

HETHERSGILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Hethersgill Parish Council held in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th July 2023

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

In attendance: Cumberland Cllr J Mallinson.

154/23 Apologies for Absence

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

155/23 Declarations of Interest and Request for Dispensations

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

156/23 Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th May 2023

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

157/23 Public Participation

Three representatives of Cumbria Police were in attendance. Following introductions the Officers outlined local crime statistics, including long-term and recurring issues. It was noted that between 18 July 2022 and 18 July 2023, twenty-four crimes had been committed. These included burglaries, thefts, criminal damages/arson and three public order offences. It was noted that the statistics relate to a wider area, of which Hethersgill is part.

It was agreed that the Police's community survey would be shared. The survey, which gathers data every quarter, informs the priorities therefore local views are essential. It was noted that speeding remains a high priority in the locality.

The Police newsletter will also be shared, with contact details provided for the Benefice News.

The Police Trespass Scheme was also promoted. The scheme, which supersedes the Farmwatch Scheme, allows land trespassers, such as poachers, to receive a lifetime ban from all landowners' areas who have signed up. Forms were left for completion and will be left, if possible, in the Church.

The Officers were thanked for coming and invited to attend on a regular basis when available.

Cumberland Cllr J Mallinson reported the formation of the new Community Panels. He informed members that a small amount of grant money will be available and that external members would be co-opted onto the eight area panels.

158/23 Administrative Matters

158.1 Broadband

No update was provided although it was noted that works remain ongoing in various areas of the parish.

158.2 Parish Survey

An update is to be provided for circulation in the next Gill. Flyers have also been printed for door-to-door distribution as the Social Committee have several events planned.

158.3 CALC Civility and Respect Project

Resolved to pledge to commit to the above project, details of which had been circulated alongside the agenda.

158.4 Community Renewable Energy

The Chair had attended a briefing regarding the above, with various schemes in neighbouring areas reported, such as solar panel installation and car share schemes.

Resolved to contact local groups, e.g. the Parish Hall Committee, to determine if a large-scale project could be facilitated for parish benefit.

159/23 Planning Matters.

23/0415 Land to the north of Leaps Rigg, Walton, Brampton, CA8 2DZ – Installation and Operation of a Solar Farm Together with all Associated Works, Equipment and Necessary Infrastructure

Resolved that concerns be raised regarding the potential movement of construction traffic through the parish. Also resolved to request consultation with the developers to enable parishioners to be fully informed about what impact the scheme may have.

160/23 Highways Matters

160.1 Updates

It was reported that repairs work had now been completed at Uppertown, following resident concerns.

160.2 Bench

It was reported that a request had been made to place a memorial bench at the Crossroads.

Resolved to inform the family that the land is owned by Cumberland Council; Cllr J Mallinson to make enquiries regarding obtaining the necessary permits.

160.3 Sunflowers

It was reported that a request had been received for the potential planting of some flowers throughout the parish, however it had been noted that the Parish Council were not landowners with the necessary powers to grant this.

160.4 Balsam Bashers

It was reported that work remained ongoing to remove the Balsam, including the use of the Community Payback teams. The Chair reported that volunteer numbers were low, and it was

agreed that a recruitment drive early in 2024 would be beneficial. The matter will be given further consideration at a future meeting.

160.5 Crossroads Parking

Further to concerns raised at the May meeting, an email had been sent to the owners of Highgate Air BnB to request that instruction for guests were made clearer to enable them to park in the gateway.

Resolved that a further letter be posted through the door of the property requesting cars are parked safely and not to block visibility at the crossroads.

161/23 Finance Matters

161.1 Payments

Resolved to authorise the payments below:

- Sarah Kyle, June salary £281.76
- Sarah Kyle, salary July £281.76
- HMRC, PAYE June £64.00
- HMRC, PAYE July £64.00
- Sarah Kyle, defib battery reimbursement £150.00

161.2 Budget Update and Bank Reconciliation

Resolved to receive an update of expenditure for the period April 2023 – June 2023.

162/23 Councillor Matters

Cllr Barrett reported that the Scouts had been requested to build a beacon for the 80th anniversary of D-Day. Cllr Barrett will begin preparations and the matter will be placed on the next agenda.

Cllr Summerfield reported that the potential first responder scheme had not received any volunteers. It was however agreed to consider regular first aid training, including provision for children.

Cllr Sisson reported that the hedge at 1 Dacre Road required reporting to Riverside for maintenance. She also reported that Highways had been exceptionally efficient in clearing a fallen branch from the road recently.

163/23 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at on Tuesday 19th September at 7.30pm in Hethersgill Parish Hall.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed by the Chairman at 9.20pm.