

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 11th April 2016 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Jim Robson (Chair), Barbara Adair, Alan Baverstock, Roger Bingham, Rod Bowker, Neil Dodds and Jen Scrogam. Also County Cllr Ian Stewart (for item 6.2) & District Councillor David Ryder (up to and inc. item 6), Parish Clerk John Scargill, Market Supervisor Ann Johnston and six members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Lachmann (ill), Cllr Troughton & Cumbria Police.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2016** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed as a correct record by Cllr Robson.
3. **Announcements by the Chair** – Cllr Robson reported the death of ex-MPC Chair Eric Procter. Cllr Bingham would send a card on behalf of MPC. Compliments to Cllr Bingham for his achievement of thirty-six unbroken years as a Milnthorpe parish councillor.
4. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** – none.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 14th March 2016.**
 - 5.1 **Draft licences for Playing Field users (5.1)** – no further progress – ongoing.
 - 5.2 **Community-operated speedwatch monitoring devices (5.2)** – now operational & satisfactory.
 - 5.3 **Replacement of bollards on the Square (5.3)** – ongoing to make permanent.
 - 5.4 **Storm Desmond (5.4)** – no further developments. Members were keen to make progress with repair work. Quotations for necessary repairs to the wall behind the pigeon hut to be sought.
 - 5.5 **Cemetery Lane (6.2 & 6.6)** – hope of an early permanent solution with funding from Cllr Stewart (last meeting item 6.2) and other possible sources.
 - 5.6 **MPC elections 2016 (15)** – eleven candidates had put their names forward, triggering an election for the nine seats. Election date 5 May 2016.
 - 5.7 **The Queen's 90th birthday (16)** – the planting of a tree was suggested as a possible way of celebrating this event. Leave on agenda for next meeting.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 **Police Report** – received and circulated before the meeting. Over the wider local area, 46 reported incidents resulting in 12 recorded crimes. Generally low overall crime rate in Milnthorpe itself but with occasional spates of mainly acquisitive crime.
 - 6.2 **County Council (Cllr Stewart)** – the CCC Chief Fire Officer, who had proposed closing the Arnside Fire Station, had now stepped down and there were no current plans for closure. The local service would, in future, be managed from Warrington, Cheshire, whose chief officer was an ex-Cumbrian with an excellent reputation and a continued interest in his home county. Cllr Stewart had had a recent site meeting with Nick Raymond (Cumbria Highways) to inspect the many highways problems in the village, now registered at the highest level. The possibility of major disruption at Milnthorpe cross-roads if developing issues there not addressed in near future. The procedure for enforcement of local Traffic Restriction Orders was unavoidably lengthy and progressing slowly. 'Resident's Parking Only' signs were now in process of being erected in Harmony Green/Hill/Church St areas – Clerk to email Cllr Stewart requesting a plan of the number and planned location of these signs. Cllr Stewart paid tribute to Cllr Bingham for his eloquent presentation at the District Council of the need for equality and protection of the elderly and vulnerable.
 - 6.3 **District Council (Cllr Ryder)** – echoed Cllr Stewart's tribute to Cllr Bingham. The idea of appointing a mayor for South Cumbria had been shelved pro tem. SLDC were keen, wherever possible, to appoint local contractors for local work. It was important for local (including parish) councils to be involved in local planning issues.

6.5 MiPAD – sufficient funding was now in place, or promised, for there to be a realistic prospect of visible progress with new facilities during 2016.

6.6 Matters raised by electors - Cricket Club estimated a cost of some £4,000 to repair damage caused by Storm Desmond. Damaged gully in Park Road, opposite entrance to Booths, was causing traffic problems. The grass on Harmony Green had been damaged by local weed spraying. No details received by Harmony Green/Hill residents about the parking signs now being erected (see also 6.2 above for action to be taken), which would only become effective once all signs were in place. The proprietor of Refresh requested permission to place more tables and chairs on The Square, near the market cross (Cllr Baverstock left during discussion of this item) – Cllr Robson and one other member to make a site visit to inspect – to place on agenda for May meeting. Suzie Kavanagh thanked members for their support re the Good Friday events on the Green

7. Planning Matters.

7.1 Applications under consideration by MPC and SLDC decisions

April 2016 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	MPC Response
SL/2016/0174	Beggarside Hill, Haverflatts Lane	Parsons	Agricultural buildings for hay, sheep & machinery	31/03/16	No objections, But this should be limit of expansion

