

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT minutes of the Annual Meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 11th May 2020 at 7pm. The meeting was held remotely via a video conference. A virtual meeting protocol was circulated to all attendees prior to the meeting

Present from: Cllrs Peter Capasso, Alan Baverstock, Barbara Adair, Roger Bingham, Peter Hill, Steven Hurst, Jim Robson, C Cllr Pete McSweeney, D Cllr Rupert Audland

- 1. Election of Chair of Milnthorpe Parish Council for the year 2010/21.**
Resolved - that Cllr Steven Hurst be elected Chair for the Council year 2020/21
- 2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office.**
Clerk to obtain declaration, signed by Cllr Hurst and Clerk
- 3. Apologies for Absence –** Cllrs Jen Scrogam & Clare Lachmann
- 4. To appoint Vice-Chair of Milnthorpe Parish Council for the year 2020/21. Resolved –** that Jen Scrogam' be appointed Vice-Chair for the year 2020/21
- 5. To appoint a Past-Chair of Milnthorpe Parish Council for the year 2020/21.** A question was asked whether we needed/wanted a Past-Chair. There is no Council requirement for such a position, however Milnthorpe Parish Council Standing Orders stipulates that one is appointed on an annual basis. It was agreed that a formal discussion takes place, concluding with an agreed decision. This will be added to the agenda for the June meeting. In the meantime, Cllr Baverstock will continue as Past-Chair
- 6. To appoint representatives on outside bodies.** Appointed as follows:
 - Heversham and Leasgill Quarry Fund – Cllrs Bingham & Capasso (res Cllr Hurst)
 - Local Area Partnership (LAP) – Cllr Robson
 - Memorial Hall – Cllr Hurst
 - Cumbria Association of Local Councils – Cllr Robson
- 7. To appoint members of committees etc.**
 - Planning Committee – Cllrs Baverstock, Bingham, Capasso, Hurst and Lachmann (quorum of 3)
 - Finance Working Group – Cllrs Baverstock, Robson and Hurst
 - Staff management responsibilities currently
 - Cllr Lachmann for Tom Grindey
 - Cllr Hurst for David Mason
 - Cllr Capasso for Elaine Stott
 - Cllr Hurst and Clerk for James Lowther
- 8. To consider annual subscriptions: Approved -** CALC - £328.45
- 9. Verification of deeds, investments, leases etc in the custody of the Parish Council.** Namely:
 - Three areas of Milnthorpe Green adjoining Main Street (Title – CU96091)
 - The Square, Green, Police Square, verges on Main Street and Beetham Road (Titles CU235662 & CU238216)
 - Lease of Recreation Ground (Title CU96624)
 - Possessory title and lease of land at Ackenthwaite (Pony Field) (Title CU30054)**Verified via letter from Milne Moser, which is held on file, along with the signed Grazing Lease for the land at Ackenthwaite**

This concluded the Annual Meeting agenda and the normal monthly meeting of the Parish Council then followed at approximately 7:20pm.

10. Apologies for Absence – Cllr Jen Scrogam (Cllr Lachmann joined the meeting at this point)

11. Minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2020 - had been circulated by email and were **APPROVED**,

12. Announcements by the Chair - None

13. Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda – None.

14. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 20th April 2020.

14.1 Milnthorpe public toilets (5.1) – On 24th April we received £616.97 from Water Plus. This was a refund of overpayments made during the period December 2019 to April 2020. The water leak in June/July 2019 was found to be linked to water heater. Healthmatic have now returned to work following a period of being locked down. The service is on a reduced basis, but the Clerk will follow up the claim for suitable compensation for MPC's excessive water costs in that period.

14.2 CCTV coverage for Milnthorpe (5.2) – Ongoing. Location survey to be arranged. Clerk to chase with previous Clerk

14.3 Planter for The Square (5.3) – Agreement received, signed and returned. Fully completed agreement now received and planter can be put in place

14.4 MPC's smiley SIDs relocation (5.4) – no further progress. The Police advised that the sign could be moved no more than 40 yards and would have minimal benefit. This item is to be removed from agenda

14.5 Market Square Improvement Plan (5.6) – 35% complete, some items on hold. Clerk to discuss with Chair and propose a priority order for completion during current situation.

14.6 Milnthorpe Local Plan Review (5.9) – Date for feedback has been extended to 17th July. County Council needs to ensure that it has 5 years' worth of land supply, so important that if a site is removed, it is replaced with another potential site

14.7 Clerk's retirement (recognition) (5.8) – All sorted.

14.8 Pony Field Update (7.1) – Let to Ernie and Rachel Thompson on a 1-year Grazing Licence. The tenant is keen to obtain a longer-term lease, and this will be reviewed in 12 months. Cllr Adair pointed out that considerable work has already been carried out by the tenant and the field looks better than it has looked for many years.

14.9 Market (10) – Currently only 2 attendees. Neither are being charged rent at this time, there were no objections to this

15. Public Participation:

15.1 Police Report – no report being produced currently.

15.2/3 County & District Councils – 1) Regular CCC Corvid-19 updates still being issued and passed to parish councils (and thence to parish council members). 2) Plan to replace traffic lights with latest technology. This will take place in the 1st or 2nd week in June. Questions were raised about 'phasing' of the lights. Ideas should be passed to Cllr McSweeney who pointed out that the phasing should suit the Parish requirements, and there was an open mind to suggested ideas

15.4 Electors – none.

16. New Matters for Consideration:

None presented

17. Planning matters:

17.1 – None applicable to this meeting

17.2 – A question was asked when Cumbria Council Planning would be meeting to determine the planning request at Sandside Quarry. This was not known, and Cllr McSweeney suggested the decision may well be taken by officers using delegated powers

18. Financial Matters

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

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		Reserve Funds	
				£	£	£	
01/04/20	Opening balances					20,316.72	22,034.19
30/04/20	Receipts:	Market	Rents collected April	-			
		SLDC	Precept 20/21 – 1 st instalment	13,999.87			
		SLDC	Parish grant 20/21	2,115.27			
		SLDC	Toilets Grant 2020/21	7,500.00			
						23,615.14	
	Payments:						
	887	DD	UKFuels	Equip fuel	1.50		
				VAT	.30		
						1.80	
	888	DD	Eon	Market elec P3	7.28		
				VAT	.36		
						7.64	
	889	138	SLDC	Litter bin service 20/21	390.00		
				VAT	78.00		
						468.00	
	890	139	Healthmatic	Toilets mtce	500.00		
				VAT	100.00		
						600.00	
	891	140	CALC	Subscription 2020/21		328.45	
	892	141	Npower	Toilets elec	44.96		
				VAT	2.25		
						47.21	
	893	142-148	Payroll	April 2020	2,477.91		
			Total payments in month			-3,931.01	
30/04/20	Closing balances					40,000.85	22,034.19
30/04/20	Total funds all accounts					£62,035.04	

Resolved – that the above payments be approved.

18.2 Any other financial matters – 1) MPC annual accounts 2019/20 – circulated by email - APPROVED. 2) AGAR forms signed by Chair and Clerk

19. Market – No rent for April

Market Supervisor's report – 'Not a lot to report. Market at present free to traders

At present we only have two traders, one selling fish and the other fruit and veg. I visit them twice every Friday'

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

21. Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Adair – Pointed out that a hedge at Crosbie House was significantly overgrown. It was an eyesore and difficult to pass. D Cllr Audland said that he would have a word

Cllr Capasso – Stated that fixings were needed for the plaques and would contact Ted at Leander Architectural.

Cllr Bingham – Wished to point out that Milnthorpe had come together brilliantly as a community during the current. He expressed his disappointment that we were not able to celebrate VE Day

Cllr Baverstock – Pointed out that despite missing out on VE Day celebrations, consideration could be given to doing something for VJ Day (15th August). He mentioned that there was an outbreak of rapeseed seedings on The Strands and the Playing Field near The Strands. The Clerk will inform Dallam Estate as

they have responsibility for The Strands. Cllr Hurst said that he would contact Atkinsons, who have a spraying Licence, to see if they could help with the Playing Fields

Cllr Hill – Pointed out that the Bowling Green was open for practice (on your own or with members of your household)

Cllr Hurst – a) Had been asked by an elector if we would consider moving a bench outside his house as it was being used as a smoking area by staff from the Spar and cigarette ends were being dropped in his garden. After a good discussion, including it being pointed out that the bench had been there since c 1985, it was agreed that the bench should remain in its current location. However, Cllr Lachmann said that she would speak to the manager of the Spar. She suggested that he would take it well and talk to the staff. b) stated that the cross is shortly to be cleaned. c) stated that an elector had pointed out that a footpath off Paradise Lane was badly sign posted, this was not considered to be the case. This led to Cllr Bingham mentioning that it had been brought to his attention that some public paths were blocked with barbed wire (due to the current situation), but, as a public footpath they should be open. These reports were uncorroborated and will be investigated. It was suggested that a survey of local footpaths is carried out

AS PART OF THE MEETING THE MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL ASKED FOR IT TO BE NOTED THAT THEY WISH TO SAY A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL FRONTLINE WORKERS AND ALL VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE BEEN FANTASTIC DURING THE CURRENT CORONAVIRUS SITUATION

22. General correspondence – none.

23. Reading Matter – none.

24. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting, and additional to those referred to above – a) Footpaths, b) Rape Seed seedlings c) Review/Change to Standing Orders re Past Chair

16. Date of next scheduled meeting – confirmed as Monday 8th June. This is likely to be using virtual technology

Paul Blackburn

Parish Clerk
12th May 2020

The next meeting will, again, be a remote, virtual meeting. If members of the General Public wish to attend, please can they contact the Clerk, milnthorpeparishclerk@gmail.co.uk for details on how to join the meeting