

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 9th March 2015 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Jim Robson (Chair), Barbara Adair, Alan Baverstock, Roger Bingham, Rod Bowker, Neil Dodds, Clare Lachmann and Paul Troughton. Also District Cllr David Ryder (up to and including agenda item 6), Parish Clerk John Scargill, Market Supervisor Ann Johnston, PCSOs Jayne Park and Martin Boak (up to and including agenda item 6) and six member of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** from Cllr Jen Scrogam (work), County Cllr Ian Stewart (work) and Mrs Suzie Kavanagh.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 9th February 2015** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed as a correct record by Cllr Robson.
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 9th February 2015.**
 - 5.1 **Draft sub-leases for Playing Field users (5.1)** – following a further meeting with Milne Moser, it had been agreed that licences would be a more appropriate vehicle than leases for formalising use agreements with clubs. This was now proceeding.
 - 5.2 **Community-operated speed monitoring devices (5.2)** – the number of volunteers for a Milnthorpe-based scheme now exceeded the minimum of ten considered necessary to make it viable. Clerk to arrange a briefing by the police on the practical aspects of such a scheme.
 - 5.3 **Link path lighting (5.3)** – Clocktower and Wright & Lord had both agreed to contribute £200 to the cost of the project. Booths had declined to make any financial contribution and a response from No 17 was awaited. Booths' response was considered disappointing and un-neighbourly.
 - 5.4 **Artwork for shop window of old Spar store (5.4)** – the lack of response from Spar to the idea of a window display was thought to be due to possible preference by their selling agents for a clear view of the store's interior. Nothing could be done without Spar's permission.
 - 5.5 **HSBC exterior post** – had now been found. Re-installation was a job for the County Council.
 - 5.6 **SLDC Environmental Partnership Fund grants (17)** – no response as yet to the two projects submitted by MPC.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 **Police Report** – an emailed report, covering period 9 February to 9 March 2015, had been received and circulated, with 64 Incidents (13 crimes) relevant to the general area that includes Milnthorpe. PCSO Park provided additional information about these and advised reporting incidents via the 101 phone number, including market day TRO infringements on the Square. For the year to date, reported incidents and recorded crimes were some 15% down on 2013/14. The PCSOs were thanked for their attendance.
 - 6.2 **County Council (Cllr Stewart)** – no report in the absence of Cllr Stewart.
 - 6.3 **District Council (Cllr Ryder)** – Cllr Ryder had met with SLDC representatives to discuss possible uses for vacant village centre non-domestic properties
 - 6.4 **Matters raised by electors** – complaints, in particular in the Harmony Hall area, about the lack of car-parking for village residents and the widespread use of any open space and roadway for (legitimate) parking by those coming in for the day, either to run or visit local businesses. Just as frustrating for residents was the lack of urgency in implementing any solution. It was pointed out that the pace of local government action was notoriously slow, not least because of the democratic need for consultation at every turn and great care in spending limited public funds. Whilst appreciating the parking problem and the length of time being taken to deal with it, Cllr Ryder was adamant that progress was being made, such as the introduction of discounted parking charges on Milnthorpe's two SLDC public car-parks, and he expected some action on the Harmony Hill issue within the next six months. He also suggested a planned campaign to urge local business to use these car-parks. An additional problem for users of Haverflatts Lane was the amount of litter and dog-fouling. **Agreed** – the Clerk to contact SLDC to see if they would provide a dog-waste bin at the lower end of the lane and include it in their list of bins for regular emptying.

7.0 Planning Matters:

7.1 Applications under consideration by MPC and SLDC decisions

March 2015 meeting

Type A applications – SLDC response deadline precedes next PC meeting – Clerk to respond. (Members to email Clerk ASAP & before deadline)

SLDC ref	Address	Applicant	Development	Deadline	Response
SL/2015/0107	49 Beetham Road	Calland	Erection of carport for Bay Rescue vehicles	04/03/15	Modifications requested

Type B applications – SLDC deadline falls after next PC meeting – Members to discuss at mtg.

SL/2015/0130	Plot 2 adjacent to Bela House, Beetham Road	Hurley	Erection of dwelling, garage & access driveway	11/03/15	No objections
SL/2015/0136	Refresh, The Square	Brown	Change of use to hot food takeaway	13/03/15	No objections

Decisions received from SLDC

SL/2014/1189	2 Bela Avenue	Travis	Single-storey rear extension	Approved with conditions
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(More planning information available on SLDC website – southlakeland.gov.uk)

7.2 Related matters & correspondence : new exterior flue at Canton Chef brought to attention of SLDC Planning Dept – who uphold MPC's objection. Clerk to check on proposed action by SLDC. A similar objection had been made re the Raj advertising placard (since removed) on the outside wall of Bell's shop.

8. Finance:

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – FEB 2015

MEETING – 9th March 2015

8.1 Report on bank receipts, bank payments (for approval) & bank balances.

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c	Reserve Funds
				£	£
01/02/15	Opening balances				22,431.26
28/02/15	Receipts:	Market	Rents collected February	9,130.87	
		LQF	Grant 2013/14 (heritage plaque)	624.95	
		CCC	Grant - street sign condition survey	1,400.00	
				1,000.00	
	Payments:				
		DD SLDC	Rates (public toilets)	-238.00	
	372	DD Texaco	Guard card	.50	
			VAT	.10	
				- 0.60	
	373	DD Eon	Market elec. (P3)	31.09	
			VAT	1.55	
				-32.64	
	374	333 Johnston	Keys for toilets	14.92	
			VAT	2.58	
				-15.50	
	375	335 Healthmatic	Quart's fees	2,215.00	
			VAT	443.00	
				-2,658.00	
	376	336 Treescape	Tree survey	338.76	
			VAT	67.75	
				-406.51	
	377	337 Milne M	Legal (disbursements)	-27.00	
	378	338 Milne M	Legal (village grn)	200.00	
			VAT	40.00	
				-240.00	
	379	339-343 Payroll	January	-1,099.40	
			Total payments in month		-4,717.65
28/02/15	Closing balances			7,438.17	22,431.26
28/02/15	Total funds all accounts				£29,869.43
	Reserve Funds at 28/02/15	National Savings Bank	5,510.66		
		HSBC Deposit a/c	16,920.60		
		Total Reserve Funds	£22, 431.26		

Resolved – that the above payments be **approved**.

8.2 Other matters - Staff pensions –research ongoing.

9. **Market** -rents for February £625 – total year to date £6,864 (2013/14 - £9,661).

Agreed – that the advertisement for Milnthorpe’s Good Friday market 2015 be included in a special Westmorland Gazette four-page supplement, to be published the week before. Mrs Johnston to implement. NatWest Bank had agreed to a £20 per (one hour) day rate to locate its mobile bank on the Square on Fridays – Clerk to invoice NatWest Bank, Kirkby Lonsdale, now for the four Fridays in March. Penwarden Music had agreed to take a stall at the Good Friday market and would be featuring musicians. The Clerk reported that two additional barriers had been ordered for use at the lower end of the Square.

10. **To receive any reports from representatives on outside bodies** – Cllr Robson had attended a LAP meeting where the use of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs), some public health issues and a tourist-based promotion scheme for Morecambe Bay had been discussed

11. **Highways matters:** The Clerk reported that a serious road surface erosion in Beetham Road, near the entrance to the Cross Keys car-park, had been notified to Highways by Cllr Stewart and was to be repaired today (9 March). Temporary traffic lights at Ackenthwaite, spread (for no apparent reason) over two weeks, had caused some disruption to normal traffic flow at that point and as far away as Milnthorpe centre. Still no remedial action on the footway beside Dallam View but keep raising with Highways. The white lining on and near the Dallam School roundabout was almost completely worn away. Clerk to add these items to current list and circulate the list to members monthly..

12. **Parish Matters (for information only):**

- **Cllr Dodds** – noted that Pig (Cemetery) Lane was again flooding after recent rains, and with its busy Easter period just ahead. Natural leaf-fall was still lying on many paths.
- **Cllr Troughton** – had noticed an increase in the exercising of dogs on the Playing Field – Clerk to contact relevant enforcement officer at SLDC. The defunct pole on the field had now been removed.
- **Cllr Bowker** – thanked Cllr Baverstock for his work keeping the war memorial garden tidy.
- **Cllr Bingham** – promised to prune the mahonia in the war memorial garden.

13. **Current PC business:**

- Item 2 – delete.
- Item 8 – delete.
- Item 15 – LQF grant could now be claimed..
- Item 17 – enforce by using ‘phone 101’ to call PCSOs..
- Item 29 – completion awaiting a spell of good weather.
- Item 31 – ongoing, with licences in place of leases.

14. **MiPAD – children’s play area** – minutes from the AGM on 2nd March would soon be available. MiPAD is actually more of a fund-raising organisation. Suggested that MiPAD and MPC should work together more closely and the suggestion that an additional MPC representative on the MiPAD committee would help this. Cllr Lachmann agreed to take on this role. The next MiPAD ‘event’ would be a stall at the Dallam Tower open day in May The two new benches were now installed and had been well received. Clerk to proceed to submit claim for approved Leasgill Quarry Fund grant.

15. **Milnthorpe Public Toilets** – the first quarterly payment to maintenance contractors Healthmatic had now been made, with appropriate deduction for entrance monies collected.

16. **Community Transport Scheme for Milnthorpe** – useful information had been received from Burton, Holme and Storth, all of which villages had such a scheme. Clerk to circulate the Storth information pack to all members and their representative was happy to come to talk to members about their scheme, if required.

17. Correspondence:

- 3 Mar 2015 – emailed request from Michael Barratt (MlInthorpe Men’s Forum) in connection with their annual art exhibition, for permission to sell raffle tickets from a small stand at the Farmers’ Market on 10 July 2015 – **approved**. Clerk to inform Mr Barratt.

- 24 Feb 2015 – email from Dallam reporting tennis court gate repeatedly found open. Clerk had already reminded the Playing Field Warden to ensure it was closed on his every visit, unless a club event was in progress.

18. Reading Matter - SLDC – South Lakeland News – issue 27 – Spring 2015 .

- - Clerks & Councils Direct – issue 98 – March 2015..

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19. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting - April 2015 – in addition to those mentioned above, permission for the Green to be used for Christmas on the Green 2015.

20. Date of next meeting – Monday 20th April 2015 at 7.30pm , at the Catholic Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm