

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the annual meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 16 May 2015 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Barbara Adair, Alan Baverstock, Roger Bingham, Peter Capasso, Neil Dodds, Steven Hurst, Clare Lachmann, Jim Robson (up to and including item 7) and Jen Scrogam. Also District Cllr Rupert Audland, County Councillor Ian Stewart (up to and including item 14.5), Parish Clerk John Scargill, Market supervisor Mrs Ann Johnston and four members of the public. Also the Rev David Stretton, Methodist Minister, to give an address under item 11.

- 1. Election of Chair of Milnthorpe Parish Council for the year 2016/17.**
Resolved – that Cllr Jen Scrogam be elected Chair for the council year 2016/17.
- 2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office.**
Cllr Scrogam signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chair of Milnthorpe Parish Council for the council year 2016/17. Countersigned by the Clerk.
- 3. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Robson (for item 8 onwards) and Cumbria Police representatives.
- 4. To appoint a Vice-chair of Milnthorpe Parish Council for the year 2016/17.**
Resolved – that Cllr Alan Baverstock be appointed Vice-chair for 2016/17.
- 5. To appoint a Past-chair of Milnthorpe Parish Council for the year 2016/17.**
Resolved – that Cllr Jim Robson be appointed Past-chair for the year 2016/17.
- 6. To appoint representatives on outside bodies.** Appointed as follows:
 - Heversham & Leasgill Quarry Fund – Cllrs Bingham and Dodds (res Cllr Capasso).
 - Local Area Partnership (LAP) – Cllr Robson.
 - Neighbourhood Forum – Cllr Bingham.
 - Memorial Hall – Cllr Baverstock.
 - Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) – Cllr Robson.
- 7. Appointment of members of committees, sub-committees etc.** Appointed as follows:
 - Planning – Cllrs Baverstock, Bingham, Dodds, Hurst & Lachmann (quorum of 3).
 - Finance Working Group – Cllrs Adair, Baverstock, Dodds and Robson.
 - Staff management responsibilities - Cllr Lachmann – for Tom Grindey
 - Cllr Hurst – for David Mason
 - Cllr Baverstock – for Don Tallon
- 8. To consider annual subscriptions.**
Approved - CALC - £282 for 2016/17.
- 9 Inspection of deeds and investments,**
Deeds of the following properties in the name of Milnthorpe Parish Council were presented to the meeting and accepted as read:
 - three areas of Milnthorpe Green adjoining Main Street (Title CU96091)
 - The Square, Green, Police Square, verges on Main Street & Beetham Road (Titles CU235662 & CU238216).
 - Lease of Recreation Ground, Milnthorpe (Title CU96624).

This concluded the business of the annual meeting and was followed by a normal monthly meeting of the Parish Council, at approximately 7.20pm, as follows:

10. Minutes of the previous meeting – held on 11 April 2016 had been circulated. Subject to correction in respect of item 6.6 (need for repairs at Cricket Club not related to Storm Desmond) and item 12 (dog fouling reported by Cllr Scrogam – at Owlet Ash, not the Playing Field) these were **approved** by the meeting and signed as a correct record by Cllr Scrogam.
11. **Announcements by the Chair** – Cllr Scrogam welcomed Cllrs Capasso and Hurst as new members of MPC, and District Cllr Rupert Audland as MPC’s new District Council representative. David Stretton was introduced as representative of Kendal Methodist Circuit which was now responsible for the vacated Methodist church in Milnthorpe. He described their plans for making improvements to the building and converting it into a well-fitted out community facility for general use – to be known as M:Hub and hopefully open for business by late autumn 2016. Cllr Stewart advised that this change of use may well require planning permission and to ensure that SLDC was fully consulted.
12. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda:** Cllr Baverstock declared an interest in agenda item 13.8 (Refresh) and took no part in discussion of this item.
13. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 11 April 2016:**
- 13.1 Licences for Playing Field users (5.1)** - ongoing with Milne Moser, delay partly due to the after-effects of Storm Desmond and expected soon to be completed.
- 13.2 Community-operated speedwatch (5.2)** – now fully operative with the aim of running a minimum of one session per week, but more volunteers needed to ensure this. The number of vehicles actually recorded as exceeding the speed limit in Milnthorpe had fully justified the time, effort and expense involved. Details of these vehicles had been passed to Cumbria Police, who were supervising the project. It was observed that the LAP-owned SID located in Beetham Road was currently out of action, probably due to battery failure, but was actually overdue to move to another parish anyway – to be raised with Atkinsons.
- 13.3 Replacement bollards in The Square (5.3)** – the trial with new plastic bollards had proved successful, although one had been damaged by a vehicle (owner identified and cost of replacement likely to be borne by their insurers). An additional bollard was needed to plug a gap exploited by motorists. Clerk to order these two bollards from Glasdon.
- 13.4 Storm Desmond aftermath (5.4)** – Stage 1 (clearing the Juniors’ pitch of debris) now mainly completed by the appointed contractor, Stage 2 (rebuilding walls by cottages and pigeon hut) – contract awarded, Stage 3 (eventual rebuilding playing field wall by the Clough) likely to be costly and require special finance arrangements.
- 13.5 Cemetery Lane (5.5)** – drains damaged by BT now being repaired.
- 13.6 Queen’s 90th birthday (5.7)** – location of agreed tree to be decided in the autumn.
- 13.7 Lifebelt provision at The Strands (12)** – Environment Agency advise that the ‘riparian owner’ of any land is responsible for such matters. Clerk to email Cllr Audland with details of what is needed and where.
- 13.8 Refresh expansion proposal (6.6)** – MPC keen to support, but more discussion needed before finalisation – Cllrs Scrogam and Dodds to do.
- 13.9 Defibrillator insurance** – MPC had been asked if insurance for a privately-owned outdoor unit (at Milne Moser in The Square) might be covered by its existing policy. MPC’s insurers confirmed this to be the case as regards Public Liability (if MPC were to take responsibility for its maintenance), but that all-risks cover may incur an additional premium. Clerk to inform insurers of replacement cost of unit, for this purpose.

