

# MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the normal monthly meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023. The meeting was held in the Church Hall on Haverflatts Lane and commenced at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Steven Hurst (Chair), Roger Bingham, Peter Capasso, Pete Hill (Vice Chair), Barbara Adair & Jim Robson. Paul Blackburn (Clerk) and D Cllr H Chaffey

## **1. Apologies for Absence**

- Cllrs Mulinga, Lachmann & Allen
- Cllr Audland.
- The meeting was quorate.

## **2. Minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2023**

- These were agreed and signed.

## **3. Announcements by the Chair**

- None

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

- None

## **5. Public Participation**

### **5.1 Westmorland & Furness Council**

#### **Cllr Chaffey**

- The new Council was now in operation and Cllrs Chaffey and Audland had attended a meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023
- Cllr Chaffey is to provide an updated list of contacts (People and Departments). Of particular interest to the PC Members was the reporting mechanism for Highways

### **5.2 Electors**

- 2 members of Corinthians Football Club attended to outline the requirement for the Club to receive a grant from the Football Foundation (agenda item 7. Promotion to a higher league required an upgrade to the toilet facilities. The Football Foundation wanted confirmation that the Parish Council, as landlords to the club, would support the application. The cost of the work is £22,845 with a required grant of £17,133 (75%). Having taken legal advice, the Clerk informed the Members that, as landlords of the Football Club, the Parish Council resolved to provide the required support. The Clerk will send a letter to the Club confirming this support.
- Cllr Capasso mentioned that a resident had complained to him about vehicles parking in front of his house on Ryleyfield. The resident asked if it could become a resident only parking zone. It was pointed out that it is the responsibility of Westmorland & Furness Council and that it would require the majority of the residents to agree to progress such a request. Cllr Chaffey said that she would investigate along with the option to provide free parking on the area behind the old police station.

## **6. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**

### **6.1 Plaque Project (6.1)**

- One plaque for the Green has been ordered. Because it is a bespoke sign payment is required before work is commenced. The Council agreed that payment could be made on the 4<sup>th</sup> April.

## **6.2 Coronation (6.2)**

- The Chair stated that the next meeting of the Coronation Committee is to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023
- Arrangements continue to progress well.
- Bunting is to be delivered and arrangements made for it to be put up around the village.
- Cllr Bingham gave a detailed description of the Coronation walk around the village. It will be around 6 miles. The police have been made aware of the walk with a reference of CP-2023-0327-0052.

## **6.3 Toilets (7.1)**

- Still awaiting a quotation to convert the toilets to cashless. Clerk to chase.
- SLDC have provided the grant of £8,000 which will be spent on the Parish Council becoming self-sufficient.

## **6.4 Pony Field (7.2)**

- Unfortunately the person who was going to build the dry stone wall has injured his hand. He has given the tenant details of another builder. He is very busy so unlikely that the wall will be 'repaired' in the short term. Cllr Adair will keep the Members up to date

## **7. New matters for consideration**

### **7.1 A2A QR Codes**

- There has been a request from A2A (Local business) to place QR codes on lamp posts etc. These will direct users to businesses within the Milnthorpe area. Councillors had viewed the demonstration and considered that the project had merit. They were keen to embrace technology and support local initiatives which promoted the village and its businesses. However, it has no authority to agree to the request as it is a decision for Westmorland & Furness Council  
The Clerk will point Andrew in the right direction.

### **7.2 Corinthians Grant from Sport England**

- See item 5.2 above.

### **7.3 Review of Standing Orders**

- No changes required.

## **8. Planning Matters:**

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

- Three received. There were no objections.
- Application to erect a flagpole was granted with conditions.

### **8.2 Any related matters**

- The Flagpole initiative had initially been a joint effort between the Parish Council and St Thomas' Church. It had been agreed that Church grounds were the best place for the flagpole to be erected and the Church took the lead in sorting out permissions and planning permission. It was resolved that the Parish Council would make a donation of £700 to cover approximately 50% of the costs.

## 9. Financial Matters

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

#### Receipts – March 2023

Market Trader Rent - £299.10  
SLDC Toilet Grant - £8,000.00  
Parking Discs, McColls - £72.25  
Interest into Deposit Account - £63.02  
Total - £8,434.37

#### Payments – March 2023

Toilet Maintenance, Healthmatic, £700.70 (VAT - £116.78)  
Fuel, UK Fuels Ltd, £1.20 (£0.20)  
Payroll, Staff, Pension and HRMC, £2,805.07  
Toilet Electricity, NPower, £36.13 (£1.72)  
Market Electricity Pillar 3, Eon, £11.55 (£0.55)  
Market Electricity Pillar 2, Eon, £37.14 (£1.77)  
Clerk 6m Allowance, Clerk, £312.50  
Toilet Water – Wastewater (Annual), Water Plus, £193.31  
Bank Account Service Charge, £5.00  
Hall Hire, Christ The King, £100.00  
Parking Discs, Brunlea Print Ltd, £1,662.00 (£277.00)  
Total - £5,864.60 (£398.02)

#### Bank Balances at Month end

Current Account - £19,154.13, Deposit Account - £42,142.83  
Total - £61,297.26

All payments were **APPROVED** and balances reconciled.

### 9.2 2023/24 Precept

Despite the Parish Council's desire to have a zero increase in the Precept, when the Council Tax bills were received it suggested that would be a 1.3% increase in the contribution to the Parish Council.

This is not correct. The Parish Council will actually receive £12 less than received in the previous year, therefore achieving its objective of a zero increase.

The increase comes from an increase in SL District Council Owned Footway Lighting that is hidden under the Milnthorpe requirement and is NOT received by the Parish Council

### 9.3 2022/23 Accounts

A first draft was distributed to Members and a brief summary provided by the RFO.

- Income was £7,000 over budget due to unexpected CIL and an increased SLDC toilet grant.
- Expenditure was £8,000 under budget due to the entrance sign project cost reducing because of the change from concrete signs to metal signs.
- Cash in bank increased by £15,000, however,
- Funds have been earmarked for projects in 2023/24
- The RFO will finalise the accounts, arrange an internal audit and present the AGAR at the May meeting.

### 9.4 Any other Financial Matters

- An email had been received from the KEY Project outlining the cost of running the charity. The members wished to help and resolved to make a donation of £1,000 to the project.

**10. Market Report September 2022**

- Rent received of £299.10.
- Parking disc payments received of £72.25.
- Nat West have asked if they can continue to visit the market in 2023/24

**11. To consider matters from around the Parish.**

- Cllr Bingham stated that the significant potholes next to Smithy Lane have been repaired.
- Cllr Adair pointed out that considerable dog mess continues to be evidenced around the village.
- Cllr Adair also pointed out that the first floor flats on the left hand side of Beetham Road just after the traffic lights, looked ragged and tatty.
- Cllr Robson mentioned that an otter had been spotted in the river at the bottom of Mill Lane.

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

None

**13. Date of next scheduled meeting**

- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023. It will follow the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. This will take place at the Church Hall on Haverflatts Lane and commence at 7pm.

**The meeting closed at 20:12**

*Paul Blackburn*

Clerk

April 2023

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