

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 8th February 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, Jen Scrogam and Paul Troughton. Also County Cllr Ian Stewart & District Councillor David Ryder (up to and including item 6), Parish Clerk John Scargill, Market Supervisor Ann Johnston, two police representatives and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Clare Lachmann (ill) and Kathy Watts-Jones (MiPAD).
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2016** - 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 11th January 2016.**
 - 5.1 **Draft licences for Playing Field users (5.1)** – ongoing (flood matters taking precedence).
 - 5.2 **Community-operated speedwatch monitoring devices (5.2)** – equipment now on order.
 - 5.3 **Replacement of bollards on the Square (5.8)** – installation now imminent.
 - 5.4 **Wings School pupils (6.1)** – the disturbance in the village in November had actually been covered in the next following Police Report but without identifying culprits, as per police policy.
 - 5.5 **Storm Desmond** – Cllr Robson had had a useful meeting with Dallam on 2 February when matters of mutual interest relating to the storm had been discussed. The response of CCC to Cllr Robson's query about repairing The Strands footpath had been helpful. CALC had advised that 'no particular duties fell on parishes' as a result of severe storms.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 **Police Report** – received and circulated before the meeting. Since the January report, 43 incidents had been reported in the wider area including 6 recorded crimes, 3 of which related to Milnthorpe village and were under investigation. Cllr Bingham requested a police presence at the 2016 Good Friday market day celebrations which, as usual, were likely to attract large numbers of people.
 - 6.2 **County Council (Cllr Stewart)** – a final decision on future of Arnside and other wider local fire stations had yet to be made and there was hope that closure could still be averted. There remained uncertainty about the ownership of some Milnthorpe streetlamps. The course of the River Bela had changed as a result of Storm Desmond and the B5282, just downstream of the old bridge, was now threatened with erosion as a consequence. The total cost of the storm damage in Cumbria was estimated at £465 million. A basic increase of 2% in CCC's Council Tax requirement for 2016/17 was confirmed, plus a further 2% to cover Adult Social Care needs – to be shown separately. The amount of contribution from central government was not yet known but rural areas were likely to fare better than urban ones in this respect.
 - 6.3 **District Council (Cllr Ryder)** – no Council Tax increase by SLDC for 2016/17.
 - 6.5 **MiPAD** – Cllr Ryder confirmed that application for a match-funded grant from SLDC had now been made and that visible progress with site development in 2016 was necessary to reassure the public following the various fund-raising events. Noted – that funding could also be available from Lakes Leisure Charity.
 - 6.6 **Matters raised by electors** – there had as yet been no remedial changes to the road lining at the top of Main Street and that, although some potholes had been dealt with quickly by Highways, the poor standard of repair would be only a temporary solution to the problem.

7. Planning Matters.

7.1 Applications under consideration by MPC and SLDC decisions

February 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.

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Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SLDC ref	Address	Applicant	Development	SLDC decision
SL/2015/0959	Bela House, Beetham Road	Fisher	Change of use – annex to dwelling	Approved with conditions
SL/2015/1025	Station Yard, Milnthorpe	Leyland	Building extensions	Approved with conditions
SL/2015/1029	Flames, 9 Main Street	Ozmicco	External flue & shopfront alterations	Refused
SL/2015/1107	Land off The Strands		Demolition of derelict building	Approved with conditions

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

7.2 Related matters & correspondence : noted that Fishwick's application to build a crematorium at its Beetham Hall site had now finally been approved by the inspector. Also that a similar application by another party for a crematorium at Junction 36 was still outstanding.

