

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 12th February 2018 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Alan Baverstock,(Chair), Barbara Adair, Roger Bingham, Peter Capasso, Peter Hill, Steve Hurst, Jim Robson and Jen Scrogam. Also CC Ian Stewart (up to and including item 6), D Cllr Rupert Audland (as from item 6.2) and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Clare Lachmann.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2018** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed by Cllr Baverstock.
3. **Announcements by the Chair** – a letter had been received from the Salvation Army (Carnforth) thanking MPC for the collection when the band played in the village at Christmas, raising a generous £507.
4. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** – none.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 15th January 2018.**
 - 5.1 **Draft licences for Playing Field users (5.1)** – ongoing.
 - 5.2 **Heritage Trail tribute panel (5.2)** – a quote of £410 had been received from Leander which was accepted. A sample of the design/material was being sent to MPC. Ongoing.
 - 5.3 **Playing field boundary wall (5.3)** – no further progress in what was likely to be a long-running exercise. All options to be considered to bring the matter to a satisfactory conclusion.
 - 5.4 **WW1 end of war commemoration (5.4)** – Cllr Adair had made some progress in researching the existing families of the fallen. Cllrs Bingham and Capasso to continue this research. One masonry estimate had been received for the work required to prepare and add a new plaque to the war memorial and a site meeting with a second mason had been arranged for 13th February.
 - 5.5 **Smiley SIDs for Milnthorpe (5.5)** – a third device now installed (in Main Street) and in operation was having a noticeable effect on slowing down traffic. Statistical data being downloaded and analysed. Thanks to Cllr Capasso for his efforts in bringing this about and to all providers of financial assistance for the project.
 - 5.6 **Public Space Protection Order (5.7)** – Cllr Baverstock and the Clerk had had a very useful meeting with an SLDC representative to discuss the MPC application, as a result of which this application to be fast-tracked through the process. Clerk to convey MPC's appreciation to SLDC, with copy to D Cllr Audland.
 - 5.7 **Milnthorpe Sign Survey (7.1)** – no further progress.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 **Police Report** – report received and circulated before the meeting.
 - 6.2 **County Council** – C Cllr Stewart reported that the county's budgeting process was now complete and required a total increase of 3.99% in its portion of 2018/19 Council Tax, mainly due to heavy demand in meeting its statutory obligations for services for young people and the elderly. The regular highway flooding in Park Road, between the two bridges, and at Dallam School roundabout was of concern, but there was no easy solution to either problem – any ideas welcome (**to agenda for next MPC meeting**). The extensive repair work currently being carried out at the Croftside CCC care home, seemed to suggest its safety from closures in this sector, at least in the short/medium term. The grass verge at the bottom end (west side) of Church Street needed measures to protect it from damage by unauthorised parking. It was hoped that the road surface problem in Firs Road could be tackled soon. Re-surfacing work on the A6 though the village appeared to be going smoothly.
 - 6.3 **District Council** – C Cllr Stewart applauded the hedge trimming and layby clearance in Church Street, which was much appreciated by all, and it was hoped that SLDC would use its mechanical equipment to sweep the footways, but some additional manual work would be needed to assist.
 - 6.4 **Electors** – reported that the Cricket Club was to erect two signs drawing attention to its current dog restriction status. Also commented that some illustrated display panel, showing the playing field's different areas of use and individual responsibility, would be useful for those seeking to report infringements/incidents. The resurfacing of Park Road (as part of the current A6 resurfacing project) will be delayed by essential BT work that must be carried out first.

7. New matters for consideration.

7.1 Milnthorpe's Christmas 2017 event – a written financial report from Suzie Kavanagh showed a healthy end-of-year cash balance despite the event's small shortfall of income against expenditure.

8. Planning Matters.

8.1 Applications under consideration by MPC, and SLDC decisions

February 2018 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/2018/0022	12 Bela Avenue	Postlethwaite	Two-storey side extension	07/02/18	No objection

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

SL/2018/0039	The Strands, Park Road	Hunt (Corinthians)	Toilet block extension	27/02/18	No objection
SL/2018/0103	Apple Trees, Ackenthwaite	Stones	Raising roof to provide extra accommodation	28/02/18	Awaited

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8.2 Related matters & correspondence: - SL/2018/0039 – formal notice from Corinthians of proposed work – noted and approved.

- no satisfactory conclusion to Flames take-away planning infringements.

9. Finance.

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – JANUARY 2018

MEETING – 12th February 2018

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

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c	Reserve Funds
				£	£
01/01/18	Opening balances				21,956.04
31/01/18	Receipts:				
		Market	Rents collected January	496.20	
		Mem Hall	Grant	1,000.00	
					1,496.20
	Payments:				
		DD	SLDC Business rates (market)	109.00	
	655	DD	Texaco Guard card (Nov)	.50	
			VAT	.10	
				.60	
	656	822	Ch Th K Meeting room hire	75.00	
	657	823	Robson H Bond – reg. office enquiries	52.25	
	658	824	Natland Batteries cost share for LAP/SID	31.44	
	659	825	H'matic Toilets 3mths to 31/10	2,055.00	
			VAT	411.00	
				2,466.00	
	660	826	H'matic Toilets 3mths to 31/1	1,500.00	
			VAT	300.00	
				1,800.00	
	661	827	Pandora 'Smiley' SID	2,723.40	
			VAT	544.68	
				3,268.08	
	662	828-832	Payroll January	1,269.93	
			Total payments in month		-9,582.40
31/01/18	Closing balances			33,704.47	21,956.04
31/01/18	Total funds all accounts				£55,660.51

Resolved – that the above payments be approved.

9.2 Other financial matters – none.

10. Market- rents for January £496 (Jan 2017, £530) – total for year 2017/18 to date, including Natwest £7,195 (2016/17 - £7,319). Market Supervisor's Report – market relatively quiet. Some drivers still moving barriers and driving through. Some vehicles still on Square Thursday/Friday overnight – police aware, permanent solution needed. MN Textiles remains absent from market and impossible to contact, despite promises to attend and honour debts to customers (orders undelivered) and to MPC (unpaid rents); more unhappy customers emerging and being encouraged to take their problems direct to Small Claims Court. Other traders co-operating to try to locate MN Textiles and resolve the issue in the interest of the market's otherwise good name. Cllr Capasso and the Clerk to consider advertising requirements for the 2018 Good Friday market (30 March) to include the Westmorland Gazette (on Thursday 22 March) & possibly the Lancaster Guardian, depending on cost. **Agreed** – that the cancelled Market Traders meeting (due to have been held on 12 February) should be rescheduled for April.

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

12. Parish Matters (for information only).

Cllr Robson – standing water on some village footways.

Cllr Capasso – poor surfaces on Candle Lane (road) and The Bull car park to Spar (footway).

Cllr Adair – dog fouling between Owlet Ash House, Main Street, and Dallam School roundabout.

Cllr Baverstock – trees on The Square, The Green and the Playing Field come up for their regular three-year survey in June 2018 and the need for professional trimming could result. Noted that St Thomas's church had been 'unable to appoint a new priest'.

13. General correspondence

24/01/18 - Sayers – complementing MPC and C Cllr Stewart on the start of the A6 resurfacing work.

14. Reading Matter – none.

15. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting, and additional to those referred to above – investigation into the possibility of a special promotion for Christmas 2018 as regards the cost of Christmas trees to local businesses and MPC's contribution. Clerk to research.

16. Date of next meeting – on Monday 12 March 2018 - in Milnthorpe Catholic Church Hall at 7.30pm, preceded at 7.00pm by the Milnthorpe Annual Assembly.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm