HETHERSGILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Hethersgill Parish Council held on 21st November 2017 in the Parish Hall, Hethersgill

Present Cllrs H Kay (Chair), A Sisson, G Houston, N Elliott, S Barrett A Oswin and C Williams

In Attendance City Cllr D Shepherd

ACTION

787/17 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A Gash and F Heaton.

788/17 Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 26th September 2017

Resolved that the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting as a true record.

789/17 Request for Dispensations

Requests for dispensations for all Cllrs had been previously granted in regards to precept setting.

790/17 Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

791/17 Public Participation

No members of the public were present. City Cllr Shepherd described proposals to reduce the number of Cllrs in the district authority.

792/17 Administrative Matters

792.1 Broadband

Cllr Barrett noted that efforts to improve the connections around the parish are continuing. A query was raised regarding the large mast on the Longtown-Brampton road; City Cllr Shepherd will enquire as to its purpose. He will also raise the ongoing connectivity issues at the City Council Executive.

DS

It was agreed to advertise a cross-parish digital inclusion workshop to be held at Crosby-on-Eden in February 2018 in The Gill.

792.2 Hallburn Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund

Cllr Williams outlined that there had been a large number of applications received for the first round, for a large amount of money, including the Parish Council that was successfully awarded £600 for a new community website. Cllr Williams noted a positive idea was to provide training for community groups, such as a WI, in internet services and groups in Hethersgill should be encouraged to think about a similar scheme. It was also noted that some applications for community groups in or supporting Hethersgill have been deferred for further information.

792.3 Website

As mentioned above, the Council has been awarded a grant of £600 towards the set up of a new community website. Work is progressing on the site, www.hethersgill.org.uk and it is hoped that it will be up and running before Christmas, although the time needed to upload historical documents will be much lengthier. It was noted that the existing providers have been written to both via email and recorded delivery post to cancel the existing site from 31 December 2017. No response has been received.

SK

792.4 VAT Training Course

Resolved: To contribute up to £30 towards the Clerk's attendance at the above.

792.5 CALC AGM

Cllr Williams attended the above where the guest speaker was the Police and Crime Commissioner. A brief outline of the main issues raised was given, including the noting of a three percent increase in affiliation fees for CALC.

792.6 Electoral Review of Constituency Boundaries in the North West

Resolved to submit a response outlining that the Parish Council believe that the interests of the parish remain best represented by remaining in a rural constituency.

SK

792.7 Young People's Service Provision

Resolved that Cllr Barrett would attend the above in Beaumont Village Hall.

SB

792.8 Draft Affordable and Specialist Housing Supplementary Planning Document Consultation

Resolved to submit a response stating that the Council believe the present policy on affordable housing is detrimental to rural communities.

SK

793/17 Finance Matters

793.1 Summary of Accounts to End October 2017

Resolved that the summary of accounts for the period ended 31st October 2017 be noted, having been circulated alongside the agenda.

The balance at bank at 31st October 2017 was £4,907.16 (£300 outstanding payment included).

793.2 Payments

Resolved to authorise two councillors to sign to authorise payments as detailed in the schedule dated 21st November 2017, namely:

Sarah Kyle, Salary November, £202.81 Sarah Kyle, Salary December, £202.81 HMRC, PAYE Nov/Dec, £101.40 Sarah Kyle, Reimbursements £104.54 Kierweb, Deposit Website, £300.00 Hethersgill Parish Hall, CPCA grant, £500.00 Kierweb, Balance, Website, £300.00

793.3 Receipts

Resolved to note the receipt of £500 from Carlisle City Council (donation towards tarmac).

793.4 Precept 2018/19

A report had been circulated alongside the agenda containing forecasted income and expenditure levels for the remainder of 2017/18; the proposed budget for 2018/19 and the estimated levels of reserves to be held on 1st April 2019. It was noted that £575 of funds are ring-fenced for payment to the existing website provider for three years of provision and it is doubted if these will be invoiced for. It was also stressed that donations to community groups going forward will only be payable if the Hallburn Wind Farm will not support or if the amounts required exceed the grant payable from them.

Resolved: To accept the proposed budget and set the precept at £7,000 for the Council year 2018/19.

793.5 Internal Audit

Noted that the mid-year internal audit had been carried out and successfully completed.

793.6 Donation Requests

Resolved to donate the following:

- St. Mary's Churchyard, £500, Local Government Act 1972, s.214(6)
- Great North Air Ambulance, £200, Local Government Act 1972 s.137

Concerns were noted that the Hallburn Wind Farm Fund had refused to consider the churchyard application; Cllr Williams will investigate the reasoning behind the decision and notify the PCC in due course.

CW

794/17 Councillor Matters

Clir Kay noted previously raised concerns over a hanging tree were now resolved as the branch in question had been removed.

Clir Sisson noted concerns over flooding at the corner at Lonning Park. She will report this directly to Highways.

AS

795/17 Schedule of Correspondence, notices and publications

A schedule of notices and publications received since the last meeting and not otherwise on the agenda were received and noted.

City Cllr Shepherd left the meeting at 20.56.

796/17 Planning Matters

17/0844 Hall Hills Farm, Kirklinton, Carlisle, CA6 6HW - Conversion Of Stone Barn Into 1no. Dwelling. Demolition Of 3no. Redundant Agricultural Buildings And Removal Of Concrete Hardstandings; Formation Of Parking And Driveway, Erection Of Boundary Fences/Walls And Installation Of Private Drainage System

Noted that the Clerk responded under delegated powers with "no representation" and that permission had been granted.

17/0920 Land opposite Rigghead Cottage, Hethersgill, Carlisle, CA6 6HH - Extension To Agricultural Livestock Building (Revised Application)

Noted that the Clerk responded under delegated powers with "no representation".

17/0804 Angus Well, Kirklinton, Carlisle, CA6 6DN - Erection Of Agricultural Building For Youngstock

Noted that permission has been granted.

797/17 Highways Matters

794.1 Updates

Clir Oswin noted excessive mud on the roads. It was agreed this is throughout the parish and especially at Horsegills; made worse by the recent NW Electricity works. The Clerk is to report the issue to Highways and Clirs were encouraged to report specific incidences as they arise.

SK

Clir Houston noted that electric equipment appears to have been left on the road adjacent to their property. She will report this to Highways as potential fly-tipping.

GH

798/17 Part B Item

Consideration of the following item was deemed to be confidential and members of the press and public were excluded under the Local Government Act 1972.

Grounds Maintenance

Two tenders had been received for grass cutting at Sand Hole and the crossroads for 2018 at prices of £280 or £511.

Resolved to award a one-year contract to W & E Carruthers Gardening at a price of £280 for 7 cuts at each area. The Clerk to inform the current contractor that their services are not required in 2018.

SK

799/17 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved that the calendar of meetings for 2018 be:

16th January 2018 20th March 2018 15th May 2018 17th July 2018 18th September 2018 20th November 2018

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.11.