

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the normal monthly meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 10th January 2022 at 7pm. The meeting was open to members of the public. The meeting was held in the Church Hall on Haverflatts Lane

Present: Cllrs Steven Hurst (Chair), Jen Scrogam, Roger Bingham, Peter Capasso, Peter Hill, Jim Robson, Paul Blackburn (Clerk). D Cllr Audland.

1. Apologies for Absence

- Cllr Barbara Adair,

2. Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th of October 2021

- Minutes for the 1st of November 2021 and 6th December were agreed and accepted. They were signed by the Chair

3. Announcements by the Chair

- None

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

- None declared

5. Public Participation

5.1 County Council – C Cllr McSweeney could not attend but made the following points:

- Concern has been expressed about possible speed on Firs Road. In response to that Cumbria CC Highways monitored the traffic volume and speed in late 2021. The average speed recorded on Firs Road was 18.1mph. The road has a 30mph limit.
- The latest information on Local Government Reorganisation is that all affected councils are working together to achieve the start date of 1st April 2023 for the new Westmorland & Furness Council. Good progress is being made. There is no news about how the judicial review that Cumbria CC raised is progressing
- With regard to Milnthorpe Matters. The main officer who was running the project has gone off on long term sick leave. The council have recruited two new officers to replace Sinead. They are currently being brought up to speed on the project. Hopefully we will have another meeting before the end of the month

5.2 District Council - D Cllr Audland

- Pointed out that the CCTV was having a positive effect and has been used on a number of occasions to identify anti-social behaviour. Unfortunately, this has had the effect of moving the problem to other areas of the village. The Clerk was asked to obtain approximate figures for the cost of 'residential style' CCTV

5.3 Electors

- None present.

6. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 1st November 2021.

6.1 Toilets (6.3)

- This is progressing nicely. A meeting is planned for February to discuss options to reduce dependence on SLDC.

6.2 Queens Jubilee 2022 (7.1)

- Council resolved to place order for new village entrance signs. Cost of each will be c£2,000 including wording and installation. Wording and design agreed with Cllr Capasso to create template. Cllr Hurst to instruct Able Construction Ltd
- Council agreed that potential tree project on Firs Road is not viable. The Clerk is to contact CCC Highways to see if trees could be planted on an area of Church Street
- The book being produced by Cllr Bingham is progressing

7. New matters for consideration

7.1 Support Group for Village Residents

- A good discussion took place and it was felt that there were a number of excellent support groups in the village. It was also considered that Milnthorpe residents are excellent at 'checking on' neighbours in difficult times.
- It was suggested that in difficult times, social media is used to remind/ask residents to check on neighbours especially those considered to be vulnerable

8. Planning Matters:

8.1 New Planning applications and SLDC decisions received

- No decisions required

8.2 Any Related Matters

- None

9. Financial Matters

9.1 Report on bank receipts, payments and closing balances

Receipts – October

Market Trader Rent - £435.10
Interest - £0.55
Total - £435.65

Payments – November

Toilet Maintenance, Healthmatic, £650.00 (VAT - £108.33)
Fuel, UK Fuels Ltd, £1.20 (£0.20)
Payroll, Staff, Pension and HRMC, £2,099.98
Market Rates, SLDC, £70.00
Electricity Pillar 2, Eon, £39.62 (£1.89)
Toilet Water (2 months), Waterplus, £68.08
Machinery Servicing, Dennis Barnfield, £802.99 (£133.83)

Total - £3,731.87 (£244.25)

Bank Balances at Month end

Current Account - £32,393.32
Deposit Account - £22,047.79
Total - £54,441.11

All payments were **APPROVED** and balances reconciled

9.2 Budget 2022/23 and Precept request

- The Budget for 2022/23 was agreed and Council **RESOLVED** to request a Precept of £31,298.95

9.3 Any other matters

- The Clerk informed the Members that HSBC are now charging £5 per month for administration of the Council bank accounts. The Clerk has done some research and is happy that this is competitive and is acceptable.

10. Market Report

- Rent received - £435.10
- The Market Traders meeting is to be held prior to the February meeting of the Council

11. To consider matters from around the Parish

Cllr Adair was absent from the meeting (apologies provided) but provided some topics for this item:

The light at the playing field had not been repaired and another is now broken – Council were informed that the cost of each light that had previously been borne by a resident was a significant amount. Council said that the resident should invoice the Council and he would be reimbursed. However, given that the lights were put in place to help a local business, which is now closed and that the lights seem to get broken very quickly after being replaced, it was agreed that the lights should be removed. Cllr Hurst will arrange this

The SID on Main Street is not working. This has been reported to Pandora and the device will be back up and running within a couple of days

The poppies are past their best and should be removed. Cllr Hurst is to arrange this 'Activity' at the cemetery continues with rubbish being thrown into neighbouring fields

Cllr Robson mentioned that the entrance road to the cemetery continues to flood and on a number of occasions people have been unable to visit the cemetery because the flood could not be passed. A solution would be appreciated

Cllr Hill will attend the next meeting on the 'Bar Watch' on 25th of January 2022

Cllr Capasso mentioned that a bollard on The Square car park is loose and needs to be cemented in. Cllr Hurst will arrange for this to be done

Cllr Hurst gave a big thank you to the Christmas Tree Committee. He said that they had done a fantastic job. This was endorsed by all members

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

- 13. Date of next scheduled meeting** –Monday 7th February 2022. This will commence at the conclusion of the Market Traders meeting which will commence at 7pm. Both meetings will take place at the Church Hall on Haverflatts Lane

The meeting closed at 20:30

Paul Blackburn

Parish Clerk

12th January 2022

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