

# **MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Peter Capasso (Chair), Barbara Adair, Alan Baverstock, Roger Bingham, Steve Hurst, Jim Robson and Jen Scrogam. Also D Cllr Audland, C Cllr McSweeney (item 5.5 onwards), Parish Clerk John Scargill and two members of the public. B4RN representatives up to and including item 3.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs Hill (work) and Lachmann (family commitment).
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed by Cllr Capasso.
3. **Announcements by the Chair** – Cllr Capasso introduced representatives from B4RN/Dallam School. The B4RN representative gave a short but informative overview of B4RN – an independent community-based organisation involved in developing generally available superfast fibre broadband facilities, with particular reference to its proposed future coverage of Milnthorpe. Dallam School was already committed to this project and offered to act as the main point of contact between B4RN and the wider public. MPC members were unanimous in supporting the project and offered to publicise it within the local community.
4. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** – none.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018.**
  - 5.1 **Draft Playing Field user licences (5.1)** – MPC was awaiting confirmation from Milne Moser that properly completed licences had been received back from all four tenant clubs. Ongoing.
  - 5.2 **Playing field boundary wall (5.2)** – a site meeting with Mrs Villiers-Smith was to be arranged before finalising the specification for the new wall. This specification was necessary before quotes for the actual rebuilding could be obtained. The quotes themselves were needed before finance could be sought and arranged.
  - 5.3 **Milnthorpe Sign Survey (5.3)** – Ongoing.
  - 5.4 **St. Thomas's Church communications mast (5.4)** – no further sign of activity from the mast installers. **Agreed** – Clerk to write to SLDC Planning (Development Control) requesting action to rectify the present contravention of planning permission.
  - 5.5 **Renewal of dog fouling signs on playing field (5.5)** – Clerk to continue to press SLDC for a response on the question of the practical consequences of recent admin changes. Ongoing.
  - 5.6 **Village Christmas trees 2018 (5.6)** – the supplier's invoice was now to hand, confirming a take-up of 38 trees and a cost to MPC of £950 under the new scheme. Widespread favourable reaction to the improved appearance of the village over the Christmas period.
  - 5.7 **Parking discs (7.1)** – looking increasingly likely that MPC would, in future, be expected to purchase its own discs, but no supplier yet found to provide discs at reasonable cost. Clerk to consult with his opposite number at Appleby, which was known to operate a similar system.
  - 5.8 **MPC Standing Orders (7.2)** – these needed to be up-dated in the light of legislation changes and NALC recommendations (per Model Standing Orders). Beetham PC had Standing Orders very similar to MPC and had already done detailed work on the necessary changes, which they were happy to share. The modified Beetham PC Standing Orders had been circulated to MPC members. **Agreed** – that MPC liaise with Beetham PC to use the amended Beetham PC Standing Orders, adapted as necessary for MPC purposes. Clerk to implement.
  - 5.9 **Clerk's annual review (7.3)** – had been conducted by Cllr Capasso on 11 January 2019.
6. **Public Participation:**
  - 6.1 **Police Report** – report received, showing 7 crimes recorded for Milnthorpe.
  - 6.2 **County Council** – Arnside Fire Station, along with the stations at Staveley and Walney, would soon be trialling smaller and more accessible rapid response vehicles intended to replace the less manoeuvrable conventional engines. The Police precept for 2019/20 was to increase by £24pa (for Band D properties) to fund national pay increases for existing personnel and new recruits. C Cllr McSweeney asked for MPC members to list all existing highways problems for the next MPC meeting and to report all future issues directly to him, for taking up with the appropriate County Highways personnel. The resurfacing of Park Road had been hindered by unexpected difficulties but it was hoped work would be completed over the next few months.

**6.3 District Council** – a mainly quiet period. Public reaction to the increased number of Christmas trees displayed in the village had been very favourable. D Cllr Audland would be following up the problem of car parking near the library. Parking on pavements and other unauthorised areas in and around Milnthorpe Square had now become a serious problem and needed to be robustly tackled.

**6.4 Electors** – the current absence of an ATM at the Post Office was a serious inconvenience (but it was pointed out that cash could be deposited and withdrawn in chosen denominations via the Post Office counter). It was reported that a group of residents was keen to further improve the impact of Christmas in 2019 by installing a large decorated communal tree on the Green and other related attractions/events. This was welcomed and would be supported by MPC.

**7. New matters for consideration:**

**7.1 Milnthorpe Tree Survey.** A comprehensive professional survey had been undertaken and the report circulated to all members. **Agreed** – that work be prioritised and the action plan proposed by Cllr Baverstock implemented forthwith. Cllr Baverstock to brief the contractors accordingly.

**8. Planning matters** – no activity to report for December.

**9. Finance.**

**MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT MONTH – DECEMBER 2018 MEETING – 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

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

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c	Reserve Funds
				£	£
01/12/18	Opening balances				21,968.38
31/12/18	Receipts:	Market	Rents collected Dec		336.80
		HSBC	Bank interest to 6 Dec		10.95
		Elec NW	Wayleaves		22.83
	Payments:				
	DD	SLDC	Business rates (market) Dec	78.00	
	746 DD	UKFuels	Guard card Nov (pd Dec)	0.50	
			VAT	0.10	
				.60	
	747 745	Barnfield	Machinery repairs etc	529.43	
			VAT	105.88	
				635.31	
	748 746	Hurst	Drain clearing	80.00	
			VAT	16.00	
				96.00	
	749 747	Water Plus	Toilets water		33.17
	750 748-752	Payroll	Dec	1,209.90	
	751 753	Healthmatic	Toilets mtce Dec	500.00	
			VAT	100.00	
				600.00	
	Total payments in month				-2,652.98
31/12/18	Closing balances			40,650.44	21,979.33
31/12/18	Total funds all accounts				£62,629.77

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

**9.2 Any other financial matters:**

- **MPC 8mths accounts to 30 November 2018 – approved** as circulated.
- **MPC budget/precept for 2019/20 – approved** as circulated, with the precept of £27K being held at the approximate levels of recent years. Clerk to submit to SLDC by 25 Jan deadline.

**10. Market.** Rents for Dec 2018 £337 (Dec 2017 £581), year to date £5,531 (2017/18 £6,699).

Market Supervisor's monthly report – Market quiet due to poor weather and sickness. Vehicle parking and barriers continue to be a problem. Plant stall withdrawing, so replacement plant stall sought.

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

**12. Parish Matters** (for information only):

**Cllr Bingham** – noted overgrown trees along Main Street. Had been delighted with the large congregations at Christmas 2018 village church services.

**Cllr Adair** – reported overhanging trees at Ackenthwaite House. The Christmas nativity walk round the village had been an attractive and well organised event.

**Cllr Scrogham** – increasingly unhappy about dog-fouling in the village. SLDC's John Barwise needed to take action.

**Cllr Baverstock** – felt that 'Village Centre' signs were in need of a spring clean, which could be done by MPC itself with the right (pressure washer) equipment. Echoed the general feeling that the village had looked good with its Christmas 2018 displays.

**13. General correspondence** – none.

**14. Reading Matter** – Clerks & Councils Direct – issue 121 – January 2019.

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

**15. Date of next meeting** – confirmed as Monday 11 February 2019 at 7.30pm in Milnthorpe Catholic Church Hall – to be preceded at 7.00pm by a bi-annual Market Traders meeting

**The meeting closed at 9.15pm**