

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the normal monthly meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 6th September 2021 at 7pm. The meeting was open to members of the public. The meeting was held at the Church Hall on Haverflatts Lane, Milnthorpe

Present: Cllrs Steven Hurst (Chair), Cllr Jen Scrogam (Vice Chair), Cllr Clare Lachmann, Barbara Adair, Roger Bingham, Peter Capasso, Jim Robson, Peter Hill, Julie Malinga and Mr Paul Blackburn (Clerk). D Cllr Audland, C Cllr Pete McSweeney and Hayley Newman (PCSO)

1. Apologies for Absence – None

2. Announcements by the Chair

It is with great sadness that the death of Christine Stephenson was announced (5th of January 2021). Christine attended many meetings as a member of the public and her excellent contribution was always welcomed

It was proposed that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the 5th of July be accepted. These had been circulated, were **APPROVED** and were signed by the Chair

3. Declaration of Interest by Members on items on the agenda

None declared

4. Public Participation

4.1 County Council – C Cllr McSweeney

- Raised a point about the disappointing service received from the waste collection department of SLDC. It was not only Milnthorpe that had been affected, but all Parishes
- Local Government Reorganisation – There is currently a discussion about the number of new Councillors that will be in each area of the proposed restructure. Some existing County Council members were proposing 2, some were proposing 1 (which would be close to a full time, voluntary position!). The decision will be made by the Secretary of State
- A discussion took place around the grass cutting at the entrance to Kirkgate, whereby the work was not being carried out to the satisfaction of the residents, potentially causing a traffic hazard. Furthermore, the timing of the work was not appropriate to the required work. It was suggested that the residents just got on with it and carried out work to their own satisfaction (even though it is CCC land). The Parish Council agreed that it would look at adding the task to its own workload which would require an additional budget item for the next financial year

4.2 District Council - D Cllr Audland

- It was mentioned that SLDC has some funding available and suggested that the Parish Council identify projects that would benefit the village

4.3 Introduction of new PCSO – Hayley Newman

- Hayley is an experienced PCSO with over 5 years in the role. She is new to Milnthorpe and has already identified a number of problem areas. She covers a very large number of Parishes and cannot be as visible as she would like, however, she is very keen to work with local groups to reduce the problems within some areas of the village
- She is very aware that the village youngsters like to get together and socialise. What she would like to see is that there is no evidence of where they have been, with all litter disposed of appropriately
- Further details relating to Milnthorpe can be found on the Cumbria Police site at <https://www.cumbria.police.uk/Your-Area/South/South-Lakeland/South-Lakeland-East/South-Lakeland-East.aspx>

4.4 Electors – None present

5. Matters arising from the minutes of the informal meeting of July 2021.

5.1 CCTV coverage for Milnthorpe (including lights) (4.1)

There had been an issue with the camera connecting points and the camera was removed to be checked. The correct fixings have now been put in place and the camera will be refitted w/c 13th of September 2021

When the camera is up and running, the brightness of the new lights will be revisited. Consideration will be given to providing shields on the ones closest to the houses and reduced brightness on the lights on the toilet block. The Council stated that it has no concerns about taking these measures, but a decision cannot be made until any impact on the CCTV is known.

5.2 Laking Steps (4.3)

All complete with excellent feedback. The work has been funded by a grant from the Leasgill Quarry Fund for which the Parish Council is very grateful

5.3 Village Plaques (4.4)

One needs some repair work – The Old Bridge, Cllr Capasso is going to have a go a cleaning it

6. New matters for consideration

6.1 Jubilee 2022

Cllr Bingham is to write a (different) book to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee of 2022. It is to reflect the reign of Queen Elizabeth II and will focus on the changes that have taken place within the village and will include things that have disappeared from the village

6.2 Leasgill Quarry Fund Grant Request 2021/22

- After discussion it was decided that the Parish Council should apply for a grant to help fund new entrance signs for the village. A discussion around costs took place and it was felt that with the help of C Cllr Pete McSweeney the project was affordable, though it may be done on a piecemeal basis
- **A full costing will be obtained to determine the best way to deliver the project**
- It was also agreed that consideration should also be given to linking the project to the Queen's Jubilee of 2022. A permanent recognition of the Jubilee was considered desirable

6.3 Car Boot Sale

Now that there are less restrictions consideration was given to holding a car boot sale as part of the Friday market, but it was decided that it was too late in the summer. It will be revisited in the Spring of 2022

6.4 Deloitte Ride Reminder

Council was reminded that the Deloitte Bike ride would be having a pit stop on The Green on Wednesday the 8th of September

