

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 14th July 2014 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.15pm.

Present: Cllrs Jim Robson (Chair), Barbara Adair, Roger Bingham, Rod Bowker, Neil Dodds, Jen Scrogam and Paul Troughton. Also Cllr Ian Stewart and Cllr David Ryder (up to and including item 6.3), Parish Clerk John Scargill, Market Supervisor Ann Johnston, PCSCs Boak and Hutchinson (item 6.1 only), Mr & Mrs Rushforth (Milnthorpe PO) and four members of the public.

The United Utilities presentation, scheduled to precede the PC meeting, was cancelled due to the non-appearance without notice of their speaker (Simon Holding).

1. **Apologies for Absence:** from Cllr A Baverstock (holiday).
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2014** - 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 9th June 2014.**
 - 5.1 **MPC lifebelts (5.3)** – SLDC had confirmed they were the owners, and responsible for the maintenance, of the two lifebelts currently in place in the parish.
 - 5.2 **Milne Moser (5.5)** – Richard March of Milne Moser had now prepared a draft contract which, with some amendments, had been approved by Cllrs Robson and Baverstock before being circulated to all members. **Approved** by the meeting.
 - 5.3 **Survey of highway signage (5.6)** – ongoing. Photographs would be useful to illustrate where need for improvement arises.
 - 5.4 **Meals on Wheels service (5.7)** – agreed not an MPC matter.
 - 5.5 **Quicksand signage (6.2)** – sign wording has now been agreed with Dallam. Clerk to enquire of Kelly Alty (CCC) what signs were to be located in Milnthorpe parish.
 - 5.6 **Park Road traffic congestion (15)** – aggravated by brewery deliveries to Cross Keys Hotel on market days. Clerk to write direct to brewery to explore possibility of alternative delivery days.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 **Police Report** – a report had been received on the day of the meeting and circulated to members. Few reported incidents. Police aware of persistent illegal car-parking impeding free access to pavement beside Mirror Mirror and warnings unheeded – henceforth be dealt with by ticketing. Police advice is to report all such incidents (beside Mirror Mirror and elsewhere) by ringing 101 direct, which would ensure instant ‘logging’ and swifter action.
 - 6.2 **County Council (Cllr Stewart)** – the commercially operated bus service between Arnside and Kendal, no longer in receipt of CCC subsidy, was to be curtailed by terminating the 9.35am service. Broadband developments at the Milnthorpe exchange were being subject to technical delays with, as yet, no promised completion date. Re the traffic lights, some action had been taken but problems remained – namely, the time allowed for pedestrian crossing. Extensive road surface dressing had taken place on the B5282 and the B6385, but without regard to stretches which were in good condition because of recent serious (and costly) repair work.
 - 6.3 **District Council (Cllr Stewart – Cllr Ryder having been away on holiday)** – gave notice of a planning application from Fishwick’s Funeral Services for development of their Beetham Hall site in Beetham parish, on which MPC may have a view and wish to be included in the consultation process and the circulation of all future documentation. Clerk to advise SLDC Planning.

6.4 Matters raised by electors:

- Milnthorpe Post Office – Mr & Mrs Rushforth explained that Post Office Ltd was proposing a move from the present site to a different location in the village, which would involve changed procedures and working arrangements. As a result, they considered the business was no longer financially viable for them and had decided to retire. There were several issues of concern that could be of public interest and might justify a formal response to Post Office Ltd from MPC. **Agreed** – MPC to consider an appropriate response and place a copy of Post Office Ltd's proposals in its notice board alongside the July meeting minutes.
MPC members and members of the public present at the meeting expressed sadness at this turn of events and paid tribute to Mr & Mrs Rushforth's important and dedicated involvement to village life over many years.
- Ms Sue Barton, owner of Sue's Snack Bar, outlined her plans for her new premises at 5 The Square and asked for MPC's approval. She was asked to put her proposals in writing. MPC would then consider and respond.
- There was general agreement that the roadside hedge of Owlet Ash House, in Main Street, was again considerably overgrown and causing problems and dangers for pedestrians. Clerk to write to the householder, quoting CCC powers in such cases.

