

Holme East Waver Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Parish Hall, Newton Arlosh at 7-30 p.m. on Thursday 25th January 2024.

Present: Hodgson (Chair)

Councillors: Graham, Hopkinson, Stockdale, and Welsh.

Cumberland Cllr: Absent

Public attendance: Mr D Hopkinson.

Clerk: M Abbs

1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

Cumberland Councillor Cllr A Markley had sent his apologies and offered to help with any issues that arose requiring his attention.

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 dispensations were requested.

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 Thursday 2nd November 2023 – **approved and signed.**

Cllr Welsh introduced Mr Hopkinson who had come along to offer his advice and expertise on certain matters, if required.

Items 5.9 and 5.5 were then brought forward on the agenda by the Chair, the outcome being reported below under the appropriate number. Mr Hopkinson left the meeting after item 5.9.

3 Report on action taken...

3.1 ...by members of the Council

No matters were reported at this point.

3.2 ...by the clerk

No matters were reported at this point.

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

Mr Hopkinson when necessary during items 5.9 and 5.5

4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 Royal British Legion thanks for donation.

The clerk reported the correspondence which was **noted.**

4.2 Newton Arlosh PCC - Letter of thanks for the grant support.

The clerk reported the correspondence which was **noted.**

5 New business

5.1 Playground – report on developments since last meeting and current situation. Playground repair update.

Discussion of the Inspection Report. Possible approval of invoice for repairs.

An invoice for repairs carried by Ray Holyoak Joinery for £1171.20 including VAT was **approved** for payment.

The clerk had forwarded the Inspection Report by e-mail and a hard copy would be circulated.

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Cllr Hodgson would obtain a quotation for the shotblasting of the goalposts and a sum of up to £1500 + VAT was **approved** for this. A quotation to replace the legs of the swing for £680 + VAT was **approved**.

Cllr Hodgson would re-grease the 'teapot' and pressure wash the walkways in the park.

The park was being regularly inspected and Cllrs were reminded to send reports of this being done to the clerk.

5.2 Consideration of the Asset register and Risk Assessments.

These were considered fit for purpose and **approved unchanged**.

5.3 Audit arrangements for 2023/24.

The clerk advised that no papers had yet been received but some general feedback on last year's audit had been received via CALC. – **noted**.

5.4 Grasscutting – review of tenders and award of contract for 2024.

The submitted tender figures were examined and discussed. The tender for a two-year period from Solway Garden and Landscapes was unanimously **accepted**. The clerk was instructed to write accordingly to the contractor.

5.5 Parish/Parish Council website.

Following input from Mr Hopkinson and discussion, Cllrs **agreed** to the setting up of a new Parish Council owned website.

A sum of £500 would come from the PC towards the build costs along with annual ongoing costs.

Addition funding of £500 would be sought from the Cumberland Council Community Fund and Cllr A Markley who had both indicated to Cllr Welsh that supporting funds for the build would be available. It was **agreed** that Cllr Welsh was authorised to take this new initiative forward.

Cllr Welsh confirmed that he will make regular reports on progress to the Parish Council.

5.6 Parish Plan.

Including discussion and action on:

Footpath through the village.

Progress on speed warning indicators.

Historic Information Board.

Following discussion Cllrs **agreed** that the desired footway through the village would still be pursued with Cumberland Council.

An update would be provided to parishioners in the village along with a map showing the desired length of the footway.

A response slip would be on the flyer requesting parishioners to re-affirm their wish for the footway. Cllr Markley would be kept informed by Cllr Welsh.

The clerk reported that Cumberland Cllr Mike Johnson had confirmed that a scheme involving local people operating speed measurement devices still existed and understood that training on new devices was taking place. The clerk had requested details of how any interested parishioners could participate in this training but had not at that point received a reply.

A further enquiry concerning the deployment of a mobile SID Speed Indicator Device in the village had been sent to the police but a response was still awaited.

The clerk was asked to re-circulate the draft text for the Information Panel which had been previously distributed. Cllrs would examine this and pass on their comments to him.

5.7 Bus service update.

Cllr Welsh advised that he understood that there was a strong possibility of a new bus link commencing in May or July. – **noted**.

5.8 Cinema club grant money situation.

Cllr Welsh and Mr Hopkinson confirmed that unspent money from the previous Parish Council grant would be returned, see item 5.9 below. – **noted**.

5.9 Village defibrillators.

Following discussion with input from Mr Hopkinson, Cllrs **agreed** to the following:

Following the Parish Council agreement, (at the November meeting) to be responsible for the two defibrillators in the village, the Parish Council thanked and accepted the offer of the Defibrillator Maintenance Group for volunteering to routinely inspect and maintain the operation of the defibrillators on behalf of the Parish Council. Outstanding money held by the group with respect to the Cinema Club, approximately £700, would be returned to the Parish Council along with a letter enabling the defibrillators to be added to the Asset Register of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council accepted that there is an ongoing maintenance requirement and will, as and when required, provide appropriate funding to the Defibrillator Group in order to purchase replacement batteries, pads, etc. to ensure the continuous operation of the defibrillators. This will ensure that it is not necessary for individuals to use personal funds. Emergency approval of all Parish Councillors would not be necessary with any required action being delegated to the Chair and clerk.

The Defibrillator Maintenance Group would provide an annual account of funds to the Parish Council.

Cllrs **agreed** to continue beyond 9.30 p.m. in order to complete the agenda.

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6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts to 30th November and possibly 31st December 2023 (available at the meeting). The accounts were examined and **approved**. Cllr Welsh raised the possibility of an outside agency/individual assisting in raising additional funds to enable the Council to fulfil its objectives. He was asked to send details to the clerk for inclusion on the March agenda.

6.1.2 Confirmation that the Precept has been submitted. Consideration of any budget/precept related correspondence.

The clerk confirmed the submission and tracked receipt of the Precept request by the authority. Only one piece of correspondence had been received which the clerk did not consider required the Council to review its earlier decision on the level of Precept. -**noted**.

6.2 To approve the following payments.

6.2.1- Clerk: salary £409.50 + backpay £121.36 Total **530.86 – approved**.

6.2.2 – Clerk: expenses: phone and broadband £34.08, mileage 16 miles at 45p /mile £7.20 SLCC/ALCC Contribution £81.00, Total **£122.28 – approved**.

6.2.3 Cumberland Council playground inspection - paid by clerk and re-claimed **£69.60**.

Anticipated amount shown. The invoice had not yet been received but payment was **approved** if it was for the anticipated amount.

6.2.4 V Hodgson - Chairman's allowance **£60.00 approved**.

7 Highways

7.1 Highways steward

Cllr Welsh reported that dog fouling remained a problem and the clerk advised that if details of the location and time, if possible, could be supplied to him he would contact the dog warden. - **noted**.

Cllrs were urged by the Chair to keep reporting potholes.

8 Planning.

8.1 Applications on which Cumberland Council decision is awaited.

None – **noted**.

8.2 Applications decided by Cumberland Council.

8.2.1 FUL/2023/0224 Farmyard Concrete, Moss Side Farm, B5307 Raby Grange, Newton Arlosh (Mr J Harrison) – permission granted. - **noted**.

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.

9.1.1 Cumberland Council budget consultation.

9.1.2 Police and Crime Commissioner – Council Tax Precept Consultation.

The above were **noted** without action.

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

9.2.1 CALC Circular for December.

9.2.2 Snowball - disability group app information.

9.2.3 Littlethorpe - street furniture information.

The above were **noted**.

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10.1 Any information brought by members of the Council.

No matters were raised.

10.2 Any information brought by Cumberland Councillor.

Absent

10.3 Any information from the clerk.

No matters were raised.

10.4 Police report

No report had been received.

11 Meeting dates.

11.1 Date of next meeting **Thursday 14th March 2024 at 7. 30p.m in Newton Arlosh Village Hall**

Following discussion concerning Cllr absence a new date of **Thursday 28th March** was set.

11.2 Future date: Thursday 9th May 2024 at 7.00p.m. in Newton Arlosh Village Hall

This date was **noted**.

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.45p.m.