

# **MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on  
Monday March 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Peter Capasso (Chair), Alan Baverstock, Barbara Adair, Roger Bingham, Peter Hill, Steven Hurst, Clare Lachmann & Jim Robson. C Cllr Pete McSweeney (item 6 onwards) & D Cllr Rupert Audland. Also Parish Clerk John Scargill, Market Supervisor James Lowther (item 5.7 onwards) and four members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Jen Scrogam (family commitment).
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020** - 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** – Cllr Hurst, who took no part in item 8.1.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**
  - 5.1 **Milnthorpe public toilets (5.1)** – further enquiries ongoing to establish the cause of and responsibility for the June 2019 leak. SLDC grant for 2019/20 now received.
  - 5.2 **CCTV coverage for Milnthorpe (5.2)** – PCC grant of £3,000 in transit. Camera site survey agreed at a cost of £908 - ongoing.
  - 5.3 **Planter for The Square (5.3)** – MPC’s suggested location agreed at site meeting with Highways Senior Technician on 13 Feb. Clerk to chase up CCC form permitting planter installation.
  - 5.4 **MPC’s smiley SIDs relocation (5.4)** – new sites agreed with Highways at site meeting on 19 Feb, plus suitable location for siting a possible fourth SID.
  - 5.5 **Market Cross cleaning (5.5)** – likely to be done towards end of March. Any structural improvements would need to involve English Heritage – ongoing.
  - 5.6 **CCC’s Working Together Scheme (5.6)** – no further developments.
  - 5.7 **Parking discs (5.7)** – first order of the new MPC discs received, with an initial total of 150 discs distributed among 15 local businesses. Businesses to reimburse MPC for eventual restock quantities as per scheme’s agreed terms. Delete from future agendas.
  - 5.8 **Market Square Improvement Plan (5.8)** – project list had been re-issued with update on work done. This item to be a permanent, regularly updated feature of future MPC agendas. Quotes had been received for replacing tree guards (item 2) and the Jubilee seat (item 7).
  - 5.9 **Milnthorpe Local Plan Review (7.1)** – MPC members and Milnthorpe residents strongly urged to attend the event at Milnthorpe Hub on 19 March, when both CCC and SLDC staff would be present - an ideal opportunity for local engagement in long-term plans for the village.
6. **Public Participation:**
  - 6.1 **Police Report** – for February 2020 – five serious crimes recorded in the area
  - 6.2/3 **County & District Councils** – the meeting on 19 March (see 5.9 above) was important but, of course, subject to any Corona virus restrictions that might emerge. Advance publicity was vital to ensure public awareness - Cllr Capasso to undertake social media coverage. C Cllr McSweeney to follow up complaints about CCC contractors leaving behind a quantity of post-tree trimming debris and damaged verges. CCC would only commit to annual drain clearing on classified roads due to shortage of equipment (and funding). The drain works in Park Road were reaching the difficult stretch between the traffic lights and the Strands, with significant traffic delays and re-routing imminent. Recent traffic diversion from the M6 had resulted in a serious backup on the A6. Drug use and trading in Milnthorpe was part of a national problem but not a parish council responsibility; relevant information was already being passed on to the police, but hard evidence (what, where and when) was needed for effective action to be taken. Talks about a possible unitary authority for Cumbria, to replace existing county and district councils, were resuming and were likely to result in the eventual recommendation of such an arrangement in the long term.
  - 6.4 **Electors** – the 2019 Christmas tree arrangements for local businesses had been very poor and needed to be re-thought for 2020. Investment in artificial trees suggested – MPC would continue to support financially. A co-ordinated ‘switch-on’ of all Christmas lights in say early December could become an important event in the village calendar. The Cross Keys had requested permission to

close a footpath to its car park for a 5 November public firework display – **agreed**. Householder wheelie bins, left in the road, were untidy and could obscure road signs (best advice was to use black bags where the handling of bins was difficult). Good display of daffodils on Parkhouse Way.

## 7.0 New matters for consideration:

**7.1 Clerk's retirement 2020** – the post had now been re-advertised and some interest had emerged. Target date now 30 June 2020.