7.0 Planning Matters :

7.1 Applications under consideration by MPC and SLDC decisions

July 2014 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	Response
SL/2014/0562	Dallam School	Dallam School	Extension to form additional offices	08/07/14	No objections

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

SLDC ref	Address	Applicant	Development	Deadline	Response

Decisions received from SLDC

SL/2014/0352	Plot 1, Bela House, Beetham Rd.	Sherrington	Dwelling	Approved with conditions
SL/2014/0404	Low Crag Yeat, Ackenthwaite	Staff	Dining-room extension	Approved with conditions

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

7.2 Related matters & correspondence : none

8. Finance:

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – JUNE 2014

MEETING – 14th July 2014

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

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail		Current a/c	Reserve Funds
					£	£
01/06/14	Opening balances				24,0296.13	22,422.41
30/06/14	Receipts:	Market	Rents collected June		681.25	
		HMRC	VAT refund 2013/14		882.74	
		HSBC	Bank interest			2.95
"	Payments:					
		DD SLDC	Business rates	-130.00		
	314	DD Texaco	Equip fuel	54.15		
			VAT	9.05		
				- 63.20		
	315	240 Zurich	Ins'ce prem. 2014/15	-1,061.19		
	316	251 Craig	Planters mt'ce 2014	-400.00		
	317	252 BDO	Audit fee 2013/14	200.00		
			VAT	40.00		
				-240.00		
	318	253 Cath.Ch.	Mtg room rent	-75.00		
	319	254-259 Payroll	June	-1,448.19		
			Total payments in month		-3,417.58	
30/06/14	Closing balances				22,242.54	22,425.36
30/06/14	Total funds all accounts				£44,667.90	

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

8.2 Other financial matters - audited Annual Return 2013/14 – **approved and accepted.**

- MPC accounts for 3mths to 30/06/14 – **approved and accepted.**
- an alternative payroll bureau was willing to take over MPC payroll as from 01/04/15, when the present bureau was closing. **Agreed** – to be considered by MPC finance committee at an early date.
- Annual insurance cover review – to be arranged (MPC finance committee).

9. Market - rents for June £681 – total year to date £2,143 (2013/14 - £3,050).

Agreed in principle – that MPC should advertise in the trade magazine referred to in its June meeting minutes, on the basis of cost figures received. Mrs Johnston to check what, if any, extra costs would be incurred for commissioning an accompanying article by the magazine's staff.

Cllr Robson reported that it had not, as yet, been possible to come to an agreement with Refresh on the financial terms for outdoor seating at their business premises – ongoing.

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

11. Highways matters – comments on SLDC's discussion paper 'Highways Schedule' to be assembled for next LAP meeting.

12. Parish Matters (for information only):

- **Cllr Troughton** – reported that streetlamp 149 not working. Also the left-hand corner at the entrance to the Park Road car-park was overgrown and untidy. (Members to inspect).
- **Cllr Bowker** – asked if the vandalised bench on the Playing Field, near the play area, could be replaced and some playground equipment was in need of repair (Wicksteed quote £436). The PF gate was again not closing properly – to be referred back to Atkinsons. **Agreed** – for Cllr Bowker to purchase more bulbs for planting.
- **Cllr Bingham** – hoped that the pavements, verges and gutters along the B6385 would be cleared by Highways before this year's County Show.
- **Cllr Scrogam** – the verge along the A6 at the southern entrance to the village was much overgrown and obscuring the 'Milnthorpe' sign (David Mason to do). Volunteers were badly needed to help with Remembrance Day poppy storage and distribution.
- **Cllr Adair** – noted flooding again in Cemetery Lane as a result of the day's heavy showers (speed of dispersal to be monitored).

13. Current PC business:

- 31 – draft lease agreement now received from Milne Moser.

14. Leasgill Quarry Fund – suggestion for grant project for 2014/15 – members in favour of buying two new seats for Children's Play Area on Playing Field, to replace recently vandalised seat. To be confirmed at August meeting.

15. Correspondence – none apart from Post Office Ltd's letter re Milnthorpe PO move, referred to above (6.4).

16. Reading Matter – Clerks & Councils Direct – issue 94, July 2014..

17. Notice of items to be included on agenda for August 2014 meeting – nothing additional to those mentioned above.

19. Date of next meeting – Monday 11 August, **7.30pm** at the Catholic Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.27pm

Members of the public and the press are welcome to attend any meeting of the Parish Council but may speak only during the Public Participation item on the agenda of that meeting, or otherwise at the discretion of the Chair, to raise matters they wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council.