

MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Milnthorpe Parish Council held on Monday 20th April 2015 in the Catholic Church Hall, Milnthorpe at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Jim Robson (Chair), Alan Baverstock, Roger Bingham, Rod Bowker, Neil Dodds and Paul Troughton. Also County Cllr Ian Stewart (up to and including agenda item 6) and District Cllr David Ryder, Parish Clerk John Scargill and four members of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** from Cllrs Barbara Adair (family emergency), Clare Lachmann (birth of first child) and Jen Scrogam (work), Market Supervisor Ann Johnston and Cumbria Police.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2015** - had been circulated, were **APPROVED** by the meeting and signed as a correct record by Cllr Robson.
3. **Announcements by the Chair** – congratulations to Cllr Roger Bingham on his magnificent achievement of having now served as a Milnthorpe Parish Councillor for an unbroken thirty-five years without missing one parish council meeting.
4. **Declaration of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** – Cllr Baverstock (subsequently) during discussion of a request from Refresh for outdoor tables & chairs (6.5 below).
5. **Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 9th March 2015.**
 - 5.1 **Draft sub-leases for Playing Field users (5.1)** – ongoing.
 - 5.2 **Community-operated speedwatch monitoring devices (5.2)** – Cllrs Robson and Baverstock had met with Michael Roberts (Police liaison volunteer) to discuss practicalities. A speed gun could be borrowed from the police for initial training and until MPC could arrange to buy its own – cost £1,000+. On this basis it was **agreed** to proceed with the project. A follow-up meeting to be arranged with the police.
 - 5.3 **HSBC exterior post (5.5)** – re-installation confirmed as a County Council job, so likely to involve a significant time lag.
 - 5.4 **SLDC Environmental Partnership Fund grants (5.6)** – SLDC had approved the Park Road car-park project and were offering £300 towards total cost. Project to proceed on this basis.
 - 5.5 **Christmas on the Green 2015 (19)** – **agreed** that the Green may be used for this event.
 - 5.6 **Link path lighting project (5.3)** – Cllr Bingham to follow up promised donations.
 - 5.7 **Parking on the Square** – an agreed letter had been delivered to all businesses located round or near the Square asking them to ensure that the two-hour charge-free waiting time be observed; this had produced some limited adverse reaction.
 - 5.8 **Pedestrian Survey** – organised by SLDC, had been had been poorly attended, attributed to a combination of limited publicity, poor communication and bad weather.
6. **Public Participation:**
 - 6.1 **Police Report** – an emailed report, covering the period 9 March to 20 April 2015, had been received and circulated – three reported crimes in Minthorpe. Doorstep sellers back in the area and possible deer-poaching reported. Contact 101 to report anything suspicious.
 - 6.2 **County Council (Cllr Stewart)** – suggested a six-month period for testing the proposed loaned or hired speed-gun before investing in own equipment. County funding of one third of cost of purchase offered by Cllr Stewart, suggested to be matched by one third each from SLDC and MPC. Cllr Stewart asked to be kept informed of all developments by being copied into relevant emails. Funding had finally been secured for re-surfacing Haverflatts Lane in 2015/16 together with the promise of action (though on no given time-scale) for Main Street. These projects would result in significant traffic disruption whilst in progress. Some £5,000 of CCC funding available for road signs & lining per MPC proposals. Cllr Stewart to provide MPC with a list of TRO proposals. CCC's rapid and effective response to the urgent request for attention to Cemetery Lane flooding was appreciated by all. District committee felt that small-scale equipment for drain clearing generally could be useful.
 - 6.3 **District Council (Cllr Ryder)** – Cllr Ryder offered congratulations to Cllr Lachmann on the birth of her baby. The £5,000 available for Firs Road traffic improvement measures would be insufficient to cover a one-way system round Firs Green.
 - 6.4 **MiPAD** – nothing to report due to postponement of scheduled MiPAD meeting..
 - 6.5 **Matters raised by electors** – the new proprietors of Refresh requested permission to place tables and chairs outside their premises. It was unclear precisely which organisation had responsibility for this area and could give permission, but MPC would attempt to clarify

with CCC and support any application Refresh might eventually make. A further request from Refresh was for information on where A-boards may be sited – CCC were responsible for decisions re boards on the highway and, for guidance elsewhere, MPC would refer to SLDC's voluntary Code of Conduct for businesses in Kendal. The present, often unfair, situation of indiscriminate siting and limited policing was noted. Better signage re parking rules for vehicles entering the Square was also suggested by the Refresh proprietors - MPC to consider. Separately noted that disabled toilet door heavy and difficult to use, but is contractor Healthmatic's standard equipment, thought likely to ease over time

7.0 Planning Matters:

7.1 Applications under consideration by MPC and SLDC decisions

April 2015 meeting

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

SL/2015/0271	Bela House, Beetham Rd	Wesson	Erection of dwelling	04/05/15	Under Consideration
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Decisions received from SLDC

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

7.2 Related matters & correspondence :

- Canton Chef – new exterior flue brought to SLDC attention – owner now advised by SLDC that planning permission required.
- Fishwick's crematorium application at Beetham Hall – SLDC's earlier refusal now appealed.
- Crematorium proposal for J36 site – refused by SLDC.

8. Finance:

MPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – MAR 2015

MEETING – 20th April 2015

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

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail		Current a/c	Reserve Funds
					£	£
01/03/15	Opening balances					22,431.26
31/03/15	Receipts:	Market	Rents collected March		7,438.17	
		CCC	Grant – sign condition survey		605.95	
		HSBC	Bank interest to 5 Mar 2015		500.00	
		NSI	Investment a/c interest to 1/1/15 (est)			2.95
						40.00
	Payments:					
		DD SLDC	Rates (public toilets)	-238.00		
	380	DD Texaco	Guard card	.50		
			VAT	.10		
						-0.60
	381	344 ESE Direct	Street barriers	95.80		
			VAT	19.16		
						-114.96
	382	345 Johnston	Bench repairs etc	535.00		
			VAT	107.00		
						-642.00
	383	346 Johnston	Bench repairs	185.50		
			VAT	37.10		
						-222.60
	384	347 Athena	Accounting services		-33.33	
	385	348 CALC	Course fees (JRS)		-5.00	
	386	349 Baverstock	Plants etc	84.72		
			VAT	16.94		
						-101.66
	387	350 Christ TK	Meeting room rent		-75.00	
	388	351 Durie	Payroll services		-270.00	
	389	352-357 Payroll	March		-1,790.96	
	390	358 Scargill	Bal'ce of allowances '14/'15		-75.00	
	391	359 Scargill	Post & stat'y Feb/Mar	79.91		
			VAT	13.67		
						-93.58
	392	278 Atkinson	Plinth for Her. plaque	1,333.33		
			VAT	266.67		
						-1,600.00
			Total payments in month			-5,262.69
			Adjustment for chq 305 in Nov 2014 (overdrawn by 4p)			.04
31/03/15	Closing balances				3,281.47	22,474.21
31/03/15	Total funds all accounts					£25,755.68

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

Reserve Funds at 31/03/15	National Savings Bank (est)	5,550.66
	HSBC Deposit a/c	16,923.55
	Total Reserve Funds	£22, 474.21

8.2 Other matters:

Staff pensions - as yet no firm request for membership of any MPC scheme. Registration with government body NEST completed in the event of need for a scheme, either present or future. **Resolution confirming this action approved.**

MPC annual accounts 2014/15 – circulated in advance to all members .

Resolved - that the annual accounts 2014/15 be **APPROVED**.

- that the MPC Annual Return 2014/15, presented at the meeting, be **APPROVED**. This was then signed by the Chairman and the Clerk on behalf of Milnthorpe Parish Council.

Freedom of Information workshop – offered free-of-charge by the Information Commissioner's Office, had been attended by the Clerk on 16/04/15 and had proved useful.

9. Market -.rents for March £606 – total for full year 2014/15 £7,470 (2013/14 - £10,479).

In the absence of Mrs Johnston, her written report was presented by the Clerk. A written request from Refresh for outdoor tables and chairs (see above, agenda item 6.5) had been received together with an unrequested fee of £5 for providing this facility at the Good Friday market. The Good Friday market had been well attended, and should be judged a success, despite poor weather. **Agreed** – that thank-you letters be sent to Penwarden Music, Green Dental, St Thomas's Church and the fairground attraction providers for their valuable contribution to this event - Clerk to implement.

A few new traders were now attending normal Friday markets.

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

11. Highways matters – none.

12. Parish Matters (for information only):

- **Cllr Baverstock** – the Cycle Across Britain event would again call at Milnthorpe (on 09/09/15).

A neighbouring parish council had reported an exceptional increase in the number of pheasants in local gardens, but not considered to be a problem in Milnthorpe. Informal talks with Open Space Society regarding Milnthorpe Green continuing, though not currently a high priority for them.

- **Cllr Robson** – thanked Cllr Troughton and the Kent Estuary Young Farmers group who had both helped tidy both the Playing Field and the churchyard.

- **Cllr Bowker** – had received a complaint regarding car parking near the Olive Tree restaurant. Cllr Ryder assured members that all work that related to this and was on the original list had been done; he would re-issue the list for information. House numbering in the Harmony Green and Hill area was not clear or easily visible – **agreed** for this to be looked at by members.

- **Cllr Bingham** – a tree survey in the wider Milnthorpe area might be necessary as several trees, including some covered by TPOs, could be considered potentially dangerous. Also gaps in the daffodil displays around the village, for no apparent reason, which should be noted for future remedial action. In September, Queen Elizabeth would become Britain's longest reigning monarch, which Cllr Bingham felt should be recognised by the Parish Council (and village) in some way.

Some trees in Cemetery Lane had become overgrown with ivy – but not an MPC responsibility.

- **Cllr Dodds** – noted that the Jimmy Baldwin tree needed to be replaced.

13. Current PC business:

Item 15 – completed, so delete.

Item 29 – artist now contacted

14. MiPAD – dealt with under 6.4 above

15. Milnthorpe Public Toilets – lease with SLDC now completed and copy received. First annual SLDC grant payment awaited.

16. Community Transport Scheme for Milnthorpe – could be useful, though Milnthorpe better placed for public transport than many other local villages. **Agreed** – to gauge public support for such a project by placing an information note in MPC notice board, McColl's notice board and Parish News (as with Speedwatch project) - then proceed accordingly.

- 17. Boundary wall beside Playing Field natural area** – would benefit from screening with plants/ shrubs etc. Cllr Robson to speak to property owner.
- 18. Correspondence:**
- 20/04/15 – SLDC – notice of planning workshops – to be circulated.
- all other items already circulated.
- 19. Reading Matter** – none.
- 20. Notice of items to be included on agenda for next meeting - May 2015** – nothing additional to those mentioned above.
- 21. Date of next meeting** - Monday 18th May 2015 at the Catholic Church Hall:
at 7.00pm – Annual Meeting, to be followed immediately by
at approx. 7.30pm – normal monthly PC meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm