

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 13th June 2016 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Jen Scrogam (Chair), Barbara Adair, Roger Bingham, Pete Capasso, Neil Dodds, Steve Hurst, Clare Lachmann and Jim Robson.. Also County Cllr Ian Stewart (for item 6.2) & District Councillor Rupert Audland, Parish Clerk John Scargill, Market Supervisor Ann Johnston and three members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Baverstock (holiday) & Cumbria Police.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2016** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed as a correct record by Cllr Scrogam.
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 16th May 2016.**
 - 5.1 **Draft licences for Playing Field users (13.1)** – ongoing – Cllrs Scrogam and Robson to discuss draft licences with individual tenants..
 - 5.2 **Community-operated speedwatch monitoring devices 13.2)** – Cllr Robson reported a battery charger breakdown and replacement – likely to be free-of-charge under guarantee. Results of individual operating sessions passed to police by email & post. **Agreed** – Cllr Robson to be reimbursed for any incidental costs.
 - 5.3 **Replacement of bollards on the Square (13.3)** – now to hand and awaiting installation by Atkinsons, whose costs re damaged bollard to be included in insurance claim against driver. Clerk to progress.
 - 5.4 **Storm Desmond (13.4)** – remedial action by Gas company awaited. Work on closing the wall gap at the rear of the Homing Club pavilion to commence 13 July.
 - 5.5 **Cemetery Lane (13.5)** – flooding quickly recurs after moderate rain; also on nearby highway. Drains and drainage tank silted up. Cllr Audland still trying to progress remedial work.
 - 5.6 **Lifebelt provision for The Strands (13.7)** – responsibility for this rests with Dallam Tower Estate as land owner. Clerk to inform Dallam.
 - 5.7 **Refresh expansion (13.8)** - Cllrs Scrogam & Dodds had discussed with owner who had been advised, as a precaution, to clear her proposals with SLDC and CCC before implementation. No objections from MPC.
 - 5.8 **Defibrillator insurance (13.9)** – could be included in existing MPC policy only if MPC were owner of equipment, but MPC unwilling to bear initial capital or ongoing maintenance costs . Milne Moser, as existing owner, to explore ways of achieving this.
 - 5.9 **New ‘smiley-type’ traffic monitoring device (14.2)** - MPC had indicated interest in this. Cllr Stewart to convey this interest to CCC. Remove from future agendas until further progress.
 - 5.10 **Footway improvements (14.2)** – mainly relates to pathway along A6 north and south out of village. Confirmed as on Highways list of work for 2016/17.
 - 5.11 **War memorial garden (17)** – Cllr Baverstock had reported a successful handover of responsibility to Green Dental. Clerk to send letter of thanks for their offer of involvement.
 - 5.12 **Pony field at Ackenthwaite (25)** – Dallam’s letter of complaint passed to MPC’s tenant who had requested copies of tenancy agreement and site plan. Site plan sent but no tenancy agreement to hand – Clerk to pursue with Milne Moser/SLDC.
 - 5.13 **Milnthorpe relics (20)** – Cllr Bingham had discussed with county archaeologist and to speak to Dallam School as a possible future guardian of the relics if and when returned to Milnthorpe.

6. Public Participation:

- 6.1 Police Report** – received and circulated before the meeting. Over the wider local area, 49 reported incidents resulting in 10 recorded crimes, five in or near Milnthorpe – including theft of MPC equipment from storage building on Green. Should be covered by insurance policy – Clerk to make claim. Store security to be re-assessed.
- 6.2 County Council (Cllr Stewart)** – reported issues relating to his Health portfolio responsibility, including bowel cancer tests, vulnerable people both young and old, and an increase in the number of children coming into care (from neglect rather than abuse). Trees overgrown and causing problems along the A6 had been inspected and two earmarked for felling. Cllr Robson requested that the trees adjacent to Gable Ends, at the A6/Mill Lane junction, also be considered for felling, A survey of current highways problems with Nick Raymond was scheduled for the week commencing 20 June. Clerk to email Cllr Stewart re tractor droppings in Park Road, likely to result in blocked drains when flushed away by rain water.
- 6.3 District Council (Cllr Audland)** – finance had been secured in 2016/17 for the Milnthorpe Economic Plan. Cones could be used to good effect on Police Square/Haverflatts Lane (Cllr Bingham had a supply of these). There had been complaints of high noise levels and dangerous activities from teenage groups on The Square. A problem tree at the entrance to Owlet Ash needed to be felled. Take up for high-speed broadband had been disappointing. Unwelcome outdoor activities and noise during the night was a problem outside Flames take-away (observed and noted by police) and there had been complaints about the noise from its flue. The new parking restrictions in Harmony Green area had resulted in more cars being parked in Firs Road. Regular machine clearance of Milnthorpe paths, at no cost to MPC, was to be put on the SLDC roster for the future.
- 6.5 MiPAD** – Kathy Watts-Jones presented substantially completed plans for the proposed exercise equipment and its location on the Playing Field, following extensive public consultation - broadly accepted by members. **Agreed** - that MiPAD would transfer to MPC its (approx. £16,000) monies in hand from fund-raising events, being the quoted cost of this equipment, whereupon MPC would place a purchase order with the suppliers. Delivery was estimated at 6-8 weeks. Clerk to ensure that equipment items/values were notified to its insurers for all risks cover before installation and establish what extra premium would be involved. MiPAD to show final plans to nearby residents as a matter of urgency and put in MPC notice board. Suitable signage and disclaimer notices to be ordered from same suppliers on receipt of an acceptable quote. Members thanked Kathy and her team for their considerable efforts over many months to bring this project to a successful conclusion.
- 6.6 Matters raised by electors** – more cones needed for traffic control on Police Square (see also 6.3 above). A particular car was regularly parked in a dangerous and unauthorised position on Police Square (correct procedure was to take the registration number of the car and report it to the police via the 101 number).

7. Planning Matters.

7.1 Applications under consideration by MPC and SLDC decisions

June 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/2016/0473	Flats 20 & 20A, Park Rd	Houghton	Replacement of porch, windows and doors	16/06/16	No objections
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Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

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

7.2 Related matters & correspondence: members hoped that the original cobble pavement outside Flats 20 & 20A Park Road would be retained/preserved in the ongoing general refurbishment. Clerk to obtain update from SLDC on the situation re various unauthorised refurbishment features at Flames take-away, raised earlier by MPC.

8. Finance:

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT			MONTH – MAY 2016		MEETING – 13 th June 2016		
8.1 Report on bank receipts, bank payments (for approval) & bank balances.							
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail		Current a/c		Reserve Funds
					£	£	£
01/05/16	Opening balances					40,021.57	21,937.00
31/05/16	Receipts: 67	Market	Rents collected May			690.30	
	68	HMRC	VAT refund re 2015/16			2,742.95	
"	Payments:						
		DD SLDC	Rates (market)		133.00		
		DD SLDC	Rates (public toilets)		172.00		
	492	DD Texaco	Equip. fuel	10.27			
			VAT	.58			
					10.85		
	493-5	DD Eon	Market elec.	79.56			
			VAT	3.97			
					83.53		
	496	497 Dallam	Play. Fld. Rent 6mths		2.50		
	497	498 Glasdon	Two new bollards	378.84			
			VAT	75.76			
					454.60		
	498	499 Scargill	Clerk's expense all'ces 6mths		245.00		
	499	500-505	Payroll	May	1,567.99		
	500	506 Townley	Bench maintenance		520.00		
	Total payments in month					-3,189.47	
31/05/16	Closing balances					40,265.35	21,937.00
31/05/16	Total funds all accounts						£62,202.35

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

8.2 Other financial matters:

- **MPC annual Risk Assessment** – to be arranged (Finance Group)
- **MPC insurance policy renewal for 2016/17** – quoted premium of £809.88pa for a 5 year long term.- **accepted**.

- 9. Market** - rents for May £690 – total for year 2016/17 to date £1,508 (2015/16 - £1,726). Recent market attendances had been poor, attributed in part to a decline in the number of Farmers Market stalls. Also no recent calls expressing interest from potential new stall-holders. **Agreed** – that support for regular traditional stall-holders should be given precedence over Farmers Market. Difficulty in operating the heavy public toilet doors was mentioned – to be referred to the contractor.
- 10. To receive any reports from representatives on outside bodies** – none, but a LAP meeting scheduled for next week (week commencing 20 June).
- 11. Highways matters:**
- Cllr Bingham** – traffic lights still a problem. Cllr Capasso to investigate possibility of temporary CCTV installation at Cross Keys to record incidents.
- Cllr Robson** – had received a suggestion from a Whassetts resident that a small raised centre area for the now all-but-invisible Dallam School painted mini-roundabout might be more effective in slowing traffic at that point – agreed in principle provided no resulting work delays. Clerk to email Cllr Stewart.
- Cllr Hurst** – had received suggestion for the installation of zebra crossings at three important and busy points in the village, both to help pedestrians and assist with slowing traffic generally. Clerk to email Cllr Stewart on the subject.
- Also raised from an earlier MPC meeting** – traffic advice signs for Paradise Lane – estimated cost quoted by Highways for 'Unsuitable for HGVs' signs was £500 for one (£900 for two). Clerk to establish if meant CCC (or MPC) to pay.

12. Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Hurst – David Mason had complained about dog fouling on the Playing Field.

Cllr Lachmann – referred to the same problem in other places in the village. (Additional bins were an expensive, and not too effective, way of tackling this problem – unofficial ‘polite notices’ by residents had, in the past, proved more effective).

Cllr Capasso – observed that verges at the entrance to Owlet Ash Fields needed trimming.

13. Current PC business – a new item (Past images of Milnthorpe village) to be added to the list of projects - material to be supplied by Cllr Capasso.

14. Milnthorpe Economic Plan – currently being progressed by SLDC (see also 6.3 above). Grant funding might be available through the Environmental Partnership Fund.

15. Playing Field:

- **play equipment** - Wicksteed **quote of £2,509** for necessary maintenance work was **accepted**.

- **misuse** – was clarified by Cllr Robson as relating to land behind the Cricket Club, where there was a mound of grass cuttings and a very poorly maintained grassy bank. Cllr Robson to suggest to the clubs that they deal with this between themselves.

16. General correspondence:

May 19 – Cumbria CVS & South Lakeland Mind 1 asking for support against WGH Kentmere (Mental Health) Ward (earlier circulated to all members).

17. Reading Matter – Clerks & Councils Direct – issue 105 – May 2016..

18. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting: nothing additional to the above.

19. Date of next meeting – 7.30pm on Monday 11th July 2016 at the Catholic Church Hall

The meeting closed at 9.50pm