## 8. Planning matters:

### 8.1 Applications under consideration by MPC, and SLDC decisions

March 2020 meeting

#### Type B applications – SLDC deadline falls after next PC meeting – Members to discuss at mtg.

SL/2020/0085	15 Summerville Road		Single-storey rear extension.	19/03/20	No objection
SL/2020/0062	High Haverflatts Farm		Installation of 28 solar panels	16/03/20	No objection

#### Decisions received from SLDC

#### SLDC decision

SL/2019/0950	3 Scotland Court, Church Street		Single-storey rear extension, with raised patio.	Approved with conditions
SL/2019/0953	Station Farm, Crooklands Road		Change of use and extension for use as café/tea room.	Approved with conditions

(More planning information available on SLDC website – [southlakeland.gov.uk](http://southlakeland.gov.uk))

8.2 Related matters & correspondence: none.

## 9 Finance:

### MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

### MONTH – FEBRUARY 2020

### MEETING – 9<sup>th</sup> Mar. 2020

#### 9.1 Report on bank receipts, bank payments (for approval) & bank balances.

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c	Reserve Funds
				£	£
01/02/20	Opening balances				
29/02/20	Receipts:	Market	Rents collected February	392.60	
		SLDC	CCTV camera grant	2,500.00	
		SLDC	Toilets grant for 2019/20	10,000.00	
					12,892.60
	“	Payments:			
	865	DD	UKFuels Equip fuel	1.50	
			VAT	.30	
				1.80	
	866	112	Dallam Pl Fld rent 6mths	2.50	
	867-869	DD	Eon Market elec	119.34	
			VAT	5.96	
				125.30	
	870	113	Water Plus Toilets water	85.99	
	871	115	Npower Toilets elec	74.96	
			VAT	3.75	
				78.71	
	872	116	A2A Adv'g Website upgrade	300.00	
			VAT	60.00	
				360.00	
	873	117	Scargill Postage/stat'y 6mths	125.51	
			VAT	15.17	
				140.68	
	874	118-122	Payroll February 2020	1,433.53	
	875	123	Healthmatic Toilets mtce	500.00	
			VAT	100.00	
				600.00	
		Total payments in month			-2,828.51
29/02/20	Closing balances			20,418.22	22,023.21
29/02/20	Total funds all accounts				£42,441.43

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

**9.2 Any other financial matters** – none.

**10. Market** - rents for Feb 2020 £393 (Feb 2019 £390), year to date £5,631 (2018/19 £6,266).  
Market Supervisor's report – 'Market ticking over slowly. 21 Feb market particularly bad due to weather. Some concerns from traders regarding a Friday market at Arnside, which should be investigated.'

Further to enquiry, it appeared that the Arnside Friday market was a WI-sponsored indoor craft market with no significant impact on the Milnthorpe market. The selling of fish was not part of this but may occur outdoors from time to time. Taylors Funfair and the Morris dancers would both be present at Milnthorpe's Good Friday market 2020. The market Supervisor had spoken to a number of traders to encourage attendance but his suggestion to make this event a rent-free market for traders was considered to be too radical a change in market rules at this time.

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

**12. Parish Matters** (for information only):

**Cllr Hurst** – the village 'welcome' sign on Beetham Road would be made more visible (Atkinsons).

**Cllr Lachmann** – a deep pothole had appeared in Candle Lane footway – to report to Highways via the Highways website.

**Cllr Robson** – had noticed workmen on Beetham Road marking the footway for future attention.

**Cllr Baverstock** – further flood debris on the playing field – Cllr Hurst to inspect and remove if possible, otherwise contractor Mike Hall to be employed to handle removal/disposal. A complete new bank mandate was required to update the list of signatories; **agreed** to delay this until after the May 2020 elections so as to reflect any resulting MPC member changes.

**13. General correspondence:**

13/02/20 – SLDC notice of clerk briefing on 17 March re 2020 elections MPC Clerk to attend and subsequently distribute election material to members.

19/02/20 – SLDC notice of Flood Advisory Service conference 19 Feb 2020.

07/03/20 - Andy Horn giving notice of termination of his tenancy of MPC's Ackenthaite pony field as from 31 March 2020. (Expressions of interest already received from third parties taking over the tenancy. **Agreed** – that MPC advertise the vacant tenancy in next available Milnthorpe Parish News).

**14. Reading Matter** – Clerks & Councils Direct – issue 128 – march 2020.

**15. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting, and additional to those referred to above** – none.

**16. Date of next meeting** – confirmed as Monday 20 April 2020 at 7.30pm in Milnthorpe Catholic Church Hall.

**The meeting closed at 8.55pm**