

# MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the normal monthly meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 10th August 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. The meeting was open to members of the public**

**Present:** Cllrs Steven Hurst (Chair), Barbara Adair, Roger Bingham, Peter Capasso, Peter Hill, Jim Robson, C Cllr Pete McSweeney (part), D Cllr Rupert Audland and Mr Paul Blackburn (Clerk). No members of the public were in attendance. There were 6 Parish Councillors in attendance and so the meeting was quorate

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Jen Scrogam (Vice Chair), Cllr Clare Lachmann, Cllr Alan Baverstock, C Cllr McSweeney had to leave part way through the meeting to attend another Parish Council meeting. District Cllr Helen Chaffey
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020** - had been circulated by email and were **APPROVED**. The Clerk will obtain the signature of the Chair
3. **Announcements by the Chair** – None
4. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** – None
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020.**
  - 5.1 **CCTV coverage for Milnthorpe (5.2)** – Quotation has been received and circulated to all members. The proposal to go ahead with siting a CCTV camera in The Square was proposed by Cllr Bingham and seconded by Cllr Hurst. After discussion, a vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to proceed. The Clerk is to move things forward
  - 5.2 **Market Square Improvement Plan (5.3)**
    - A meeting has taken place re improving the lighting and costings are still awaited.
    - The Jubilee seat has incurred extra costs to ensure that the seat is level, these had been agreed. The seat is ready to be installed and will be in place before the end of August
    - Christmas Tree Holders – The owner of the holders has been asked to remove the existing holders. The request was made verbally and in writing. The new holders are been sourced elsewhere at no cost
  - 5.3 **Milnthorpe Local Plan Review (5.4)** – The Planning Committee has met and Cllr Hurst provided an update
    - Cllr Baverstock has circulated details of land that had been identified during the previous review in 2011. These are to be discussed at the next meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> August
    - Consideration is to be given to the style of buildings that would suit the future of Milnthorpe
    - A Government White Paper has been issued (6<sup>th</sup> August) which has been circulated. This outlines the proposal of a number of major changes to the planning process and it was suggested that the Parish Council should be aware of the potential impact and requirements
  - 5.4 **Footpaths (5.5)** – Cllr Robson has been in contact with Dallam Tower Estate Manager and a number of things have been discussed for further consideration by the landowners.
    - The Estate has no objection to the Parish Council cutting back hedges to make roadside fingerposts more visible. A date is to be arranged
    - The Estate waymarks the footpaths that are on Estate land
    - The Estate is not responsible for the upkeep of the Laking Steps
    - It is the responsibility of the County Council to provide fingerposts
    - The footpath to the West Coast Main Line footbridge should be made more visible and more defined and could continue to follow either its existing route or a proposed improved route.
  - 5.5 **Update on removal of hedge trimmings from the Cross Keys hedge (12)** – A formal letter has been sent to the Cross Keys expressing the Council concerns and asking that the trimmings be removed. Should the trimmings remain a formal letter will be sent to the brewery, who own the property

- 5.6 Toilets update (9.3)** – The Clerk had investigated the options for the provision of the public toilets and provided details of his findings. It was agreed that the contract with Healthmatic was renewed for a further 12 months. During that period, the Council will take note of how a neighbouring Parish Council finds their new provider and how they find the recently installed, contactless payment system. A full review will take place in early 2021 and tenders requested.
- It was pointed out that the water charge for the Sue's mobile food business had remained unchanged for many years and was considered too low for the water usage. The Clerk is to investigate the amount of water being used and the option of adding a meter to the water outlet

**5.7 Mobile Pizza Update (13)** – All licences are satisfactory. A 6 week trial period agreed. First date is to be agreed

## **6. Public Participation**

### **6.1 County Council** – C Cllr McSweeney made a number of points

- The parking sign in the window of the Vets has been there for a number of years. The validity is being checked and is currently with the County Council
- Cllr Hill volunteered to represent the Parish Council at a Police Commissioner meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> September
- The roadworks on Park Road are coming to a close. Whilst there has been some inconvenience, it is good to see funds being used to improve the village. The timing of the traffic lights is currently not ideal, but this will be addressed when the work is completed
- The A590 from the M6 to Brettagh Holt is to be resurfaced. This will take place between September and December 2020. All households in adjacent Parishes will receive a letter outlining the work and likely impact

**6.2 District Council** – D Cllr Audland mentioned that there had been an increase in the number of break-ins and suggested that residents are asked to be extra vigilant

**6.3 Electors** – No matters raised.

## **7. New Matters for Consideration:**

**7.1 LQF Suggestions:** A number of suggestions were made and it was agreed that 2 low cost projects should be proposed

- Replacement of the bench on Grisleymires Lane
- Installation of handrail on the Laking Steps

Cllr Hurst is to obtain quotations and the Clerk will submit the request to the LQF

**7.2 Consideration to amending speed limit on B6385** – There is concern that some vehicles using the road from Main Line are driving too fast for the road conditions. The limit is set at the National Speed Limit, but road conditions (tight corners, heavy use by pedestrians, physical condition of the road) suggest that a lower speed could be more applicable. District Cllr Audland pointed out that changing speed limits can take 'years' and that warning lights would be a better, short term, alternative. He is to investigate the options

**7.3 Benches – new repairs** – covered in previous points (Item 7.1)

## **8. Planning Matters:**

### **8.1 New Planning applications and SLDC decisions received:**

#### **New Applications**

SL/2020/0444, St Anthony's Close, Highbrook Homes, Variation to Conditions, Deadline of 11<sup>th</sup> August, No objections

SL/2020/0438, 5 Rigney Bank, Mr Dixon, New sunroom, Deadline of 13<sup>th</sup> August, No objections

SL/2020/0437, 50 Church Street, C Madge, Extension, Deadline 12<sup>th</sup> August, No objections

#### **Decisions**

SL/20200085, 15 Summerville Road, S Hurst, Extension, Approved with conditions

SL/2020/0054, 28 Church Street, S Thwaites, Removal of branches (TPO), granted with conditions

**8.2 Any Related Matters** – None

## 9. Financial Matters

### 9.1 Report on bank receipts, payments and closing balances

#### Receipts – July

Market Trader Rent - £371  
VAT Refund (2019/20) - £8,353.28  
Total - £8,724.28

#### Payments – July

Market Electricity, E.ON, £8.17 (VAT 0.39)  
Toilet Maintenance, Healthmatic, £600.00 (VAT £100)  
Fuel, UK Fuels Ltd, £15.77 (VAT £2.63)  
Zoom Subscription, CALC, £94.08 (VAT £15.68)  
Clerk Finance Programme, Scribe, £339.60 (VAT £56.60)  
Web Hosting Fee, A2A, £78.00 (VAT £13.00)  
CCTV Survey Fee, Telemachus, £907.84 (VAT £151.31)  
Play Area Inspection Annual Fee, SLDC, £433.50 (VAT £72.25)  
Payroll, Staff, Pension and HRC, £1,598.33  
Milnthorpe Planters Maintenance, Kath Craig, £400  
Toilet Electricity, Npower, £17.15 (VAT £0.82)  
Total - £4,492.44 (VAT £412.68)

#### Bank Balances at Month end

Current Account - £37,176.09  
Deposit Account - £22,044.19

All payments were **APPROVED**

## 10. Market

### 10.1 Market Supervisor report – Report provided, highlights being

- 6 regular stalls (plus 2 on Farmer's market)
- A number of enquiries for new traders have been received. A new trader starts on the 14<sup>th</sup> August
- Most traders now pay rent by bank transfer

## 11. To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies – None

## 12. To consider matters from around the Parish

**Cllr Bingham** – Asked that a letter is written to the Environmental Agency about the maintenance of the flood defences close to Marsh Road. Cllr Bingham is to provide details to the Clerk for production of the letter

**Cllr Robson** – Mentioned that there would be a small celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VJ Day on the Green. It will be a short event with 2 minutes silence, the reading of a poem and 75 single tolls of the Church bell

**Several Cllrs** – Mentioned that dog fouling on the playing field is still an issue. The signs, held by Cllr Baverstock, are to be put up in appropriate places

## 13. General Correspondence – None received

## 14. Reading Matter – Continues to be sent via email on a regular basis. It is generally updates from District and County Councils on the Coronavirus situation. Most updates are now received weekly as opposed to daily

## 15. To receive notice of items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting – None

**16. Date of next scheduled meeting** – confirmed as Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. This will be via virtual technology. As always members of the public are welcome to attend, please contact the Parish Clerk for joining details

*Paul Blackburn*

**Parish Clerk**  
**14<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

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