

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2015 in the Athenaeum, Leasgill at 7:30pm

Held in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972

Present : Councillors Adrian Bland (Chairman), Peter Clarke, John Alderson, David Cordwell, Gordon Capstick, Tom Grindey, Adele Shepherd, County Cllr Roger Bingham, Mrs J Davidson (Parish Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been conveyed by District Cllr A Rawlinson.

2. Minutes of the 2014 Parish Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Thursday 10 April 2014 were received and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Reports

- a) **Heversham Parish Council Chairman's Report** – Cllr A Bland - Chairman of Heversham Parish Council – presented a report regarding the activities of the Parish Council during 2014/15. Copies of the Chairman's report were available for members of the public to take away.
- b) **Finance** - a payments/receipts report for the 2014/15 financial year was presented and copies were available for members of the public to take away.
- c) **Cumbria County Council** – County Cllr R Bingham reported that some drainage work near to the Blue Bell is planned by Highways during the 2015/16 financial year and a day was spent cleansing highway drainage just before Christmas. There are a number of minor blockages on a section to the south of the Blue Bell and therefore it is hoped that work will be programmed, for early in the new financial year, for a new pipe to be provided under the road and to high pressure jet the carrier drain which runs in the verge. There is also a proposal to do some work to the north of the Blue Bell replacing/investigating a culvert which has caused problems with flooding in the past. County Cllr R Bingham also presented a summary of the activities of Cumbria County Council during 2014/15 and reported the County share of the Council Tax has been increased, for the first time in 5 years by 1.99%, which is in contrast to the South Lakeland District Council decision not to increase its share of the Council Tax. The County Council has recently reduced expenditure by £88m but a further reduction of 30m still needs to be made. Most economies have been made by a reduction in staffing and the work force which was 10,000 in 2013, and has already been reduced, is planned to fall to 5,200 by 2018. There are mixed views regarding the proposal to build a new County Council Headquarters in Carlisle, with the administration being of the opinion that the amalgamation of premises would save £900,000, and the opposition being of the opinion there would be more than adequate space, with an almost 50% reduction in personnel, at the existing more central offices in Carlisle.

4. Public Participation – the following matters which it was felt the Parish Council should continue to be addressing were considered to be :

- Winter gritting
- Street lighting

The meeting closed at 8:15

Signed : (Chairman)
Date : 10 March 2016