14. Public Participation:

14.1 Police Report - received and circulated. A small number of reported incidents, including road-rage, public order, assault, criminal damage and theft.

14.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart) – opened his remarks by congratulating the new members elected to MPC and Cllr Scrogam on being elected as Chair. Gratitude to those who had served but failed to retain their seats. MPC’s CALC representative was urged to attend the next and imminent CALC meeting, which had special importance. Cllr Baverstock to email Cllr Stewart with Land Registry details of MPC land on Beetham Road to enable responsibility to be established for trees in need of attention (not MPC). New central government grants for footway upkeep might be relevant to some of those in Milnthorpe. The new ‘smiley-type’ traffic monitoring devices, now appearing elsewhere locally, might be of interest to MPC – Clerk to confirm MPC interest by email, for Cllr Stewart to progress. CCC Highways planned no major schemes in 2016/17, due to cost constraints, but more hope of remedial work on drainage and significant stretches of footways. Parking restriction notices were now in place in Milnthorpe were already having a marked effect, although not to everyone’s satisfaction – any continuing issues to be emailed to Cllr Stewart.

14.3 District Council matters (Cllr Audland) – nothing yet to report in his new position.

14.4 MiPAD – Kathy Watts-Jones reported that plans for a ‘trim trail’ were now ready (to clear with SLDC?) and some £16K had been raised in funding, plus grant applications currently in the pipe-line. More fund-raising events were planned.

14.5 Matters raised by members of the public – The Cricket Club insisted it binned all its grass cuttings, so some uncertainty amongst members as to the exact nature of the complaint behind the inclusion of item 23 on this agenda. To check with Cllr Robson.

15. Planning Matters:

15.1 Applications under consideration by MPC and SLDC decisions

May 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

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

SL/2016/0309	10 Firs Road	Cleasby	Two-storey rear & side extension	27/05/16	No objections
SL/2016/0318	Hartland House, Beetham Road	Harrop	Major extensions to facilities	18/05/16	No objections
SL/2016/0324	Old Police Station, Beetham Road	Li	Subdivision of property to create additional dwelling	19/05/16	Generally OK so long as no changes to external aspect of building.
SL/2016/0387	20 The Square	Robinson	Replacement shed	24/05/16	No objections
SL/2016/0391	St Thomas’s Church	Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Ltd	Replacement of flagpole etc	27/05/16	Objections to installation of any dish-type antennae

Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SL/2016/0073	4 Sycamore Grove, Ackenthwaite	Houghton	Single-storey extension, elevated deck & carport	Approved with conditions
SL/2016/0174	Beggarside Hill, Haverflatts Lane	Parsons	Agricultural buildings for hay, sheep & machinery	Approved with conditions

(More planning information available on SLDC website – southlakeland.gov.uk)

15.2 Related matters & correspondence: none.

16. Finance

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – APRIL 2016

MEETING – 16th May 2016

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

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		Reserve Funds
				£	£	£
01/04/16	Opening balances				12,901.72	21,937.00
30/04/16	Receipts: 64	Market	Rents collected April		817.60	
	65	SLDC	Toilets grant – year 2		10,000.00	
		SLDC	Precept 2016/17		20,120.80	
		SLDC	Council Tax grant 2016/17		1,977.20	
	Payments:					
	DD	SLDC	Rates (market)	134.00		
	DD	SLDC	Rates (public toilets)	170.20		
	482	DD	Texaco	.50		
			VAT	.10		
					.60	
	483	483	Unimow	1,900.00		
			VAT	380.00		
					2,280.00	
	484	484	SLDC	372.32		
			Bin emptying '16/17	74.46		
			VAT		446.78	
	485	485	SLDC	331.50		
			Play grd inspections	66.30		
			VAT		397.80	
	486	486	CALC		282.00	
	487	487	UU		129.48	
	488	488	Npower		47.50	
	489	489	Pullan		275.00	
	490	490	Hartley		50.00	
	491	491-496	Payroll		1,582.39	
			Total payments in month		-5,795.75	
30/04/16	Closing balances				40,021.57	21,937.00
30/04/16	Total funds all accounts					£61,958.57

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

16.2 General risk assessment - to be undertaken by Finance Working Group at an early date.

17. Market – rents for April 2016 £818 (April 2015 £866, inc Good Friday).

Agreed – Milnthorpe Art Exhibition raffle tickets may be sold at Farmers Market on 8 July 2016.

Cllr Baverstock to speak to Green Dental about its offer to undertake memorial garden maintenance.

18. Reports from MPC representatives on outside bodies – none.

19. Highways problems – timing of traffic lights. Suggested that Cllr Stewart be asked to observe, along with one or more MPC members, to try to precisely identify and resolve.

20. Matters from around the parish:

Cllr Bingham – the need for weeding along the Crooklands Road verges ahead of this year's county show.

Cllr Capasso – the Corinthians football club would like to install a flagged standing area along the pitch boundary for the comfort of spectators.

Cllr Lachmann – the dumping of (sometimes bagged) rubbish around the Park Road public car park and nearby areas. Also the re-emergence of previously repaired potholes (Church St).

Cllr Hurst – had received a suggestion for a zebra crossing somewhere along the A6 in the village and, indeed, on other village roads with a view to assisting pedestrians – received with interest by members as also having a useful traffic-slowing effect. To be placed on next agenda.

Cllr Adair – had received a suggestion for a 20mph speed limit on Firs Road in view of its regular use by children at play. Dallam School mini-roundabout now almost invisible – and dangerous. The idea of fencing off the play area at the Playing Field (as it previously was) also raised by a resident.

Cllr Dodds – village pathways remained un-cleared despite repeated requests to the higher authority and MPC's willingness prepared to cover the cost – Cllr Audland to investigate. Also the light bulbs in the centre-road bollards near Bay Rescue in Beetham Road not working.

Cllr Baverstock – ancient Milnthorpe relics, dating back almost 3000 years BC, previously taken for research by Durham University, were still being held there – maybe time to ask for their return. Cllr Bingham to discuss with County Archaeologist.

21. Current MPC business:

Item 29 – Heritage Trail – Cllr Capasso to provide a suitable drawing/picture of the old Milnthorpe Viaduct as a basis for a Heritage plaque illustration.

22. Milnthorpe Economic Plan – no recent news from SLDC. Cllr Audland to look into.

23. Playing Field misuse – members to inspect - defer to next meeting (see item 14.5 above).

24. Daffodil planting – Cllr Bingham recalled recent unauthorised removal of a tree and the premature cutting down of daffodils by residents on the verges at the entrance to Owlet Ash. More daffodils to be planted on Playing Field.

25. General Correspondence:

7/4/16 – unhelpful reply from Punch Taverns re external condition of Bulls Head.

12/5/16 – from Dallam Estate re pony field wall in need of repair (Clerk to forward to Andy Horn, asking for comments).

10/5/16 – from Wicksteed – quote for playground repairs – Cllr Robson to be asked for his recommendations at the next meeting.

26. Reading matter – none.

27. Notice of items to be included on agenda of June 2016 meeting – nothing additional to those mentioned above.

25. Date of next meeting – normal monthly meeting at 7.30pm on Monday 13th June 2016 at Milnthorpe Catholic Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

Members of the public and the press are welcome to attend any meeting of the Parish Council but may speak only during the Public Participation item on the agenda of that meeting, or otherwise at the discretion of the Chair, to raise matters they wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council.