

HETHERSGILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Hethersgill Parish Council held in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 26th September 2023

Present: Cllr C Williams (Chairman); Clls S Barratt, M Irving, A Sisson, L Summerfield.

In attendance: One member of the public. The Clerk S Kyle. Future Acting Clerk, A Dawes.

164/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs J Bryant and F Heaton.

165/23 Declarations of Interest and Request for Dispensations

No declarations of interest were made and no requests for dispensation has been received.

166/23 Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18th July 2023

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

167/23 Public Participation

No comments were made by the attending member of the public. It was noted that they were in attendance to observe the working arrangements of the Council in view of a potential future co-option.

168/23 Administrative Matters

168.1 Appointment of New Clerk

The resignation of the current Clerk was noted and accepted. Sincere thanks were given to her for her service to the Council. It was agreed that Allan Dawes would assume the position of Acting Clerk until the Council year end, when recruitment would be considered. Mr Dawes introduced himself. Handover arrangements, including the files and laptop, will be finalised before 1st November; consideration of printing arrangements will be made at a future meeting.

168.2 Community Renewable Energy

Information regarding the above had been circulated to the Hall and Social Committees. It was agreed that a meeting is to be organised between the local groups to see if there is any possibility of a coordinated project. The date for the meeting to be organised by Cllrs Williams, Summerfield and Irving.

168.3 Neighbourhood Watch

The potential for creating a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the parish was noted. Arrangements were considered and it was agreed that public support for such a scheme will be gathered in the first instance by a Facebook post and word-of-mouth. A public meeting could then be held to set up the scheme.

168.4 Training Programme

The updated training programme from CALC had been circulated. Any members wishing to undertake training should contact the Clerk to book. The Chairman noted she had attended financial training which had proven to be both interesting and insightful. She is also booked to attend the Chairman's course. It was further noted that the free webinars that are hosted by CALC are often interesting, and Cllrs should attend if possible.

168.5 D-Day Commemoration

It was noted that a beacon is again planned for the above, to be held 6th June 2024. A location is being sourced by Cllr Barrett. The Social Committee are also to consider plans. The matter will be discussed at a future meeting to confirm Parish Council support and involvement.

169/23 Planning Matters

23/0566 Angus Well, Kirklington, Carlisle, CA6 6DN - Erection Of Agricultural Building

Resolved to ratify the Parish Council response of 'no representation'.

170/23 Highways Matters

170.1 Updates

Cllr Barrett noted that he had reported three potholes which had all been repaired.

170.2 Bench

Information regarding the potential siting of a memorial bench had been obtained from Cumberland Cllr Mallinson and had been forwarded to the family for their consideration.

170.3 Balsam Bashers

It was noted that the team had been out clearing areas however there appears to have been an influx of Balsam recently. It was further noted that the Community Payback Team have been out but will be unable to attend in the future due to health and safety concerns. It was previously agreed that a public meeting would be held in the Spring to try and attract additional volunteers.

171/23 Finance Matters

171.1 Payments

Resolved to authorise the payments below:

- Sarah Kyle, salary August £281.76
- HMRC, PAYE August £64.00
- Sarah Kyle, salary September £281.76
- HMRC, PAYE September £64.00
- Sarah Kyle, Salary October £281.76
- HMRC, PAYE October, £64.00
- CALC, training, £30.00
- Social Committee, Donation, £1000.00

- Equiphase, domain renewal, £20.00
- G Houston, Balsam Bashers reimbursement, £72.07

171.2 Budget Update and Bank Reconciliation

Resolved to receive an update of expenditure for the period April 2023 – August 2023. The balance at bank was noted as £12,905.22.

171.3 Banking Arrangements

Arrangements for banking after 1st November were considered, with it being agreed that the creation of a new account at Unity would be the optimum way forward, if possible.

172/23 Councillor Matters

Cllr Summerfield questioned reporting arrangements for raised matters. It was clarified that items raised under Cllr matters were taken forward to the next meeting. It was also noted that some items that did not require consideration at a meeting were generally dealt with by the Clerk in conjunction with the Chairman. Future reporting arrangements will however be considered at the next meeting in line with the Acting Clerk.

Cllr Summerfield also noted that member of the public had applied for co-option but had not received a response. It was confirmed that a response had been sent alongside a further email to notify the member of the public about the date change of the meeting. They were therefore advised to consult their spam filters.

Cllr Irving raised the possibility of an extension to the 30mph road limit. This will be considered in November.

Cllr Irving also requested that support be provided by other members in the management of the social media and website accounts.

Cllr Sisson noted that a sign had been erected at Highgate regarding the parking, however it appeared to be on the incorrect side. A further note is to be sent to the owners of the Air BnB.

Cllr Williams noted that the next Hallburn windfarm grant deadline was 17th January.

173/23 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at on Tuesday 21st November at 7.30pm in Hethersgill Parish Hall.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8.50pm.