

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 11th February 2019 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Peter Capasso (Chair), Barbara Adair, Alan Baverstock, Roger Bingham, Peter Hill, Clare Lachmann, Steve Hurst, Jim Robson and Jen Scrogam. Also C Cllr P McSweeney & D Cllr R Audland for (items 6.2 & 6.3 and 7.3 onwards), Parish Clerk John Scargill and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – none.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2019** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed by Cllr Capasso.
3. **Announcements by the Chair** – none.
4. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** – Cllrs Bingham & Robson re agenda item 5.4, who took no part in the discussion of this item.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 14th January 2019.**
 - 5.1 Draft Playing Field user licences (5.1)** – MPC had received confirmation from Milne Moser that properly completed licences had now been received back from all four tenant clubs. It remained for two members to sign these licences on behalf of MPC – to be arranged ASAP. MPC thanks to Kevin James for helping bring this matter to a successful conclusion.
 - 5.2 Playing field boundary wall (5.2)** – Dallam Estate has confirmed that the wall must be rebuilt to match the wall that was demolished, with the proposed addition of drainage holes (pop holes). One contractor has been briefed with three more to be contacted. Ongoing.
 - 5.3 Milnthorpe Sign Survey (5.3)** – concluded – remove from future agendas.
 - 5.4 St. Thomas's Church communications mast (5.4)** – a planned site attendance by the contractors had failed to take place – rearranged for 20 February 2019.
 - 5.5 Renewal of dog fouling signs on playing field (5.5)** – little positive progress. Clerk to press SLDC Legal Dept for a ruling on procedure. MPC to consider fencing off children's play area on the playing field, as it had been in the past. Ongoing.
 - 5.6 Parking discs (5.7)** – the Clerk had finally made contact with a CCC employee who had been able to resolve this issue. Stocks of discs at McColls had now been replenished and future supplies assured, with re-ordering to be direct between McColls and CCC.
 - 5.7 Milnthorpe tree survey/work (7.1)** – Cllr Baverstock to instruct contractors, with work to be done during summer 2019.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 Police Report** – report received, showing 2 crimes recorded for Milnthorpe. See also 6.4 below.
 - 6.2 County Council** – the gully clearing by Highways at Dallam School roundabout seemed to have significantly improved the flooding problem at this location - with smaller volumes of water collecting after heavy rains and dispersing more rapidly. Systematic reporting to Highways of flooding issues at any location would ensure they were aware and enable priorities to be identified. Even gullies that were becoming overgrown, without as yet any flooding result, should be reported. The new database at Highways had experienced teething problems and the tracking of complaints, and Highways response, was not fully operational. See 7.2 below for other Highways issues.
 - 6.3 District Council** – Milnthorpe Square continued to be the focal point of many problems, from the effectiveness of market barriers to the unauthorised/inconsiderate parking of vehicles and with sometimes conflicting understanding of rights and priorities eg for disabled and emergency users.
 - 6.4 Electors** – poor street lighting combined with rough footway surfaces and a lack of marked crossing points were causing a pedestrian hazard in parts of Beetham Road/A6. **Agreed** - Clerk to report to Highways. Inadequate road markings/signage on certain unadopted roads in that same area were a problem for residents – but were the responsibility of residents to rectify. Cllr Hurst to inspect and advise. Criticism of the shortage of information in the monthly police reports – **agreed** – Clerk to place future reports in parish notice board.

7. New matters for consideration:

7.1 Village Centre signs – in need of cleaning. **Agreed** – Cllr Capasso to inspect and provide photos with MPC members to provide equipment/materials and undertake work at an early date.

7.2 Highway and footway repair needs – Clerk to provide C Cllr McSweeney with a list compiled by members as requested, namely i. the A6 west-side footway between the Fire Station and Mill Lane, ii. Cemetery Lane, iii. verges and footways along the B6385 at Ackenthwaite.

7.3 Milnthorpe No Cold Calling Zone – no further progress reported by D Cllr Audland. Remove from future agendas.

8. Planning matters – no activity to report for January.

9. Finance.

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT				MONTH – JANUARY 2019		MEETING – 11 th February 2019	
9.1 Report on bank receipts, bank payments (for approval) & bank balances.							
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c	Reserve Funds		
				£	£	£	£
01/01/19	Opening balances				40,650.44		21,979.33
31/01/19	Receipts:	Market	Rents collected Jan		345.00		
		SLDC	Toilets grant (5 th of 5 yrs)		10,000.00		
"	Payments:						
	752	DD	SLDC Business rates (market) Jan	78.00			
		DD	UKFuels Guard card Dec (pd Jan)	0.50			
			VAT	0.10			
				.60			
	753	755	Higton Xmas trees 2018	950.00			
	754	756	Sal Army Donation – Xmas band	50.00			
	755	757	Water Plus Toilets water (2mths)	62.26			
	756	758	Healthmatic Toilets mtce Jan	500.00			
			VAT	100.00			
				600.00			
	757	759	Christ TK Room hire 3mths	75.00			
	758	760-764	Payroll Jan 2019	1,272.54			
	Total payments in month				-3,088.40		
31/01/19	Closing balances				47,907.04		21,979.33
31/01/19	Total funds all accounts						£69,886.37

Resolved – that the above payments be **approved**.

9.2 Any other financial matters – noted that the £10K grant received in January from SLDC for Milnthorpe public toilets was the last instalment of a five-year arrangement. Although no approach to SLDC had yet been made, it seemed highly likely that any renewal deal that might be negotiated would fall short of the original.

10. Market. Rents for Jan 2019 £345 (Jan 2018 £496), year to date £5,876 (2017/18 £7,195). Market Supervisor's monthly report - market 'ticking along' with the few 'backbone' stalls and some new enquiries. Continuing problems with ineffective barriers and unlawful vehicle entry. Market traders unhappy with current interpretation of, and recent proposed changes to, market rules and with market admin generally. See minutes of Market Traders' bi-annual meeting (which preceded this PC meeting) for more details.

11. To receive any reports from representatives on outside bodies – none.

12. Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Bingham – recent damage to Crooklands Bridge was having a serious knock-on effect for Milnthorpe and surrounding villages and the lengthy disruption justified a letter from MPC to Highways. Thanks due to Cllr Adair and husband for their persistent speedwatch duties. Welcomed the choice of St Thomas's church as the venue for the induction of the new area vicar.

Cllr Adair – reported overhanging trees at Ackenthwaite House and Crosby House. Also recent and particularly offensive abuse of her and husband whilst engaged in their speedwatch duties and its subsequent social media publication by the offender. **Agreed** – that MPC buy two high-viz and identifying tabards for its speedwatch operatives.

Cllr Hurst – a broken street lamp on Harmony Hill had been repaired

Cllr Lachmann – the traffic congestion in Firs Road, by school users, was becoming progressively worse and was now a serious health and safety issue.

Cllr Capasso – questioned whether Milnthorpe could expect to get an electric vehicle charging point in the near future, as Kendal and other centres now had them.

13. General correspondence – a request from Milnthorpe Allotment Association for permission to sell raffle tickets for their Annual Horticultural Show (7 Sept 2019) at the Friday 9 August farmers market – **agreed.**

14. Reading Matter – none.

15. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting, and additional to those referred to above – the consequences of Don Tallon being no longer able to manage the market barriers, due to ill health. Arrangements needed to be made for market barrier handling as from Friday 15 February and until a replacement operative was in post or the duties reallocated.

15. Date of next meeting – confirmed as Monday 11 March 2019 at 7.30pm in Milnthorpe Catholic Church Hall – to be preceded at 7.00pm by the Milnthorpe Annual Assembly.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm