

# MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the normal monthly meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 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), Jen Scrogam (Vice Chair), Barbara Adair, Alan Baverstock, Roger Bingham, Peter Capasso, Peter Hill, Clare Lachmann, Jim Robson, C Cllr Pete McSweeney (part), D Cllr Rupert Audland and Mr Paul Blackburn (Clerk). No members of the public were in attendance.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – C Cllr McSweeney had to leave part way through the meeting to attend another Parish Council meeting.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 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** – Cllr Hurst declared an interest in item 7.3 – Memorial Hall
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**
  - 5.1 **CCTV coverage for Milnthorpe (including lights) (5.1)**
    - Details of current lights provided by CCC Lighting team. A Purchase order will be sent to both Tellemachus (CCTV) and Cumbria CC (Lights) to instruct commencement of the projects
    - Two potential grants have been identified (Baywind Energy Community Trust) and Electricity North West. Both are linked to energy efficient projects. The Clerk will submit requests
    - As an aside it was mentioned that the gas lamp on Mill Lane is in need of repairing/electrifying. It was agreed that this will be looked at when the lighting project is complete so that any repairs can be 'in line' with the style of the new lighting
  - 5.2 **Footpaths (5.2)**
    - After discussions with the landowner, it was decided which kissing gate should be requested and installed. The Clerk is to request the gate from C Cllr McSweeney
  - 5.3 **LQF Grant (5.3)**
    - Both grant requests have been approved. £500 for the new bench on Grisleymires Lane and £1,000 for the Laking Steps. Quotes to be obtained for both. Thanks are given to the Leasgill Quarry Fund for their generosity
  - 5.4 **Speed Limit on B6384/B6385 (5.4)**
    - This is an item agenda on the Crash Team meeting. It was pointed out that the team has not met since January so the agenda will be very full
  - 5.5 **Vehicles using the square during the Friday Market (7.1)**
    - A copy of the Traffic Order is to be delivered to all businesses on The Square. It was suggested that a signature is obtained to confirm receipt.
    - Cllr Hurst is to obtain a quote for creating a footpath around the barriers
  - 5.6 **Missing Bin on Beetham Road (7.2)**
    - Replacement bin not yet obtained as there are currently none available. This is to be removed from the agenda, but will continue to be monitored by the Clerk and D Cllr Audland
  - 5.7 **The Remembrance Service (12)**
    - New Government guidelines to be followed with a small service taking place.
    - Council involvement will be Cllr Hurst, Cllr Bingham and Cllr Capasso.
    - An updated risk assessment has been produced and forwarded to the Church
    - The event commences at 2:20pm at the cross on The Square
    - All attendees are reminded to adhere to guidelines

### **5.8 Marsh Sluice Gates (12)**

- No feedback received from the EA, though none expected for a further 4 weeks.
- The local working party meeting has taken place with feedback awaited

### **5.9 Disabled Parking Spaces (12)**

- It was decided that consideration should be given to providing a disabled space next to the road. It is necessary to ensure that the space meet the required guidelines. Cllrs Hurst and Robson will investigate the best way to accommodate the proposed space

## **6. Public Participation**

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

- Cllr Hurst and the Clerk have been invited to take part in a working party meeting to explore the needs and aspirations of the village. A number of other key people have been invited. This will take place on November 20<sup>th</sup> 2020. Feedback to be provided at the next meeting

- The potential local government restructure was discussed (see item 7)
- A full discussion took place around the issues of the traffic light sequencing at the crossroads.