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

SL/2016/0221 0254	McColl's store, Milnthorpe Square	Dickinson	ATM retention & signage	26/04/16 27/04/16	Under consideration
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Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SL/2016/0056	4 Haverflatts Lane	Baggeley	Replacement outdoor signs (dental surgery)	Approved with conditions
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(More planning information available on SLDC website – southlakeland.gov.uk)

7.2 Related matters & correspondence : none.

8. Finance:

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – MARCH 2016

MEETING – 11th April 2016

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

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c	Reserve Funds
				£	£
01/03/16	Opening balances				21,933.17
31/03/16	Receipts:	64 Market	Rents collected March		894.10
		65 SLDC	IS speedwatch grant		500.00
		HSBC	Bank error in our favour (chq 453)		.60
		HSBC	Bank interest to 3/3/16		3.83
	Payments:				
		DD SLDC	Rates (market)	-	
		DD SLDC	Rates (public toilets)	-	
	475	DD Texaco	Guard card	.50	
			VAT	.10	
				.60	
	476	472 H'matic	Toilets mtce (net)	2,275.00	
			VAT	455.00	
				2,730.00	
	477	473 Truvelo	Speedwatch equip	1,825.00	
			VAT	365.00	
				2,190.00	
	478	474 Athena	Payroll admin. 2015/16	250.00	
	479	475 Christ TK	Meeting room hire JFM	75.00	
	480	476-481 Payroll	March	1,855.85	
	481	482 Scargill	Postage costs FM	5.49	
			Total payments in month		-7,106.94
31/03/16	Closing balances			12,901.72	21,937.00
31/03/16	Total funds all accounts				£34,838.7

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

8.2 Other financial matters:

- MPC annual accounts 2015/16 – circulated before the meeting – **APPROVED by resolution.**
- MPC Annual Return 2015/16 – presented at the meeting – **APPROVED by resolution** and signed by the Chair and the Clerk on behalf of Milnthorpe Parish Council.

9. Market - rents for March £894 – final total for year 2015/16 £10,570 (2014/15 - £7,470).

Mrs Johnston reported an excellent Good Friday market with 28 stalls (rents of £315 from additional traders). Not all booked fairground attractions etc had turned up due to double booking, but attendance promised for next year. Additional interest also shown for presence in 2017. The duplication of some types of stall had been criticised by regular traders, but such duplication considered acceptable on this one occasion in the year when agreed that priority be given to maximising public attendance.

10. To receive any reports from representatives on outside bodies – none.

11. Highways matters:

Cllr Dodds – edge-of-carriageway markings at The Willows need to be refreshed and A6 centre-highway island bollards outside Bay Rescue unlit.

12. Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Bingham – drew attention to the imminent 50th anniversary of the market's re-opening – should this be marked in some way? Dangerous gullies along Paradise Lane.

Cllr Scroggum – had contacted SLDC's dog control officer re dogs on the Playing Field. Litter on the footpath, over the fence, in front of 53 Owlet Ash Fields – Clerk to refer this to Dallam School.

Cllr Baverstock – reported the formation of a deep pool in the River Bela on the Strands by the Clough, as a result of Storm Desmond. This could be a danger to young children, although not an MPC responsibility. Clerk to notify CCC regarding the hazard to users of the footpath and SLDC regarding the possible provision of a lifebelt. It had emerged that the trimming of trees in Church Street had been done by a contractor working for the residents themselves.

Cllr Dodds – reported continued vehicle blocking of drop-kerb beside Denture Studio/Mirror Mirror. Unhappy about delay in pathway cleaning, as requested earlier of SLDC Cleansing. Clerk to email Cllr Ryder in an effort to expedite.

13. Current PC business – no updates to make.

14. Milnthorpe Economic Plan – a meeting with SLDC was planned following the 2016 elections, when the new parish council would be in place.

15. Playing Field apparatus – discussion requested by Cllr Bowker. Various maintenance issues had arisen and the more urgent had already been dealt with. Cllr Bowker appealed for the provision of more litter bins on the field, despite the pressure on funds to repair recent flood damage. The meeting **agreed** - that any new bins should be of good quality and appearance. Cllrs Robson and Bowker to meet the play equipment suppliers on site.

16. General correspondence – with Mr & Mrs Hopkins, 29 Park Road re their request to erect a handrail from their property onto the Playing Field - agreed at MPC meeting 14/03/16 (min 5.1).

17. Reading Matter – none.

18. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting:

- daffodil planting on verges.
- reassessment of MPC risks and insurance implications, resulting from Storm Desmond.
- the misuse of land behind Playing Field club premises as a dumping ground for general rubbish.

19. Date of next meeting – 7.30pm on Monday 16th May 2016 at the Catholic Church Hall

The meeting closed at 9.05pm