

HETHERSGILL PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 21st March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Hethersgill

Present Cllr A Sisson (Chairman); Cllrs S Barrett, J Bryant, A Gash, M Irving, A Oswin and C Williams.

In Attendance The Clerk, S Kyle.

134/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs F Heaton and L Summerfield. Apologies were also noted from City Cllr T Pickstone and County/City Cllr J Mallinson.

135/23 Request for Dispensations and Declarations of Interest

No requests for dispensations were received. Cllr Sisson declared an interest in the donation request from Kirklington Young Farmers, noting her nephew was a member of the group.

136/23 Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 17th January 2023

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

137/22 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

138/23 Administrative Matters

138.1 Broadband

An update was provided regarding the availability of alternate services to fibre broadband, such as using 4g. A problem with internet connectivity was noted at one local business; the owners are to be advised to request a new connection from an alternative provider. No update on Project Gigabit was available.

138.2 Parish Survey

An update is to be provided after the Coronation events are completed.

138.3 First Aid Course / First Responder Scheme

Two first aid courses had been held, the first with over thirty participants and the second around twelve participants, which included some children. A request had been made following the courses to consider the establishment of a First Responder Scheme.

Resolved to place an article in the next Gill to determine interest in the first responder scheme.

138.4 Jubilee Tree Plaque

Noted that Cumbria County Council had installed the plaque.

138.5 Election Arrangements

Forms required to be completed for election to the Parish Council for the term commencing 4th May 2023 had been circulated to those who wished to continue in office.

Signed (Chairman).....
16th May 2023

138.6 The Gill

Further to concerns raised at the January meeting regarding the purpose and direction of The Gill, discussion was held to consider its way forward. Debate was held regarding whether a more prescribed content layout would be desirable, although concerns were also raised regarding this.

Resolved that an edition of The Gill was to be sent out in April. A future edition to include renewed calls for email distribution.

138.7 King's Coronation

Promotional materials relating to events for the King's Coronation were distributed. Volunteers to assist with events on the day were requested.

Resolved that the Parish Council purchase additional bunting.

139/22 Highways Matters

139.1 Updates

Concerns were raised regarding the recent repairs, noting their low standard on the road adjacent to The Scare.

139.2 Balsam Bashers

The installation of the board is still in progress. It was noted that the windfarm grant has been approved and that the community payback team would be engaged for further work in the summer.

Resolved that five hundred leaflets be purchased for distribution around the parish.

140/23 Finance Matters

140.1 Payments

Resolved to approve payments as follows:

- Sarah Kyle, February salary £255.76
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- HMRC, February PAYE £64.00
- HMRC, March PAYE £64.00
- HSBC, bank charges (monthly), £8.00
- A Sisson, refreshments for first aid training £12.60

140.2 Donation Requests

Resolved to approve donation requests received from:

- Kirklington YFC towards project equipment (£100)
- Hethersgill Parish Hall towards running costs (£1000)

140.3 Internal Audit Documents

Resolved to re-adopt the following documents as part of the annual audit requirements:

- internal audit checklist
- internal audit plan
- internal auditor terms of reference
- asset register
- risk assessment

140.4 Internal Auditor

Signed (Chairman).....

16th May 2023

Resolved to agree the continuing appointment of Mrs P Cronin as internal auditor for the financial year 2022/23 and until further notice.

140.5 Fidelity Insurance Guarantee

Resolved to agree the adequacy of the above insurance, being £150,000 prior to the precept receipt it in April.

141/23 Councillor Matters

Cllr Irving noted the receipt of a query regarding the change in precept rates. The Clerk explained that due to the calculations incorporating new dwellings and council tax benefits, it had shown as a reduction, whereas the level of precept set remained static.

Cllr Williams reported the strange occurrence of multiple numbers of dead frogs on the roads.

Cllr Williams also noted the successful hosting in the parish of a charity sheepdog trial.

Cllr Sisson reported the receipt of a letter outlining planning concerns regarding Rigg Cottage, Hethersgill. These were to be forwarded to the planning authority as the matter was outside of the Parish Council's jurisdiction.

Cllr Oswin reported on the establishment of a food bank in Brampton; the matter is to be put on the May agenda for further consideration.

Cllr Sisson noted the Parish Council's thanks to outgoing Cllrs Gash and Oswin, who were not standing for re-election.

142/23 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved that the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 16th May in Hethersgill Parish Hall. The meeting will begin directly after the closure of the Annual Parish Meeting which will commence at 7pm. Please note the earlier than normal start time which is required to deal with the additional administration for the Annual Meeting in an election year.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.48pm.

Signed (Chairman).....
16th May 2023