There is much concern within the village. It was pointed out that there are 3 points which create the problem:

- i) The sequencing is not as it was prior to the work being carried out
- ii) There are numerous examples of poor driver technique
- iii) The roadworks on the A590 is creating much higher traffic flow than normal

C Cllr McSweeney is to arrange for Highways representatives to visit the village and observe the problems. Two times were suggested (15:30 to 17:30 and Friday morning when the market is taking place)

### **6.2 District Council**

- D Cllr Audland confirmed that 2 green bins per household will now be collected

### **6.3 Electors**

- Cllr Hurst proposed that the Council agrees to allow a plaque to be placed on the wall of the Pony Field to commemorate Folly, the pony who had been resident for many years. This was APPROVED by all

- Cllr Bingham proposed that the Council agrees to a request from the KEY Project to carry out activities on the Green, subject to government guidelines being followed. This was APPROVED by all

- Following communication from a resident business, who at the request of the Memorial Hall are currently holding the Memorial Hall bell, a discussion took place about potential repairs to the bell. The Clerk pointed out that the Parish Council are custodian/holding trustees of the Memorial Hall and has NO power to interfere or take any part in the management of the property which is under the control of the Hall Management Committee. Cllr Scrogam is to mention to the Memorial Hall Committee

- Milnthorpe Food Bank asked that residents are reminded that help is available to those in need. Contact is via 07582166564 (Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm)

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

- A discussion took place about the proposals to change the current Local Government structure. There are 2 proposals that are currently tabled: The Cumbria Bid and the Morecambe Bay bid. Whilst it was accepted that the current system of multiple layers of Councils, within Cumbria, creates confusion, the Council Members would like more information about the proposals, before considering a preferred route. C Cllr McSweeney will provide the details of each bid.

## **8. Planning Matters:**

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

#### **New Applications**

SL/2020/0589, 6 Beetham Road, Removal of Fire Escapes – No Objections

#### **Decisions**

SL/2020/0438, 5 Rigney Bank, Sunroom to front of property, Granted with Conditions

### **8.2 Any Related Matters - None**

## 9. Financial Matters

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

#### Receipts – October

Market Trader Rent - £202.05

Total - £202.05

#### Payments – October

Market Electricity, E.ON, £8.42 (VAT £0.40)

Toilet Maintenance, Healthmatic, £600.00 (VAT £100.00)

Fuel, UK Fuels Ltd, £64.62 (VAT £11.53)

Payroll, Staff, Pension and HRMC, £1,625.85

Toilet Electricity, Npower, £17.90, (VAT £0.85)

Market Rates, SLDC, £118.60

External Audit, Littlejohn, £360.00 (VAT £60.00)

Jubilee Seat, Black Sheep, £3,060 (VAT £510.00)

Total - £5,866.92 (VAT £682.78)

#### Bank Balances at Month end

Current Account - £48,842.10

Deposit Account - £22,045.04

All payments were **APPROVED**

### 9.2 Any Related Matters

- A number of suggestions were received from residents and all were discussed. It was concluded that those that could be progressed, could be done so with minimal impact on next year's budget. The Members were very keen that any increase in the budget had a minimal impact on the required share of the Council Tax

- A question was raised about whether we held too much cash in our accounts. It was pointed out that the second precept instalment had just been received and that over £20,000 was earmarked for the CCTV and Lighting project. After the normal expenditure of the second half of the year, there would be an acceptable figure, retained as reserves. This would equate to circa 9 months of the annual budget

- Receipts show a CIL figure of £588.39. This was the Parish share (15%) of the levy received by SLDC. These funds must be spent in a prescribed manner

## 10. Market Report

- Unfortunately, due to the atrocious weather forecast the car boot was cancelled. A new date will be arranged.

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

## 12. To consider matters from around the Parish

### **Cllr Baverstock**

i) He currently holds 2 steel bollards; these are to be collected by Cllr Hurst

ii) Asked for an update on Christmas; 39 trees have been purchased and the switch on will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> November

iii) Mentioned that the flowerbed opposite Booths needs attention

**Cllr Hill** mentioned that he will canvass residents of Ryleyfield re the options on the green area

**Cllr Lachman** mentioned that bushes next to the playing fields are overgrown and need to be trimmed. The Clerk was asked to remind SLDC of their responsibility for this and clearing up the autumn leaves

**Cllr Hurst** mentioned that the soldiers had been put in place

**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. The Clerk will continue to send out appropriate matters that are received

**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 7<sup>th</sup> December. 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**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> November 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