

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Thursday 10 August 2023** at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

Present – Cllrs. Peter Clarke (Chair), Brian Rendell, Tom Grindey and Iain Richards; Westmorland and Furness Cllr. Janet Battye; PCSO Hayley Newman (Cumbria Police) (to give a report); the Clerk and one member of the public

103/23 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. Adrian Bland (reasons accepted and noted)

104/23 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2023 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

105/23 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Clarke declared an interest with regard to item 111/23ii

106/23 Requests for Dispensation

Cllr. Clarke had requested a dispensation to speak regarding item 111/23ii. This was granted

107/23 Public Participation

None

108/23 Co-option of Councillor to fill Vacancy

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mary Capstick as a councillor. She was warmly welcomed to the Council and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form, which was witnessed by the Clerk. She was later sent a Declaration of Interests form for completion and was informed that copies of the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct were on the website

109/23 Ongoing Items

- Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tree Scheme: The Chair had contacted Dallam School and the production of a plaque was to proceed in the new term
- Extension of 50mph limit to Levens Bridge: There was no further information to report. W&FC had announced a priority budget of £300,000 for introducing 20mph zones where communities wanted them. It was agreed that this should go on the next agenda for discussion as there was no immediate urgency to be put on a list
- Field of Dreams: A reply to the Council's claim was awaited. It was noted that wall repairs were needed and Cllr. Rendell was authorised to arrange them
- Buses – Fares and Routes: The cap on fares had been extended to 31 October 2024 but there was no information yet as to whether Stagecoach would agree to designated temporary bus stops at the A6 laybys when the road through the village was closed to buses

110/23 Reports

- a. Westmorland and Furness Cllr. Battye stated that locality boards were active including one for children and families and one for climate change and biodiversity and that local climate conversations were taking place
- b. PCSO Hayley Newman attended to give a report and ask if there were any matters which the Council would like to discuss. She reported on drug problems, church break-ins, burglaries and vehicle crime. She stated that she attended Dallam School every Monday to talk to students; recommended the expansion of cold calling zones and the use of ring video doorbell cameras; and that there was an intention to increase police numbers but many experienced officers had left the force and currently there were two full-time and two part-time officers covering the area from Sedbergh to Arnsdale including Kirkby Lonsdale, Milnthorpe and Heversham. The Council thanked her for sparing the time out of her very busy work schedule
- c. The Athenaeum: It was reported that the tree had been removed so that the bench could be installed and that new windows were being ordered

111/23 Planning

- i) It was noted that the following planning applications had been **submitted** to SLDC and circulated to members of the Council since the last meeting:

SL/2023/0492 Chestnut House & Lane End Cottage, Heversham

External joinery repairs and renewals

SL/2023/0510 Rear of Sunnyside, Woodhouse Lane, Heversham

Erection of a detached dormer bungalow & associated landscaping with access taken from Woodhouse Lane

TR/2023/0082 Beech Tree Barn, Heversham Gardens, Heversham

T1 beech – crown reduce by 2-3m, crown thin by 20% & crown raise by up to 6m

SL/2023/0536 High Meadows, Woodhouse Lane, Heversham

Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) attached to planning permission SL/2020/0328 (Two storey extension and replacement attached two storey garage with ancillary accommodation above)

SL/2023/0595 Horncop Bungalow, Heversham

Replacement of existing flat roof extension with a new pitched roof extension with a canopy

The Council had **no comments** to make on these applications.

- ii) It was noted that the following planning application had been notified as **refused** by W&FC since the last meeting:

SL/2023/0250 Land to the south of Eversley Coach House, Leasgill

Application for outline planning permission for the creation of a detached dwelling with a detached garage/workshop with all matters reserved except access

Cllr. Clarke clarified the reasons for the refusal and he stated that an appeal was in process. The

Council expressed their dismay at the refusal and acknowledged that the parish needed such housing. It was **agreed** that the Council should discuss more general issues relating to planning policy and objections at a future meeting

- iii) It was noted that the following planning application had been notified as **approved** by SLDC since the last meeting:
SL/2023/0101 Paddocks to the north of The Creggans, Woodhouse Lane, Heversham
Installation of 12 ground mounted solar panels
SL/2021/0737 College Green Farm, Heversham
Change of use of agricultural land for the siting of storage containers for storage business (part retrospective)
- iv) The Chair stated that the Neighbourhood Plan group had nothing to report other than an email which had been received from another council concerning a planning decision which they believed could result in Neighbourhood Plans becoming irrelevant. It was agreed to ask the group to consider the email and report to the next meeting

112/23 Highways / Footpaths / Trees and Woods

Highways:

- a) Potholes continued to be reported on HIAMS
- b) It was noted that weeds were growing vigorously between kerbs and tarmac in several locations and Cllr. Battye was asked to make enquiries as to when weed killing would take place
- c) The Clerk was asked to write to Dallam School requesting that the hedge be cut near the telephone box containing the defibrillator
- d) An update had not yet been received regarding the Dallam School pupils' proposal for additional lighting on the A6 between Heversham and Milnthorpe

Footpaths/Tracks:

- i) The electronic footpath guides were now on the Council website
- ii) Contact continued with the Footpaths Section of Westmorland and Furness Council regarding the squeeze stiles but CALC had stated that they knew of no ongoing consideration regarding the tension between traditional squeeze stiles and accessibility on rights of way

Trees and Woods:

- i) The report from the Dallam School trustees' meeting regarding the Council's continued responsibility for the trees on the old railway line had not yet been received
- ii) A beech tree had dropped a limb and Cllr. Rendell agreed to discuss what action was needed with Mr. Randall

113/23 Village Fire Hydrants

The Clerk was asked to write to the Fire Service to ask if the water pressure problem at the Woodhouse Lane fire hydrant had been resolved

114/23 Street Light Removal

The Clerk reported that he had received an email from Electricity North West giving six months' notice concerning the replacement of an overhead line with underground cable and the removal of the street light attached to the relevant pole. The Clerk had arranged to meet with the Council's lighting contractor and would report to the next meeting

115/23 Playground Report

- i) Cllr. Rendell had inspected the playground since the last meeting and reported no problems. The W&FC inspection had taken place and any suggested remedial work was in hand
- ii) Cllr. Rendell continued to monitor the equipment and would carry out the inspections until the next meeting
- iii) It was noted that the new seesaw and picnic table would be delivered at the beginning of next month
- iv) The replacement notice referring to no dogs and the age of users was in place
- v) It was agreed that Cllr. Rendell would discuss the remainder of the playground fencing with Dr. Moss

116/23 Finance

- a) The following receipt since the last meeting was noted:
J Thacker & Sons Ltd – field of dreams rent - £380.00
- b) The following payments between meetings were approved:
Creative Play (UK) Ltd – seesaw & picnic bench - £2,626.80 – cheque 690
Npower – street lighting electricity June 2023 - £86.23 – cheque 691
- c) The following payments were approved:
M R Richardson – salary & expenses to 31/7/23 - £1,469.00 – cheque 692
HMRC – PAYE re M R Richardson - £325.80 – cheque 693
Npower – street lighting electricity July 2023 - £88.24 – cheque 694
Peter Clarke – refund of playground signs - £22.42 – cheque 695
Westmorland & Furness Council – playground inspection fee - £195.00 – cheque 696
B E Nelson – playground fencing repairs - £756.00 – cheque 697
Brian Rendell – playground repairs - £19.97 – cheque 698
- d) The budget comparison 2022/23 was received, explained by the Clerk and noted
- e) A draft Grants and Donations Policy document was received. Comments were requested before the next meeting in order that a policy could be adopted at that meeting
- f) **Resolved** that it be noted that the closing bank balance at 31 July 2023 was £23,200.90, which had been reconciled with the bank account, and that the bank statement be signed by the Chair

117/23 Code of Conduct

It was strongly recommended that Cllrs. listen to the W&FC 11/7/23 Code of Conduct session recording (forwarded to Cllrs. on 19/7/23) so that they fully understood their responsibilities

118/23 Removal of Kendal's Cumbria Health on Call Out of Hours Service

The Council noted the Allithwaite & Cartmel Parish Council email (forwarded to Cllrs. 18/7/23) and decided to take no action

119/23 Correspondence

The following correspondence received and not included as an item on this agenda was noted:

- i) Further climate change information and updates
- ii) Further community resilience information
- iii) Power for People- Request for further support of community renewable energy in the Energy Bill – (emailed to Cllrs. 14/6/23) and ministerial promise re community energy sector growth (emailed to Cllrs.22/7/23)
- iv) W&FC – Invitation to Utd Utilities future plans event on 23/6/23 (emailed to Cllrs.23/6/23)
- iv) CALC – Community renewable energy event on 29/6/23 (emailed to Cllrs.23/6/23) and presentations & support pack (emailed to Cllrs.30/6/23)
- vi) CALC – Request for pledge to make positive change for pollinators (emailed to Cllrs.23/6/23)
- vii) CALC – NALC legal update June 2023 (emailed to Cllrs.30/6/23)
- viii) CALC – Consultation regarding experiences of homecare (emailed to Cllrs.30/6/23)
- ix) CALC – Natural England’s virtual launch of the Cumbria People and Nature network (emailed to Cllrs.30/6/23)
- x) CALC – Agenda for 22/7/23 meeting to approve application for CALC to become a private company limited by guarantee (emailed to Cllrs.30/6/23) and letter regarding the outcome (emailed to Cllrs.26/7/23)
- xi) CALC – Pothole emergency – highways briefing on 19/7/23 (emailed to Cllrs.19/7/23) & slides from that briefing (emailed to Cllrs.22/7/23). This was **recommended** to Cllrs
- xii) Cumbria Police – South Lakes newsletter June 2023 (emailed to Cllrs.19/7/23)
- xiii) CALC – South Lakes District Association AGM on 26/7/23 agenda (emailed to Cllrs.19/7/23)
- xiv) CALC – Civility & Respect Project information sheet (emailed to Cllrs.19/7/23)
- xv) CALC – ACT update July 2023 (emailed to Cllrs.19/7/23)
- xvi) CALC – Letter regarding Government’s Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan (emailed to Cllrs.19/7/23)
- xvii) CALC News May & June 2023 (emailed to Cllrs.26/7/23)
- xviii) CALC – County of Cumbria – D-Day 80 on 6/6/24 (emailed to Cllrs.6/8/23). It was **agreed** to investigate the possibility of purchasing a beacon
- xix) CALC – Cumbria Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.6/8/23)
- xx) Cumbria Police – South Lakes newsletter July 2023 (emailed to Cllrs.6/8/23)
- xxi) CALC – Invitation to attend AGM on 30/9/23 (emailed to Cllrs.6/8/23)

120/23 Westmorland Gazette – Matters from this meeting to be reported for the Westmorland Gazette:

- Co-option of new councillor
- Police report

121/23 Items for Information – *no decisions or action permitted*

- The rotten backing to the Woodhouse noticeboard is to be removed
- The Church floodlights are not currently in use and there are to be discussions as to LED replacements

122/23 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- a. Purchase of a beacon – September 2023
- b. Cleaning of road signs – September 2023
- c. Climate Change Working Group quarterly report – September 2023
- d. 20mph zone – September 2023 (see 109/23 above)
- e. Planning policy and objections - Spring 2024
- f. Management of the lack of coterminosity between health and social care in order to ensure effective integrated care for parishioners with the need for explanations and transparency regarding the roles of the relevant components of the local health and care system – October 2023

123/23 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 21 September 2023 and will commence at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

