

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Thursday 17 June 2021** at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill. This meeting followed Covid-19 government guidance with regard to village halls and community centres including social distancing and the wearing of masks

Present – Cllrs. Peter Clarke (Chairman), Brian Rendell, Tom Grindey (from 7.50pm) and Iain Richards; District Cllr. Kevin Holmes; the Clerk and four members of the public

83/21 Apologies

Apologies were received from County Cllr. Roger Bingham

84/21 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2021 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chairman. The Council all expressed their warm thanks to Cllr. Rendell for his period of service as Chairman and his continued service as Vice-Chairman

85/21 Appointment of Councillors to fill Casual Vacancies

It was **resolved** to co-opt Adrian Bland, Elizabeth Moffat and Adele Shepherd as councillors to fill the vacancies. They were warmly welcomed to the Council and all signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms, which were witnessed by the Clerk. They were later sent Declaration of Interest forms for completion and submission to SLDC and were informed that copies of the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct were on the website

86/21 Requests for Dispensation

None

87/21 Declarations of Interest

None

88/21 Public Participation

None

89/21 Ongoing Items

- B4RN: The Council welcomed Mark Jameson to the meeting and expressed its warm thanks that he had attended to inform the Council about the potential repercussions following the announcement by BT and Openreach that their copper service was intended to be withdrawn by 2025. It appeared that the analogue phone service would be turned off at the same time. This would leave the fibre network and it seemed that residents would have to pay BT to put fibre in their house if it wasn't already installed. It was agreed to raise awareness and inform residents that while B4RN were still in roll-out it made sense to use the available vouchers to have B4RN connections installed. If B4RN had left, there would be a cost for example for road crossings. It was agreed to produce a leaflet to inform residents and to tie-in with the renewal of "What's Back On in Heversham". It was aimed to do this by the end of July 2021
- It was noted that the new Dallam School Headteacher, the new Head of Boarding and Mr. John Watton had accepted the invitation and were to attend the meeting on 16 September 2021
- It was agreed to purchase a bench or picnic table in memory of Cllr. Gordon Capstick and that Cllr. Rendell would discuss the type and location with Mrs. Mary Capstick
- It was agreed that the date for the adjourned Annual Parish Meeting would be discussed at the next meeting

90/21 Reports

- a. District Cllr. K. Holmes reported on the revised allocation of locality grants for the current year and discussions took place as to a possible request by the Council. He also reported regarding the Local Plan review briefing (see 91/21v)
- b. County Cllr. Bingham had forwarded a report concerning the current Covid position and constituency changes (see 96/21). He also reported that he was still pursuing the 20mph request and anti-flood work on the marsh and that he had been informed that the highways work at Leasgill would be re-assessed for resurfacing in the next year and be surveyed for immediate temporary work
- c. The Athenaeum: The Clerk reported that further grants had been received. Cllr. Grindey reported that there were to be frequent car boot sales and that progress was being made regarding the proposal to have two noticeboards with a map / visitor information at either end of the village

91/21 Planning

- i) It was noted that no planning applications had been submitted to SLDC and circulated to members of the Council since the last meeting
- ii) It was noted that the following planning applications had been notified as approved by SLDC since the last meeting:
 - SL/2020/0712 Waterside, Heversham**
Single storey extension
 - SL/2021/0390 Old Grammar School, Leasgill**
Single storey side extension
- iii) It was noted that the invalid planning application for SL/2019/0467 Woodhouse Farm, Woodhouse, Milnthorpe had been notified as withdrawn by SLDC since the last meeting
- iv) It was noted that SLDC were investigating the reported development without permission
- v) The Chairman reported that the Neighbourhood Plan group had made contact with SLDC regarding the Local Plan

and that he was to attend the review briefing on 21 June 2021 (see 98/21k)

92/21 Highways/Footpaths/Trees

Highways:

- a) The Clerk reported that CCC Highways Dept had informed County Cllr. Bingham that data had been collected showing 2-way mean speeds of 19.8mph and indicating that 85% of the speeds on Woodhouse Lane were at or below 25.7mph. They therefore considered that the cost of implementing any change to the speed limit would not be cost effective. However, it may be recommended to look at what issues the perception of speeding is creating in terms of hazards, warnings for drivers or improvements that it may be possible to make for the betterment of the environment of the village and community. The Chairman reported that there had been a meeting with Stainton and Sedgwick Parish Councils and Hincaster Parish Meeting which had agreed to make a concerted approach to the proposals for speed limits and to improving road safety in the area between the A65 and the A6. The Council **approved** continued involvement in the effort
- b) The Clerk reported that he was still waiting to hear from CCC Highways Dept with regard to removing the parking spaces between Crow Wood and the Playground although Cumbria Police had intimated their support after an accident involving a 90 year old lady which appeared to have been caused by vans illegally parked in that area

Footpaths/Tracks:

- i) Cllr. Rendell reported that the work on the wall by the bench at G Handley's Copse had been completed as far as possible using the available cash
- ii) It had been reported that Levens Bridge to Heversham was a cycleway and District Cllr. Holmes and Cllr. Rendell said that they would check if it was or not
- iii) Problems were continuing to arise with regard to field gates being left open and people climbing over walls. Kissing gates were being installed where possible. It was agreed to explore the situation concerning walkers going from Mabbins Hall Lane up the Levens Estate land and causing problems for the farmer on the Head
- iv) The proposal to have noticeboards at each end of the village was continuing to be explored jointly with The Athenaeum committee (see 90/21c)
- v) The Chairman was to contact John Watton at Dallam School regarding the condition of the old railway line once the continuation of the licence had been resolved

Trees and Woods:

- i) The two proposals for the work to be carried out at Quarry Wood were discussed and Cllr. Bland was asked to clarify details of the quote he had received. It was agreed to further consider the setting up of a working group as a village initiative to rejuvenate the wood, continue to keep it safe and improve the amenity for the village. The Clerk was asked to contact SLDC to see if a locality grant could be used for that purpose
- ii) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee tree initiative was deferred until the next meeting

93/21 Playground Report

- i) Cllr. Rendell had inspected the playground since the last meeting, continued to monitor the equipment and would carry out the inspections until the next meeting. The grass was being cut in accordance with the quotation
- ii) The Clerk reported that the quote for a new double swing (part small child) and a zip wire (aerial runway) had just been received at £10,980 plus VAT and that he was to make a grant application to the Walney Extension Community Fund

94/21 Appointment of Representatives

Representatives were appointed as follows for the following outside bodies and working groups for 2021/22:
Leasgill Quarry Trust (three representatives) – Cllrs. Clarke, Rendell and Shepherd
Athenaeum Committee (two representatives) – Cllrs. Grindey and Shepherd
District Association (one representative) – Cllr. Clarke
Footpaths and Tracks (one representative) – Cllr. Clarke

95/21 St Peter's Churchyard Improvements

The proposed improvements to the area of the churchyard where the ashes are interred were agreed to be welcome but the Council had no specific comments to make

96/21 Constituency Changes

The proposed changes (emailed to Cllrs. 8/6/21) were noted. It was agreed that there was no specific issue for Heversham and that no action would be taken

97/21 Finance

- a) It was noted that there had been no receipts since the last meeting
- b) The following payment between meetings was approved:
G W Bell – work on the wall by G Handley's Copse - £500.00 – cheque 582
- c) It was noted that there were no payments to approve
- d) **Resolved** that it be noted that the closing bank balance at 31 May 2021 was £20,145.01 which had been reconciled with the bank account and that the bank statement be counter-signed by the Chairman

98/21 Correspondence

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

- a. Further items from SLDC and CCC giving information re coronavirus (covid-19), testing and vaccination matters
- b. Further items from CALC and SLDC concerning local government reorganisation and the Bay authority proposals
- c. SLDC – New Chairman and Vice-Chairman (emailed to Cllrs 21/5/21)
- d. NALC – Chief Executive's bulletin (emailed to Cllrs 21/5/21)
- e. SLDC – New look Kendal Town Hall opens doors (emailed to Cllrs 24/5/21)
- f. CALC – Testing of the new highways information system (emailed to Cllrs 25/5/21)
- g. CCC – Connecting Cumbria newsletter June 2021 (emailed to Cllrs 27/5/21)

- h. NALC – Chief Executive’s bulletin (emailed to Cllrs 28/5/21)
- i. CALC – South Lakeland District Association meeting agenda 10/6/21 (emailed to Cllrs.8/6/21)
- j. CALC – CCC Highways HIAMS launch & briefing 24/6/21 (emailed to Cllrs.8/6/21)
- k. SLDC - Town & Parish Councils briefing 21/6/21 on the South Lakeland Local Plan Review (emailed to Cllrs.8/6/21). The Chairman was to attend this briefing
- l. SLDC – Grant from outgoing chairman supports debt centre project (emailed to Cllrs.8/6/21)
- m. Lancashire CC – Zero carbon communities event 25/6/21 (emailed to Cllrs.9/6/21). Cllr. Richards was to attend this event

99/21 Westmorland Gazette – Matters from this meeting to be reported for the Westmorland Gazette:

- Welcome return of face-to-face meetings
- Co-option of Councillors
- Work done on the wall by the bench at G Handley’s Copse
- Bench or picnic table in memory of Cllr. Gordon Capstick
- List of representatives

100/21 Items for Information- *no decisions or action permitted*

- Beacons were to be lit to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in June 2022 (emailed to Cllrs.17/6/21)
- The Bowling Club’s come and try day on 30 May as part of the national bowls big weekend had been a great success and another was to be held on 5 July

101/21 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Presentation on Dark Skies – possibly at adjourned 2021 Annual Parish Meeting
- Discussion as to how the parish coped with the pandemic – at adjourned 2021 Annual Parish Meeting
- “What’s Back On in Heversham” – when possible to produce
- Promotion of Wild Flowers and Wildlife – possibly at adjourned 2021 Annual Parish Meeting
- Heversham Village Heritage Exhibition – possible consultation later in the year
- Celebration of the B4RN installation – possibly at the adjourned 2021 Annual Parish Meeting

102/21 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 8 July 2021 and will commence at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill. It was also agreed that the meeting dates for the rest of 2021 were to be 16 September, 14 October, 11 November and 9 December

The meeting closed at 9.40pm