

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

**Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on
Monday 13th January 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). Also C Cllr Pete McSweeney (for item 6.2/3), D Cllr Rupert Audland, Parish Clerk John Scargill and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – none.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 16th December 2019** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed by Cllr Capasso,
3. **Announcements by the Chair** – at the invitation of the Chair, and on behalf of all members, Cllr Bingham paid tribute to Sir Christopher Audland, who had recently died and whose personal achievements and contribution to the village over many years were greatly appreciated by all.
4. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** – Cllrs Bingham and Robson re agenda item 5.2 and took no part in the discussion of this item.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 16th December 2019.**
 - 5.1 **Milnthorpe public toilets (5.1)** – final Funding Agreement with SLDC received and **approved**. Clerk to advise SLDC accordingly. No response as yet to MPC's claim lodged with Healthmatic re cost of excess water usage in June/July. Reminder sent.
 - 5.2 **St. Thomas's Church communications mast** – SLDC's reasoning for accepting the status quo was that the request by MPC (for the mast to comply precisely with permissions) did not justify the relatively high cost of further modification as it was already acceptable to the planning authority.
 - 5.3 **CCTV coverage for Milnthorpe (5.3)** – it appeared that MPC had the choice of precisely where to site the single camera for which a CCC grant had been offered and a site might be found which went some way to covering both illegal cross-border traffic as well as unwanted activity in The Square. C Cllr McSweeney's offer to submit MPC's PCC grant application was accepted.
 - 5.4 **MPC outdoor seats (5.5)** – the seat beside the Junior Football Club had now been identified as in sore need of refurbishment – Clerk to arrange. No further developments.
 - 5.5 **Planters for The Square (5.7)** – the planters were now ready for installation and awaiting the availability for a site meeting with Highways to agree the precise location. Clerk to organise.
 - 5.6 **MPC's smiley SIDs relocation (5.9)** – the contractor's quote for relocating the SIDs had been received. MPC to inform Highways of its preferred sites. Cllr Hurst to report to Pandora Technologies that one SID was no longer working.
 - 5.7 **Market Cross cleaning (5.10) – agreed** – that a thorough inspection be carried out whilst the scaffolding was in place and any necessary repair work undertaken before cleaning,
 - 5.8 **CCC's Working Together Scheme (5.11)** – more information from CALC awaited.
 - 5.9 **Parking discs (5.12)** – an MPC disc had now been designed and submitted to the supplier with an order for 2000 discs, as agreed. A revised scheme had been devised, eliminating the need to deal with VAT implications. Clerk to send details of this revised scheme to local businesses.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 **Police Report** – for December 2019 – received and circulated before the meeting. 36 incidents (15 crimes) reported in the general area, two of which crimes were in Milnthorpe itself. Noted by members that major known incidents/crimes continued to be omitted from the monthly report to MPC, which was most unsatisfactory. It could also lead to incorrect county crime level statistics. Clerk asked to register a complaint with the police authority.
 - 6.2/3 **County & District Councils** – Milnthorpe and the adjacent local councils of Beetham and Arnside asked to work together re information given to the general public about the special traffic arrangements to be put in place during imminent and long awaited major road works in Park Road, The new local 552-replacement bus service was proving a success and services were to be further extended. Siting of the new single approved CCTV camera (see 5.3 above) must take into account the need for adjacent and available mains power and internet connection. Substantial new higher authority funds would soon become available and MPC must be ready with firm proposals to take advantage of this when the time came. CCC/SLDC open session in February to discuss.
 - 6.4 **Electors** – none.

Resolved – that the above payments be approved.

9.2 Any other financial matters:

MPC accounts 9mths to 31/12/19 – circulated before the meeting and **APPROVED**.

MPC budget/precept for 2020/21 – circulated before the meeting and **APPROVED**, including the proposed 3% increase in precept to £28K. Clerk to submit to SLDC by the 24/01/20 deadline.

10. Market - rents for Dec 2019 £319 (Nov 2018 £337), year to date £4,910 (2018/19 £5,531).

Market Supervisor's report – 'Market quiet overall. Once more the toilets were unserviceable. Andrew Bean continued to improve. No traders attended the 27th December market. Hopefully things will pick up in the New Year.'

Suggestion for a permanent advertising slot in the Milnthorpe Parish News – **approved**. Cllr Capasso to experiment with social media publicity for the market and come back with recommendations..

11. To receive any reports from representatives on outside bodies – a report from Milnthorpe Memorial Hall showed some £15K paid out in grants for 2019.

12. Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Bingham – the show of Christmas trees over the festive season had been disappointing and the contractor's arrangements for their installation incomplete, unprofessional and lacking in safety precautions – in need of a comprehensive review for Christmas 2020.

Cllr Scrogam – despite notification to Cumbria Highways the '20mph limit' sign in Main Street continued to be permanently in operation, rather than switching off at non-peak times.

Cllr Hurst - The Square's lighting and worn parking bay marking were in need of improvement.

Cllr Adair – the small bus (previously reported) was no longer parking on the Dallam roundabout following a phone call to the operator. A new site was needed for the food bank; this had to be dry and accessible and about half a normal garage size.

Cllr Baverstock – the SLDC car parks, particularly the one behind the fire station, were in need of sweeping. Clerk to advise SLDC.

Cllr Robson – five plastic chairs had appeared (disposed of) on the Playing Field, which had soon reduced to three.

Cllr Capasso – Firs Road car parking continued to be traffic-bound at times due to school-related traffic volumes and poor/inconsiderate parking.

13. General correspondence:

08/01/20 – CCC – successful trial of rapid response vehicles – now to replace conventional fire engines at Arnside and Staveley.

08/01/20 SLDC – notification of Milnthorpe parish elections – Thursday 7 May, 2020.

09/01/20 – CCC – notification that new local Arnside/Kendal bus service to be extended by operator.

14. Reading Matter – Clerks & Councils Direct – issue 127 - Jan 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 10 February 2020 at 7.30pm in Milnthorpe Catholic Church Hall with a preceding Market Traders meeting at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm