

# MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the normal monthly meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The meeting was held in the Church Hall on Haverflatts Lane and commenced at 7.10pm following the Market Traders' Meeting**

**Present:** Cllrs Steven Hurst (Chair), Roger Bingham, Peter Capasso, Pete Hill (Vice Chair), Barbara Adair, Claire Lachmann, Jim Robson and Julie Mulinga. Paul Blackburn (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

- The meeting was quorate.

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2023**

- These were **APPROVED** and signed.

**3. Announcements by the Chair**

- A sincere expression of condolence was given to Cllr Capasso following the untimely death of his wife, Pauline.
- The resignation of Craig Allen from the role of Parish Councillor. The Members wished to thank Craig for his excellent contribution to the Council.
- Co-Option of a further Councillor can commence after the 13<sup>th</sup> of November, if no election has been called.
- Full Council elections will take place in 2024. This will see the term of office return to 4 years following the delay of the 2020 elections to 2021 due to Covid.

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

- None

**5. Public Participation**

**5.1 Westmorland & Furness Council**

- None.

**5.2 Electors**

- None present.

**6. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2023.**

**6.1 Plaque Project (6.1)**

- A grant of 60% of the costs, to a maximum of £1,200 was granted by the Leasgill Quarry Fund
- The plaques will be ordered.
- The Chair is to chase the installation of the plaque on the Green.

**6.2 Toilets (6.3)**

- The contract with the current service provider ends on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November, an alternative will be in place on that date.
- The current cleaner will continue to clean the toilets.
- The door is to be updated to a cashless system with a change to the cost of usage (to 50p) on the fitting day.
- A sign is to be produced stating the cost of providing the toilet.

**6.3 Locality Board (6.4)**

- The Expression of Interest has been successful and a full application can be submitted.
- The Clerk was asked to check if the Children's Play Area could access the Community Ownership fund.

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

### **7.1 Christmas**

- The Lights are to be switched on, on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November.
- The Clerk can pay the promised funds when requested.

### **7.2 Remembrance Sunday**

- A large poppy is to be marked on the Green again.
- The Chair is to check that the police have been informed and the require road closures will be in place.
- All Councillors involved are aware of their roles.

## **8. Planning Matters:**

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

- None

### **8.2 Any related matters**

- None

## **9. Financial Matters**

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

#### **Receipts – October 2023**

Market Trader Rent - £338.80

Precept 2<sup>nd</sup> half - £15,612.55

Parking Discs (Local Businesses) - £41.00

Total - £5,992.35

#### **Payments – October 2023**

Toilet Maintenance, Healthmatic, £700.70 (VAT - £116.78)

Fuel, UK Fuels Ltd, £7.80 (£1.30)

Payroll, Staff, Pension and HRMC, £1,640.79

Market Electricity Pillar 3, Eon, £12.38 (£0.59)

Market Electricity Pillar 1, Eon, £66.63 (£3.17)

Toilet Water, Water Plus, £39.00

Bank Account Service Charge, £5.80

Council Tax, W&F - £60.00

Fuel for Equipment, Staff - £230.64

Cemetery Lane Flood Work, Hurst Tarmacing - £600.00 (£100.00)

Toilet Electricity, Npower - £52.35 (£2.49)

Play Area Annual Inspection - £140.49 (£23.40)

Total - £3,556.49 (£247.73)

#### **Bank Balances at Month end**

Current Account - £30,077.99, Deposit Account - £42,457.77

Total - £72,535.76

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

### **9.2 Any other Financial Matters**

- Clerk is working on the budget for 2024/25 and will present initial draft at the December meeting. Because of the loss of the grant previously received for the toilets it will be very difficult to avoid an increase in the precept requested

**10. Market Report November 2023**

- Rent received of £338.80.
- Parking Disc money of £41.00 received from local businesses.
- New trader selling jewellery is now attending the market.
- The market traders meeting was held prior to this meeting.

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

- Cllr Bingham mentioned that work on Smithy Lane has been completed and he is very satisfied with it. He also mentioned the new roofing on the Old Police Station and questioned whether like for like material has been used, he thought that this was required on this building, the Clerk will check with the Conservation Officer
- Cllr Capasso mentioned the tractor run planned for December. He is pleased to see such an event but questioned the practicality of starting the run from the Square. He states that 6pm on a Saturday evening is a very busy time around the square. The other Members agreed and a number of alternative starting places were suggested. The Chair will speak to the event organiser. It was stressed that all Members think that the event is a welcome addition to the village calendar.
- Cllr Adair expressed concern about a local business reversing onto the Square to unload.

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

**13. Date of next scheduled meeting**

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023. This will take place at the Church Hall on Haverflatts Lane and will commence at 7pm.

**The meeting closed at 19:59**

*Paul Blackburn*

Clerk

November 2023

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