8. Finance:

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – JANUARY 2016

MEETING – 8th February 2016

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

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c £	Reserve Funds £
01/01/16	Opening balances			20,057.59	21,933.17
31/01/16	Receipts: 60	Market	Rents collected January	570.75	
	61	CCC	IS community grant 2015/16	1,000.00	
	Payments:				
	DD	SLDC	Rates (market)	132.00	
	DD	SLDC	Rates (public toilets)	170.00	
	461 DD	Texaco	Guard car	.50	
			VAT	.10	
				.60	
	462-4 DD	Eon	Market elec. Ps 1-3	83.15	
			VAT	4.16	
				87.31	
	465 454	Npower	Toilets elec to 30/9/15	73.68	
			VAT	3.68	
				77.36	
	466 455	Higton	Xmas trees 2015	220.00	
	467 456	Ch the K	Church hall rent – 3mths	75.00	
	468 457	Scargill	Post & Stat'y - 3mths	62.92	
			VAT	9.83	
				72.75	
	469 458-463	Payroll	January	1,322.61	
	Total payments in month			-2,157.63	
31/01/16	Closing balances			19,470.71	21,933.17
31/01/16	Total funds all accounts				£41,403.88

Resolved – that the above payments be approved.

8.2 Other financial matters – none.

9. **Market** -rents for January £571 – total for year 2015/16 to date £8,981 (2014/15 - £6,239). Trading was generally satisfactory for the time of year. **Agreed** – that an advertisement for the 2016 Good Friday market, along the lines of that in 2015, be placed in the Westmorland Gazette 23 March issue (Market Supervisor to organise) and the Clerk instructed to order a repeat printing of the laminated flyer distributed in 2015.
10. **To receive any reports from representatives on outside bodies** – none.
11. **Highways matters:**
Cllr Troughton – developing pothole in Park Road, near No 25.
Cllr Bingham – potholes in the Ackenthwaite to Woodhouse road, between High Cragg Yeat and Rowell Lane.
Cllr Bowker – broken lamp standard at Harmony Hill – removed by Millness Depot for repair.
Cllr Adair – Pig Lane – rubble discarded on verge following roadworks, plus continued flooding.
12. **Parish Matters (for information only):**
Cllr Dodds – Milnthorpe Memorial Hall update (see additional minute, item 19 below). Litter previously reported in Hincaster Road, Ackenthwaite, now removed by persons unknown – thanks from members. Need for public footways to be cleared of leaves etc by machine if possible and at MPC expense if necessary (Clerk to action).
Cllr Baverstock – public car park seasonal sweeping needed – Clerk to send second reminder to SLDC. Some trees in Church Street had been trimmed. Now time for maintenance of war memorial garden to be taken over from members – **agreed** - Allotment Association to be approached for this.
Cllr Bingham – asked for remembrance wreaths to be removed from the war memorial (Cllr Scrogam to do). Need to discuss possible action for the Queen's 90th birthday on 21 April – Clerk to agenda for next meeting.
Cllr Bowker – enquired about the missing gate to the old tennis courts – this had been removed following the floods and was awaiting re-installation once access resurfacing completed. Also asked about time-scale of flood damage repairs generally – in many cases repair was awaiting agreement on who was responsible.
Cllr Troughton – referred to the many inaccuracies in the recently distributed Liberal Democrat Newsletter.
13. **Current PC business** – no changes to report.
14. **Milnthorpe Economic Plan** – another meeting with SLDC was planned. Suggested this be linked to Milnthorpe's ongoing Shop Front Grant Scheme (Clerk to action).
15. **General Correspondence:**
- 21 Jan – Allotment Association – request to sell raffle tickets at the 12 August market – **agreed**.
- 4 February – SLDC – asking about progress to complete Shop Front Grant Scheme.
16. **Reading Matter** – none.
17. **Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting** – Queen's 90th birthday action.
18. **Date of next meeting** - Monday 14th March 2016 at the Catholic Church Hall,
- at 7.00pm.- Parish Annual Assembly, followed
- at approximately 7.30 pm by a normal monthly PC meeting.
19. **Milnthorpe Memorial Hall update** – Cllr Dodds gave a comprehensive report to members, as holding trustees of the Hall. The tenant RDK had ceased trading in the hall in September 2014. In August 2015, The Memorial Hall Trust's solicitors won a Court Judgement against RDK, ordering them to pay all rent and costs due up to that date. RDK then appealed against the Court Judgement. This appeal was dismissed at a hearing in the County Court, Preston, in the week ending 5 February 2016. The Executive Committee and the Executive Committee of the Trustees will be meeting with their solicitors in the current week (ending 12 February 2016) to discuss the next stage for recovery of all monies owed to this village charity.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm