak, if necessary, on item 7.4.2.

This was **agreed** by Cllrs.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllr Kirk has declared an interest in item 7.4.2

2 Minutes (previously circulated).

2.1 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1st November 2022 - **approved and signed**.

Note 1: reminder that the order of business may be changed at the chairman's discretion to avoid undue delay for visitors

3 Report on action taken.

3.1. by councillors

3.1.1 Play area –

See item 4.1.

3.1.2 Footpaths –

Possibility of renewing footpath surfaces. Areas of particular concern were the footpath near the back of the sewage works and Wyne lonning.

Cllr Noblett raised the possibility of the Council improving the surface of some footpaths in the village. In the light of the Authority having only a small amount of money for such work Cllrs **agreed** that the Council would approach the landowners concerned to obtain their permission for such work.

See also item 4.6.

3.1.3 Highways steward –

Cllrs were aware that a number of potholes had been reported and repaired.

3.1.4 Newsletter group -

No newsletter was planned at the moment. The clerk confirmed that the invoice for printing had been received and paid. See item 6.2.6.

3.2- by the clerk -

Submission of Precept to Allerdale BC.

The clerk advised that the Authority had confirmed receipt of the Precept request for the next financial year.

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3.3 Public participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

The parishioner outlined a planning difficulty he was encountering with the Borough Council.

Following discussion and questioning Borough Cllr A Hedworth outlined the action he had already taken and County Cllr Johnson, the current Leader of Allerdale BC, requested details so that he could investigate the matter.

3.3.1 Report from the Borough Councillor

Cllr A Hedworth had no significant matters to report but commented that the focus of the Authority was on the formation of the forthcoming Cumberland Council

3.3.2 Report from the County Councillor

Cllr Johnson also commented on re-organisation for the forthcoming Cumberland Council. Some Directors had been appointed with more key appointments forthcoming. Normal service provision was continuing. He explained to Cllrs the planned 'levelling up' proposals for Council Tax and explained how these would impact parishioners in Allerdale. He would forward a relevant e-mail to the clerk for distribution to Cllrs.

He responded to a question from Cllr Day about the present position concerning the recently approved coal mine in West Cumbria.

Cllr Kirk advised him that she had reported a sinkhole in the road through the village and commented on how quickly it had been rectified.

Cllr Johnson was thanked for his contribution then left the meeting.

4 New business

4.1 Playground and Woodland Area.

Review of maintenance and repair. Playground inspection rota.

Latest on the recovery of uninsured losses relating to the insurance claim.

Review of the Carol singing event.

Cllr Kirk advised that she would draw up a new Playground Inspection rota and circulate to members.

The Carol singing event had been a great success again and Cllr Simpson was thanked for all her efforts.

Cllr Day advised that he had to put some bird boxes back up in the woodland area. Cllrs **agreed** expenditure of up to £100 on planter refurbishment and to the purchase of more bird food for the feeders.

The Playground Inspection Report was being circulated and a site meeting would be called via the clerk when all had seen it. In the meantime Cllr Day said he would investigate potential suppliers and the cost of safety mattings it was likely that some needed to be replaced.

4.2 Asset register and Risk Assessments.

These were reviewed in conjunction with the Standing Orders.

The new Phone Box/Library was added to the Asset register along with the new sculpture in the playground.

The Standing Orders had been amended during the year and along with the Risk Assessments were now considered fit for purpose and no further amendments were made.

4.3 Audit arrangements for 2022/23.

The clerk advised that a new external auditor had been appointed but that he understood the process would be unchanged. - **noted.**

4.4 CALC/NALC advice on land ownership relating to the acquisition of a football pitch.

The clerk outlined the advice he had received via CALC which confirmed that the Parish Council was able to acquire land outside the Parish for the provision of a football pitch, or similar activity. - **noted.**

Following discussion it was **agreed** that the clerk would now approach a local landowner enquiring about the availability of some suitable land.

4.5 Kirkbride Bowling Club – request for grant funding.

The clerk had circulated the correspondence prior to the meeting and following discussion a grant of **£300 was agreed** for car park improvements. The advice of Cllrs concerning suitable materials would also be provided to the applicant.

4.6 Possible seat purchase to go by a footpath. Cllr J Hedworth to report on possible location.

Cllr Hedworth advised that she had spoken to the landowner of the chosen location who had no objection to the installation of a seat, as long as the Parish Council took responsibility for it. Expenditure of up to £700 ex Vat was then **agreed**. The clerk would make enquiries for a suitable seat and notify Cllrs in due course.

The parishioner left the meeting at this point.

5 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

5.1 Royal British Legion receipt and thanks for donation.

The clerk provided details – **noted.**

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5.2 Great North Air Ambulance - thanks for donation.

The clerk provided details – **noted**.

5.3 HSBC – latest on the setting up of internet banking.

The clerk updated Cllrs concerning the current position. Following the submission of documentation further advice had been given which had been actioned by the clerk and Chair. It was hoped that online payments would soon be possible. - **noted**.

5.4 St Brides Kirkbride – grass cutting receipt for the PC records.

The clerk confirmed receipt of the receipt and advised that it was in order. **noted**.

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts to 30th November 2022 and 31st December 2022 – available at the meeting. – **approved**.

6.1.2 Consideration of any budget/precept related correspondence.

No new correspondence had been received. See also item 3.2. - **noted**

6.2 Payments to approve.

6.2.1 Clerk's salary: **595.83** + backpay £190.64 = **£786.47** – **approved**.

The clerk advised that this took account of the recent pay award.

6.2.2 Expenses: postage etc. £35.93; telephone and broadband £40.82 = £76.75, SLCC/ALCC Contribution Cost £81.00 travel 4m @ 45p= £1.80 Total **£159.55** – **approved**.

6.2.3 HSBC – banking charges **£15.00 Nov + £12.00 Dec = £27.00** – **approved**.

Any additional charges will be notified by the clerk. – none advised.

6.2.4 S Simpson repayment of expenditure on Christmas lights **£42.47** – **approved**.

6.2.5 Allerdale BC playground inspection - paid by clerk and re-claimed **£69.60** – **approved**

6.2.6 Kirkbride Primary School – photocopying **£23.00** – **approved**.

6.2.7 B Day repayment for playground sign post. **£15.36** – **approved**.

7 Planning

7.1 Applications outstanding with Allerdale Borough Council.

7.1.1 – FUL/2022/0236 Hybrid application, full application for plot 1 and outline for plots 2-5 including demolition of existing dwelling, Formerly Ivydene, Angerton, Kirkbride. (Mr Gordon) – **noted**.

7.2 Applications dealt with under standing order.

None – **noted**.

7.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC

7.3.1 FUL/2021/0283 Change of use for the conversion of a barn into dwelling including extension, Powhill Farm, Wigton. CA7 5LF (Mark Metcalfe & Anna Stamper) – permission refused. - **noted**.

7.4 Applications for consideration by this Parish Council meeting.

7.4.1 HOU2022/0204 Single storey extensions to form garden room, snug and ensuite, Boundary Bank, Kirkbride, Wigton. (Mr M Schofield)

The details had been examined prior to the meeting and following discussion Cllrs **voted to object** to the garden room section of the application due to the proposed height of the structure and its proximity to neighbouring properties; and the resulting impact on the amenity of these neighbouring properties. There are no objections to the other elements of the application. The clerk would inform the Authority.

7.4.2 HOU/2022/0229 Proposed internal refurbishment and construction of Garden Room Extension

Location: West Winds, Kirkbride, Wigton, (Mrs A Kirk)

Having been given a dispensation Cllr Kirk answered questions from Cllrs then left the room. Cllr Day took the Chair.

The details had been examined prior to the meeting and following discussion Cllrs had **no objections** to the proposal.

The clerk would inform the authority.

Cllr Kirk returned to the meeting and re-took the Chair.

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8.1 Documents received for comment.

8.1.1 Allerdale BC budget consultation – handled under standing order.

The clerk advised that he had not seen a request/opportunity to comment at this point. – **noted.**

8.1.2 Police and Crime Commissioner – Council Tax Precept Consultation.

This was **noted** without action.

8.1.3 Allerdale Borough Council - Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Consultation.

Handled under the Standing Procedure.

The clerk advised that the information he had received had been for information and not further consultation. – **noted.**

8.2 Documents received for information (available on request to the clerk)

8.2.1 CALC Circular.

8.2.2 Cumbria In Bloom Newsletter.

The above were **noted.**

9 Claypit Charity

9.1 Annual return submitted by clerk.

This was noted.

10 Any items of information brought by...

10.1 Clerk

No further items were brought.

10.2 Councillors

Cllr Day felt that the phone box library needed additional promotion and Cllr Simpson advised that the children at Kirkbride school would be asked to submit artwork for the 'book exchange'. The clerk would put the item on the March agenda.

Cllr day provided information on the local red squirrel group.

11 Meeting dates

11.1 **Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting** Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School.

11.2 **Future meetings: on Tuesdays:** 9th May 2023 at 7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School.

The dates were **noted** and the Chair closed the meeting at 9.30p.m.