

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the normal monthly meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 1st February 2021 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, Jim Robson, Peter Hill, and Mr Paul Blackburn (Clerk). C Cllr Pete McSweeney and D Cllr Rupert Audland were also in attendance. No members of the public were in attendance.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – None.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2021** - 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 4th January 2020.**
 - 5.1 **CCTV coverage for Milnthorpe (including lights) (5.1)**
No update other than details submitted for potential grant from Electricity North West
 - 5.2 **Footpaths (5.2)**
Gate to be delivered shortly, C Cllr McSweeney to chase
 - 5.3 **Speed Limit on B6384/B6385 (5.3)**
Pandora Signs had checked the speed panel and made recommendation for improvement. It was proposed by Cllr Hurst that the solar panel is replaced with a more powerful panel (power storage increase from 32kw to 46kw) at a cost of £475 + VAT. This was **APPROVED** and the Clerk will action
It is hoped that the Crash Team will include the traffic issue in their March meeting
 - 5.4 **Vehicles using the square during the Friday Market (5.4)**
Cllr Hurst said that work will commence on the new footpath this week (w/c 1st February), weather permitting
 - 5.5 **Marsh Sluice Gates (5.5)**
Email received; EA have installed devices to check the level of seepage. They will monitor this over a 3 month period.
 - 5.6 **Disabled Parking Spaces (5.6)**
A disabled sign has been ordered and work is to commence on marking the new disabled bay
6. **Public Participation**
 - 6.1 **County Council** - Cllr McSweeney
 - 10 year census will be on March 21st
 - Milnthorpe Matters has held its 2nd meeting with a good representation from the Parish Council. An initial task the group is to identify what the village residents would like to see happen in the village. There is potential funding available. A survey will be delivered to all residents during February. Councillors were asked to encourage residents to return them

C Cllr McSweeney left at this stage to attend another Council meeting
 - 6.2 **District Council** - D Cllr Audland
 - Nothing to report, but it was believed that the missing bin on Beetham Road had been replaced. Cllr Scrogam will check
 - 6.3 **Electors**
 - None
7. **New Matters for Consideration**
 - 7.1 **Bus Shelter on Main Street** – Loose slates reported by member of public. These were removed and Atkinsons have been asked to look at
 - 7.2 **Listed Structures in Milnthorpe** – Cllr Baverstock had produced a definitive list of listed structures. Cllr Bingham will create a list of 'Buildings of Importance'

7.3 Faster Internet Connection for village – It was agreed that B4RN should be asked to register the village interest in obtaining alternatives for internet availability. This will enable potential grants to be obtained from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. Residents of the village will also be asked to register interest on the B4RN website. Initially a short survey will be put on social media to ascertain if there is real interest

8. Planning Matters:

8.1 New Planning applications and SLDC decisions received

None to be discussed at the meeting, though there had been an application from the Spar to permanently open on a 24 hour basis. The Council had objected for a number of reasons, predominately on the basis of lighting disturbing local residents through the night (SL/2020/0972)

8.2 Any Related Matters - None

9. Financial Matters

9.1 Report on bank receipts, payments and closing balances

Receipts – December

Market Trader Rent - £366.50

ENW Wayleave - £22.83

Total - £389.33

Payments – November

Market Electricity, E.ON, £24.40 (VAT £1.16)

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

Toilet water, Waterplus, £36.88

Fuel, UK Fuels Ltd, £1.80 (VAT £0.30)

Payroll, Staff, Pension and HRMC, £1,171.18

Toilet Electricity, Npower, £23.08 (VAT £1.10)

Market Rates, SLDC, £116.00

Total - £1,973.34 (VAT £102.56)

Bank Balances at Month end

Current Account - £43,092.70

Deposit Account - £22,045.59

All payments were **APPROVED**

Any Related Matters

- The Clerk stated that a Pension re-enrolment date, for eligible staff, had been selected to be the same as 2018, 27th March. There were no objections. The Clerk will carry out the necessary paperwork to satisfy the Pension Regulator

10. Market Report

- Rent Received of £336.50 in December with £124.00 unpaid
- A number of traders are unable to attend as they are not considered 'essential'

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

12. To consider matters from around the Parish

- A member of public had requested that the Council consider a 'Tree of Hope'. The Clerk is to provide feedback to the member of public
- The Football Club has requested backing from the Council (as the leaseholder on the recreation ground) on an application for a grant for repairs/improvements to the football ground. Generally, this would be welcomed, but the Council would not wish to take any financial risk. It was considered that the installation of a fence around the parking area needed further discussion as there were a number of concerns, especially around the facility for emergency vehicles and refuse vehicles to turn round

- The Cricket Club wish to redecorate the clubhouse. As part of the license, the club must obtain Council confirmation that the colours are acceptable. The Council were happy with this and will formally endorse at the next meeting
- Cllr Capasso will chase the repair of the lights on the path to the Recreation Ground. One light had been replaced, but the other remains inactive
- Cllr Adair mentioned that Main Street had dropped (again) on the brow of the hill. This has been reported to SLDC. She also mentioned that Paradise Lane is breaking up very badly. Councillors were encouraged to report this via the SLDC website. This was the same advice for the state of the road at the junction of Smithy Lane and Main Street (Ackenthwaite)
- Cllr Baverstock asked that consideration be given to maintaining the plaques around the village. An inventory is to be drawn up which will include the current condition of each plaque

13. General Correspondence – Continue to be sent out via email

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

- Cricket Club redecoration
- The Parish Assembly will take place prior to the March meeting, any agenda items to the Clerk before the 15th of February (Cllr bingham suggested the Queens' Jubilee of 2022)

16. Date of next scheduled meeting – confirmed as Monday 1st March 2021. This will be via virtual technology. The meeting will be preceded by the annual meeting of the Parish Assembly. As always members of the public are welcome to attend, please contact the Parish Clerk for joining details

Paul Blackburn

Parish Clerk
3rd February 2021

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 for details on how to join the meeting

Addendum - 5th January 2021

County Cllr McSweeney report, received post meeting

Local Government Reorganisation.

- 4 bids have been submitted for Cumbria
- The Secretary of State should decide by the end of February if he wants the process to proceed, and if so which of the 4 bids he wants to take to the public consultation stage.
- A decision should be announced before the end of February as to whether or not the county and district council elections scheduled for 6th May will go-ahead. That driver for this decision will be the decision of my previous point.