6.5 Removal of the current Scheme of Delegation

- As the Council is now able to make decision via a legal platform the existing (temporary) scheme will not be renewed.
- The scheme had recently proved valuable when a speedy decision was required, which could not be made using the permanent Standing Orders. It was agreed that the Clerk should review the Standing Orders to include a contingency plan to cater for the rare situation where a decision is required before the next meeting. Any proposed changes to the Standing Orders will be discussed at a future meeting and an appropriate decision made

7. Planning Matters:

7.1 New Planning applications and SLDC decisions received

None

7.2 Any Related Matters

None

8. Financial Matters

8.1 Report on bank receipts, payments and closing balances

Receipts – July and August

Market Trader Rent - £1,680.60

Total - £1,680.60

Payments – July

Market Electricity Pillar 3, E.ON, £7.91 (£0.38)

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

Toilet water, Waterplus, £37.13

Fuel, UK Fuels Ltd, £24.14 (£2.84)

Payroll, Staff, Pension and HRMC, £1,677.92

Lighting, CCC, £9,338.45

Market Rates, SLDC, £70.00

Toilet Electricity, Npower, £20.73 (£0.99)

Toilet Electricity, Npower, £21.23 (£1.01)

Toilet Electricity, Npower, £18.33 (£0.87)

Planter Maintenance, K Craig, £400.00

Web Hosting Fee, A2A, £78.00 (£13.00)

Payments - August

Market Electricity Pillar 3, E.ON, £7.91 (£0.38)

Toilet Maintenance, Healthmatic, £650.00 (VAT £108.33)

Toilet water, Waterplus, £37.80

Fuel, UK Fuels Ltd, £16.04 (£0.90)

Payroll, Staff, Pension and HRMC, £1,660.12

Market Rates, SLDC, £70.00

Toilet Electricity, Npower, £57.51 (£2.74)

Market Electricity Pillar 1, E.ON, £45.26 (£2.16)

Market Electricity Pillar 2, E.ON, £25.52 (£1.22)

Play Area Inspection, Playsafety, £132.60 (£22.10)

Total - £14,996.58 (£256.92)

Bank Balances at Month end

Current Account - £29,850.40

Deposit Account - £22,046.69

Total - £51,897.09

All payments were **APPROVED**

9. Market Report

- Rent received - £1,680.60
- A new trader selling wax and bath products is testing the market
- Nat West payment received
- Car Boot to be considered (see 6.3)

10. To consider matters from around the Parish

Cllr Capasso mentioned that a visitor to Milnthorpe had complained that he had to pay for a parking disc despite a sign stating that it was 'Free Parking'. The parking is free, the disc, which can be used in many car parks in Cumbria, is not. The charge for the disc is used to pay for the printing of the discs and avoids having to pass the cost to the village residents. Despite this it was agreed that the word 'Free' be removed from the sign. **Cllr Capasso will arrange for this to be done**

Cllr Capasso also asked when the disabled sign will be put in the new disabled parking space. The brackets received with the sign were the wrong size, **correct ones will be obtained**

Cllr Capasso also mentioned issues with the tennis courts on the Recreation Ground. It was agreed that all key holders would be reminded of their responsibilities, but initially **a list of keyholders will be compiled**

Cllr Lachmann mentioned that there was a potential hazard with live electricity wires. Whilst the hazard had been put under control, it was felt appropriate that the owner/bill payer should resolve the problem. **Cllr Hurst is to take forward**

Cllr Scrogam mentioned that the toilets closed at 7pm, which residents felt was too early during the summer months. **The service provider is to be asked to change the opening time to be more appropriate. 7am to dusk will be requested**

Cllr Robson stated that a number of residents had asked why the minutes were not put on the notice board. This has not happened because of COVID and the fact that there has not been a formal meeting since April 2021. **However, this can now recommence and minutes will be placed on the notice board as well as the website**

Cllr Hurst mentioned that Sheila Ashburner has stepped down from her voluntary role with the British Legion after 50 years of sterling service. She wished to continue arranging the parade/bugler etc and the Council was keen for that to happen. The Council was also keen to continue to make a donation to the British Legion. Cllr Hurst stated that the previous years wreaths were to be recycled and used in the Remembrance Parade of 2021.

Cllr Hurst also mentioned that dog fouling on the Green continues to be a problem and that residents should take responsibility for ensuring that it does not happen

11. To receive notice of items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting

- Consideration to be given to employing a Lengthsman.

12. Date of next scheduled meeting –Monday 4th October 2021 at 7pm. The meeting will take place at the Church Hall on Haverflatts Lane

Paul Blackburn

Parish Clerk

7th September 2021

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