

# HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Thursday 14 December 2023** at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

**Present** – Cllrs. Peter Clarke (Chair), Brian Rendell, Adrian Bland, Tom Grindey, Iain Richards and Mary Capstick; Westmorland & Furness (W&F) Cllr. Janet Battye; the Clerk and no members of the public

## 181/23 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. Elizabeth Moffat (reason accepted and noted)

## 182/23 Minutes

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2023 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

## 183/23 Declarations of Interest

None

## 184/23 Requests for Dispensation

None

## 185/23 Public Participation

None

## 186/23 Ongoing Items

- Change of meeting day: The Clerk reported that he was to discuss the possible request for a change of day with Cllr. Moffat towards the end of January and that he would contact Cllrs. then if one was needed
- Extension of 50mph limit to Levens Bridge: The Clerk reported that it had been confirmed that the Council's request was on the W&FC list for discussion
- Proposed village 20mph zone: It was reported that the first round of applications was to be submitted to W&FC by 16 February 2024 and needed strong evidence of parishioner support. A task group comprising Cllrs. Clarke, Richards and Capstick was appointed to prepare an application (including a recommendation as to scope and location) for consideration at the next meeting
- Crow Wood and yellow line parking restrictions: The Chair reported on the meeting with residents, Victoria Upton from W&FC and W&F Cllr. Battye, which had been held on 28 November 2023. Various possible actions were discussed and it appeared that residents were not averse to proposals for moving the wall if that was agreed to be the best solution. Any further action was deferred until Ms Upton had ascertained clarification of the ownership of the area used for parking. The residents had expressed gratitude that the Council had called the meeting. Cllr. Richards expressed the need for a future meeting concerning parking at Birdcage Cottage
- Field of Dreams: A reply to the Council's claim was still awaited
- Temporary Bus Stops: It was reported that it had been agreed that the best option in the event of an unplanned emergency closure of the road through the village was for passengers to go down to the A6 by the Marsh Lane crossroads / Heversham Hotel and flag down the bus
- Street Light Removal: The Clerk informed the Council that it had been confirmed that the CIL money could be used towards the cost of the work, which was expected to be done in January
- Dallam Boarding House open evening event: It was noted that the event is expected to take place in the Spring

## 187/23 Reports

- a. Westmorland & Furness Cllr. Battye reported regarding the published consultation budget including Council Tax on second properties, health arrangements and the link with social care and a review of council wards by the LGA
- b. The Athenaeum: Cllr. Grindey reported that a report had been received re the damp proofing and that the Snooker Club were prepared to make a large contribution towards the cost. It was confirmed that the Council's responsibility is the long-term interest of the building and that management matters lie with The Athenaeum Committee

## 188/23 Planning

- i) It was noted that no planning applications had been **submitted** to W&FC and circulated to members of the Council since the last meeting
- ii) It was noted that the following planning application had been **approved** by W&FC since the last meeting:  
**TR/2023/0143 & 0146 The Coach House, Heversham Gardens, Heversham**  
T1 Lime – crown lift to 6m and clear telephone line; T2 Oak – remove epicormic growth; G1 – fell mixed broad leaf scrub
- iii) Neighbourhood Plan group: There was no report

## 189/23/ Highways / Footpaths / Trees and Woods

### Highways:

- a) Cllr. Richards commented on the need for remedial work on the small depression in Woodhouse Lane caused by the B4RN cable crossing the road and he agreed to report it on HIAMS
- b) W&F Cllr Battye reported that the Dugg Hill potholes problem had returned and that she had reported it on HIAMS
- c) The Chair reported that the Cycleway signs were still being changed and that he continued to report it on HIAMS
- d) The Clerk reported on a Teams meeting re W&FC gritting arrangements that he had attended with W&F Cllr. Battye. The outcome was that only the A6 was on a priority gritting route and it was **agreed** that the Council would continue with its current arrangements to grit Woodhouse Lane and the bus route through the village on a reactive basis
- e) It was agreed that Cllr. Capstick would request that the hedge opposite Plumtree be cut as soon as possible

f) It was noted that Grievegate appeared now to be impassable for four wheeled vehicles

**Footpaths/Tracks:**

i) A meeting was still awaited with a Footpaths Officer at W&FC and the group were pursuing kissing gate and other gate and stile problems

**Trees and Woods:**

i) Cllr. Richards' meeting with the Dallam Trust representative re tree management on the old railway line had taken place and the practicalities of collaborative monitoring / action had been agreed

**190/23 Playground Report**

- i) Cllr. Rendell had inspected the playground since the last meeting and had reported no problems
- ii) Cllr. Rendell continued to monitor the equipment and would carry out the inspections until the next meeting
- iii) It was agreed that no further playground fencing need be done at present
- iv) Cllr. Rendell reported that the seesaw would be installed shortly

**191/23 Finance**

- a) It was noted that there had been no receipts since the last meeting
- b) The following payments were approved:
  - Npower – street lighting electricity November 2023 - £112.02 – cheque 713
  - Adrian Bland – Christmas tree - £70.00 – cheque 714
- c) The Chair and Vice-Chair reported that they had carried out the Clerk's annual appraisal. It was considered that his work continued to be discharged with skill and knowledge. The Council expressed their gratitude
- d) The Clerk presented the draft budget for 2024/25, which was **approved** including a total precept of £15,105 which is 9.02% more than last year. **Resolved** that the Clerk be authorised to complete the precept form when it is received and obtain any necessary signatures
- e) **Resolved** that it be noted that the closing bank balance at 30 November 2023 was £15,878.14, which had been reconciled with the bank account, and that the bank statement be signed by the Chair

**192/23 Correspondence**

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

- i) Further climate change and community resilience information
- ii) CALC – Community catalysts (emailed to Cllrs.14/11/23)
- iii) CALC – “We are Winter Ready, are you?” campaign (emailed to Cllrs.29/11/23)
- iv) CALC News September & October 2023 (emailed to Cllrs.29/11/23)
- v) CALC - Westmorland & Furness Parish Council Association Forum regarding W&FC budget consultation for 2024/25 and “Winter Ready” on 12/12/23 (emailed to Cllrs.29/11/23)
- vi) CALC – Free on-line forum on 25/1/24 re Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss – How Town and Parish Councils can take action (emailed to Cllrs.4/12/23)
- vii) National Highways – A590 survey work (emailed to Cllrs.6/12/23)
- viii) CALC – W&FC's winter Climate and Nature newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.8/12/23)
- ix) CALC – Chatter Matters weekly group meetings (emailed to Cllrs.8/12/23)
- x) CALC – W&FC's Local Health and Wellbeing Survey (emailed to Cllrs.8/12/23)
- xi) Cumbria Police – November 2023 newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.8/12/23)

**193/23 Westmorland Gazette** – Matters from this meeting to be reported for the Westmorland Gazette:

- None

**194/23 Items for Information** – *no decisions or action permitted*

- The Clerk reported that there was to be a Parish Council election on 2 May 2024
- Cllr. Grindey reported that this year's Poppy Appeal collection had raised £600 – an increase of £100

**195/23 Items for consideration for a future agenda**

- a. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tree Scheme Plaque – When new trees are ready in 2024
- b. Planning policy and objections – Spring 2024
- c. B4RN - noting the success of the installation – Annual Parish Meeting

**196/23 Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 8 February 2024 (see 186/23) and will commence at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

The meeting closed at 9.28 pm

