

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllrs Alan Baverstock,(Chair), Barbara Adair, Roger Bingham, Peter Capasso, Steve Hurst, Jim Robson and Jen Scrogham. Also CC Ian Stewart (for items 5 & 6), Parish Clerk John Scargill, Market Supervisor James Lowther (for item 10) and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs Peter Hill (holiday) and Clare Lachmann and D Cllr R Audland..
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2018** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed by Cllr Baverstock.
3. **Announcements by the Chair** – reported with sadness the recent death of a village resident in a traffic accident. Our thoughts are with his family.
4. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** – none.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 12th February 2018.**
 - 5.1 **Draft Playing Field user licences (5.1)** – ongoing. Clerk to check progress with Milne Moser.
 - 5.2 **Heritage Trail tribute panel (5.2)** – the final panel was now in production by Leander. Ongoing.
 - 5.3 **Playing field boundary wall (5.3)** – in an important development, Cumbria County had secured EU funding to repair the riverside path, re-tarmac the path link back to the road and undertake other related work, all to be completed by November 2018. The way would then be clear for MPC to proceed with rebuilding the Playing Field boundary wall or a suitable alternative. MPC would liaise with CCC Countryside Access regarding the footpath. External finance would be needed to fund MPC work on the project. This progress was welcomed by members.
 - 5.4 **WW1 end of war commemoration (5.4)** – Cllr Robson and the Clerk had had a site meeting with Parkin & Jackson to discuss work on the memorial, for which a quotation had now been received. A similar meeting to be organised with another firm with a view to obtaining a second quotation for this work. Clerk to progress.
 - 5.5 **Milnthorpe Sign Survey (5.7)** – Cllr Bingham was getting people together to finalise proposals which would then be put to the District Council.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 **Police Report** – report received and circulated before the meeting. Contents noted.
 - 6.2 **County Council** – Persistent flooding at the Dallam School roundabout to be investigated with funding becoming available in the new financial year. Some questions over the quality of recent yellow lining work. Park Road resurfacing delayed by, and awaiting completion of, overdue BT work in the area. Firs Road resurfacing expected to be scheduled for early in financial year 2018/19. Verge work and tree trimming along the A6, just south of the village boundary, had been completed; offcuts and other waste remained to be cleared.
 - 6.3 **District Council** – members advised Cllr Stewart of insufficient co-operation from SLDC enforcement officers in monitoring and taking action on parking infringements on market day. Clerk to email D Cllr Audland (cc C Cllr Stewart) on this matter.
 - 6.4 **Electors** – recent isolated visits of County Council on-street parking enforcement officers to the Harmony Hill area of the village welcomed, but apparently no action taken as a result.
7. **New matters for consideration.**
 - 7.1 **Dallam School roundabout flooding** – see 6.2 above.
 - 7.2 **A6 resurfacing progress** – see 6.2 above.
 - 7.3 **Village Christmas Trees** – marked decline in the number of trees displayed by local businesses in 2017. MPC's subsidy scheme to be reconsidered for 2018. Clerk to prepare figures on options.
 - 7.4 **SLDC car park information boards** – Cllr Baverstock and the Clerk had had a useful site meeting with SLDC to discuss new boards for the Milnthorpe car parks. Draft illustrations of the proposed new boards had been produced by SLDC and were currently being revised to correct errors and improve information. End result should be beneficial to car park users and, ultimately, for village trade.

8. Planning Matters.

8.1 Applications under consideration by MPC, and SLDC decisions

March 2018 meeting

Type A applications – SLDC response deadline precedes next PC meeting – Clerk to respond. (Members to email Clerk ASAP and before deadline)

| SLDC ref | Address | Applicant | Development | Deadline | MPC Response |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|------------------------------|----------|--------------|
| SL/2018/0147 | 17 The Square | Smith | Single-storey rear extension | 13/03/18 | Objection |

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

| SLDC ref | Address | Applicant | Development | Deadline | MPC Response |
|----------|---------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|
| | | | | | |

Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

| SLDC ref | Address | Applicant | Development | SLDC decision |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| SL/2018/0022 | 12 Bela Avenue | Postlethwaite | Two-storey side & rear extension | Approved with conditions |

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

8.2 Related matters & correspondence: detailed objections to SL/2018/0147 had been submitted to SLDC before the specified deadline.

9. Finance.

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – FEBRUARY 2018

MEETING – 12th March 2018

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

| Date | Transaction | Payee/er | Detail | Current a/c £ | Reserve Funds £ |
|----------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 01/02/18 | Opening balances | | | | 21,956.04 |
| 28/02/18 | Receipts: | | | | |
| | | Market | Rents collected February | 508.20 | |
| | | Wilson | Donation re H Bond memorial | 100.00 | |
| | | Juniors | PL. Field rent 2017/18 | 10.00 | |
| | | | | | 618.20 |
| | Payments: | | | | |
| | 663 DD | Texaco | Guard card (Nov) VAT | .50 .10 | |
| | | | | .60 | |
| | 664 DD | Eon | Market elec. VAT | 134.58 6.73 | |
| | | | | 141.31 | |
| | 667 833 | Npower | Toilets elec VAT | 63.64 3.17 | |
| | | | | 66.51 | |
| | 668 834 | Higton | Xmas trees 2017 | 140.00 | |
| | 669 835-839 | Payroll | February | 1,240.03 | |
| | 670 840 | H'matic | Toilets m'tce Feb. | 600.00 | |
| | | | | | |
| | Total payments in month | | | | -2,188.45 |
| 28/02/18 | Closing balances | | | | 32,134.22 |
| 28/02/18 | Total funds all accounts | | | | £54,090.26 |

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

9.2 Other financial matters – Cllr Baverstock and the Clerk were to conduct their annual Risk Assessment, with particular reference to insurance cover for the three recently acquired 'smiley' SIDs. Healthmatic were now submitting their toilet maintenance account on a monthly basis, which would enable their charges to be reflected in the correct accounting periods.

10. Market- rents for February £508 (Feb 2017, £621) – total for year 2017/18 to date, including Natwest £7,703 (2016/17 - £7,940). Market Supervisor's Report – market generally quiet, all special contacts and arrangements made for Good Friday. Continuing problems with unauthorised parking on market day, including overnight (Thurs/Fri) parking and drivers physically moving barriers to gain access. **Agreed** – co-operative traders to be asked to park one of their vehicles just inside entrance barriers to block access by other vehicles even when barrier moved – but allowing access for emergency vehicles as needed. SLDC off-street parking enforcement officers rarely present and unhelpful when they are – Clerk to inform D Cllr Audland, requesting assistance in dealing with this matter. Police seldom seen and not always helpful when consulted. Extra police-type blue 'No Parking' signs for the top and side laybys suggested. Possible clarification of market rules needed as to what constitutes a valid market, but Market Supervisor currently has discretion to rule on this. Advertising for Good Friday market agreed as to usual quarter-page display for Westmorland Gazette plus, on this occasion, a half page equivalent for Lancaster Guardian, with Cllr Capasso responsible for copy and contact with the two papers.

11. To receive any reports from representatives on outside bodies – Cllr Robson had attended an interesting presentation on community energy.

12. Parish Matters (for information only).

Cllr Adair – flooding at Dallam School roundabout – difficult for both motorists and pedestrians.

Cllr Robson – minor road surface problem outside Cross Keys following re-surfacing.

Cllr Bingham – praised British Gas for responding quickly and effectively to his reporting of gas fumes in the area of The Smithy, Ackenthwaite.

Cllr Capasso – damage issues with the grass verge in the lower part of Church Street. Suggested MPC purchase of a Cardboard Policeman for +/-£90 as a further and inexpensive way of dealing with speeding traffic – **agreed**.

Cllr Hurst – reported that David Mason had bought a tractor for his own personal, and occasional MPC, use. **Agreed** – that he may purchase fuel for the latter on his MPC account at the Spar store.

13. General correspondence – none.

14. Reading Matter – Clerks & Councils Direct, issue 116, March 2018.

15. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting, and additional to those referred to above – none.

16. Date of next meeting – on Monday 16 April 2018 - in Milnthorpe Catholic Church Hall at 7.30pm, preceded at 7.00pm by the re-scheduled Market Traders meeting. Cllr Baverstock gave his apologies in advance for these meetings.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm