

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 14th September 2015 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Jen Scrogam (Chair), Roger Bingham, Rod Bowker, Neil Dodds, Clare Lachmann and Paul Troughton. Also County Cllr Ian Stewart (for item 6 only) and District Cllr David Ryder (up to item 6), Parish Clerk John Scargill and six members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** from Cllrs Robson (holiday), Baverstock (holiday) and Adair (holiday), Market Supervisor Ann Johnston and Cumbria Police.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 10th August 2015** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed as a correct record by Cllr Scrogam.
3. **Announcements by the Chair** – welcomed back Cllr Lachmann following her period of recovery from giving birth to her first child
4. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** – none.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 10th August 2015.**
 - 5.1 **Draft sub-leases for Playing Field users (5.1)** – no further developments, ongoing.
 - 5.2 **Community-operated speedwatch monitoring devices (5.2)** – **agreed** – six volunteers had met on 26 August to run the first solo trial of the loaned gun, which proved successful. Generally agreed that, although there was a real need for the gun, more volunteers were needed to be able to continue – and before MPC invested in a gun of its own.
 - 5.3 **Link path lighting project (5.3)** – One promised donation remained outstanding.
 - 5.4 **Community Transport Scheme (5.4)** – with the Levens-based scheme now in place, **agreed** – that more publicity was needed to create public awareness – notices in Parish News, MPC board and McColls suggested.
 - 5.5 **Owlet Ash House hedge (5.5)** – the hedge had now been trimmed and a letter of thanks sent to the householder.
 - 5.6 **Public toilets electricity supply (15)** – application to join the CCC-based joint parish scheme had now been made and was expected to result in significant cost savings.
 - 5.7 **Relocation of post-box (12)** – in the absence of any action by Royal Mail, **agreed** – Clerk to write to Tim Farron (cc Ian Stewart).
 - 5.8 **New road lining proposals (6.1)** – with the agreement of the meeting, dealt with under 6.4 below to involve public participation.
 - 5.9 **Lighting on the Square** – the overnight lighting from the public toilets continues to disturb nearby residents. Healthmatic to be asked to adjust timing.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 **Police Report** – received and circulated before the meeting – twenty incidents/crimes relating directly to Milnthorpe since MPC's August meeting.
 - 6.2 **County Council (Cllr Stewart)** – nothing to report.
 - 6.3 **District Council (Cllr Ryder)** – nothing to report.
 - 6.4 **MiPAD** – no report. The proposed Fitness Trail presentation would now be given at MPC's October meeting. Cllr Bowker reported the need for remedial work on existing play equipment, identified by recent inspections. **Agreed** – now to be assessed and undertaken.
 - 6.5 **Matters raised by electors.** In addition to previous and continuing planning permission issues regarding Flames Pizza take-away in Main Street (formerly Canton Chef) now that it was open for business, the problem of rubbish accumulation from discarded packaging had arisen. The speed of tractors using Park Road during their seasonal work in the area had given rise to safety concerns, compounding the perpetual nuisance of their noise and the resulting accidentally discarded grass cuttings. A Park Road resident requested that any further development of the children's play area be located well away from housing, as far as possible towards the southern end of the Playing Field. The problem of parking in the street in preference to designated car-parking bays was noted. Some residents were unhappy with the new 2 hour free parking rules for Harmony Hill, which had been designed specifically to help them.

The major issue raised was the now formal detailed proposal for new lining on village highways. A number of objections to these proposals were raised at the meeting and the complaint that many local residents had not been consulted. In response, Cllrs Stewart and Ryder pointed out that any proposals were unlikely to please everybody, that the proposals were themselves a consultation document and that any objections or further observations by individual members of the public or local organisations be submitted to Highways individually by the respective objectors – deadline for submission was Thursday 17 September.

Agreed – that MPC accept the proposals in general (as summarised by Cllr Robson in his paper dated 09/09/15) but support the objection of the primary school and local residents to those proposals relating to the Firs Road area. Clerk to lodge these objections by the 17 September deadline.

7. Planning Matters – no changes from the August meeting, so no September report.

8. Finance:

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT				MONTH – AUGUST 2015		MEETING – 14 th September 2015	
8.1 Report on bank receipts, bank payments (for approval) & bank balances.							
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail		Current a/c	Reserve Funds	
					£	£	£
01/08/15	Opening balances					27,903.21	22,477.16
31/08/15	Receipts:	49	Market	Rents collected August		752.85	
		50	"	Natwest mobile rent 13mths to 31/03/16		1,120.00	
		51	NSI	Bal of interest due to date of a/c closure			29.17
		51	Tsfr of NSI	a/c balance to HSBC Cur a/c		5,579.83	
		51	"	"			-5,579.83
	Payments:						
		DD	SLDC	Rates (market)		132.00	
		DD	SLDC	Rates (public toilets)		170.00	
	429	DD	Texaco	Equip. fuel	51.75		
				VAT	6.35		
						58.10	
	430	DD	Eon	Market elec P3	29.64		
				VAT	1.48		
						31.12	
	431	408	Npower	Toilets elec to 25/8	163.40		
				VAT	8.17		
						171.57	
	432	409	H'matic	Mtce charge (net)	1,920.00		
				VAT	384.00		
						2,304.00	
	433	410-415	Payroll	August		1,486.37	
	434	416	Barnfield	New strimmer	538.64		
				VAT	107.72		
						646.36	
	435	417	Scargill	Post/Stat'y Jun-Aug	30.06		
				VAT	1.96		
						32.02	
	Total payments in month					-5,031.54	
31/08/15	Closing balances					30,324.35	16,926.50
31/08/15	Total funds all accounts					£47,250.85	

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

8.2 Other matters:

- **NSI a/c** – now closed and balance transferred to HSBC Cura/c. **Agreed** that £5,000 now be transferred from HSBC Cur a/c to HSBC Dep a/c - formal order signed by Cllrs Scrogam and Dodds.
- **Strimmer** – necessary repairs to the old strimmer had been done by Barnfields at a cost of £160 (paid by Milnthorpe PCC). The PCC now to pay MPC the £15 remaining balance on its agreed purchase price of £175.
- **HSBC Milnthorpe branch** – the announced closure of the branch on 27 November 2015 would give rise to severe inconvenience and security problems for MPC, with Kendal being the next nearest surviving HSBC branch. MPC to consider and plan in advance for this new situation.

- 9. Market** - rents for August £753 – total for year 2015/16 to date £4,316 (2014/15 - £3,356).
Additional to the above, a sum of £1,120 had been received from Natwest for the agreed rent for its mobile bank covering a 56 week period from 01/03/15 to 31/03/16.
Three specific cars continuing to park on The Square, overnight Thursday into Friday market day and in contravention of TRO – police advised. **Agreed** – to comply with Milne Moser’s request for the space on the Square immediately in front of their premises to be reserved for their use on Friday 25 September 2015 for a drinks and cakes stall in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support,
- 10. To receive any reports from representatives on outside bodies** – none.
- 11. Highways matters** – none.
- 12. Parish Matters (for information only):**
- **Cllr Bingham** – verges and gullies along the B6385 (Milnthorpe to Crooklands road) remain in need of attention – disappointed that not dealt with before the County Show on 10 September. (Clerk to convey this to Highways).
 - **Cllr Bowker** – lack of policing of traffic/parking etc restrictions in general, making them largely ineffective.
 - **Cllr Lachmann** – speed of tractors through the village, especially in Park Road.
 - **Cllr Troughton** – blocked gutters and drains generally (Clerk to email Highways). New pizza takeaway reported to be opening for business outside permitted hours plus giving rise to increased litter and general nuisance. (Clerk to report to SLDC).
 - **Cllr Dodds** – one of the Milnthorpe ‘welcome’ signs on the A6 to the south of the village remained obscured by vegetation overgrowth (Cllr Scrogam to speak to Atkinsons). The new (replacement) tree in memory of Jimmy Baldwin, previously agreed for the Playing Field, needed to be ordered now, although its precise location might be improved.
 - **Cllr Scrogam** – asked what arrangements could be made to improve the attendance of the Traffic Warden to police parking on The Square and generally - Clerk to make enquiries.
- 13. Current PC business** – final work on the Heritage Trail master plaque was now progressing well.
- 14. Milnthorpe Tree Survey** - no progress.
- 15. General Correspondence:** 07/09/15 - SLDC – proposal to put together ‘a package of measures to help the economic outlook for the village’. Welcomed by members with three members having already signalled their wish to be directly involved.
- 16. Reading Matter** – Clerks & Council Direct, issue 101, Sept 2015.
- 17. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting - October 2015** – nothing additional to those mentioned above.
- 18. Date of next meeting** - Monday 12th October 2015 at the Catholic Church Hall at approximately 7.30pm, to be preceded at 7.00pm by the annual Playing Field Users meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm