

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2017 AT 7.30pm AT ALLONBY SCHOOL

PRESENT: Mr R Hart (Chairman), Mr W Bradley, Mr A Armstrong, Mrs P Jones, Mr A Jones, Mr J Hanley, Mr J Kendall

APOLOGIES: Councillor J Lister

ALSO PRESENT: Mr G Proud, Mr L Parker, Councillor A J Markley

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION: None.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION: None. Mr G Proud did say the wrong date for this meeting had been put in "Beachcomber". Mr R Hart said he would speak to Mr R Wagg about this.

MINUTES: Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th November 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING: A letter was received from A.B.C. Electoral Services Dept. advising that no request to hold an election had been received. Accordingly we must co-opt to fill the vacancy as soon as possible.

POLICE REPORT: A report was received from P.C.S.O. Peter Crome. Their new Inspector, Rachel Gale, has allocated 3 hours per quarter to P.C.S.O.s.

PLAYGROUND: We are advised by Hayley Bishop that a grant of £1000.00 has been agreed. Mr J Hanley reported one of the catches on the gate by the Christmas tree is broken.

PROGRESS ON HANDYMAN: Mr R Hart said he had seen Simon Ringrose this morning and he can do jobs in the New Year; perhaps he can fix the gate before fencing.

PROGRESS ON TOILETS: Mr A Armstrong will start work from January. Mr J Hanley said he thinks the electrics are done and he will check.

REVIEW OF SOLWAY CYCLES AGREEMENT: A letter was received from Mr A Barnard stating he has not had any water supply and also no electricity during the last few months and he requests we either wave or reduce by 50% the rent from December 2017 to March 2018. Mr J Kendall and Mrs P Jones said we should help Mr Barnard and not charge anything for 3 months. Mr A Armstrong said Mr Barnard is talking about no water; there is no tap in and he should pay for it. It was agreed to give him a waver until the end of March 2018. To be reviewed at March 2018 meeting. Mr R Hart said he would tell Mr Barnard we will give him January to March 2018 free.

CORRESPONDENCE: The following items were received and noted:-

1. Letter from Mr T G Moore re. Restoration of "Cumberland" cast iron finger posts.
2. E-mail from C.A.L.C. re. new external auditors; P K F Littlejohn LLP. They say further information will be sent out after Christmas.

3. E-mail from C.A.L.C. – Update on N.A.L.C. Pay Negotiations & SAAA Ltd (Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments).
4. E-mail –“The Right Structure for your Workshop” – to be passed to A.B.C. by Mr R Hart.
5. E-mail from C.A.L.C. re. “Friday Round Up”.
6. An e-mail was received from Carole Taylor saying she would like a memorial seat in memory of her late husband, Roger Skelton Taylor. Her e-mail was acknowledged and that it would be raised at tonight’s meeting but she would also need a Licence from A.B.C. An e-mail from Julian Smith A.B.C. advised Mrs C Taylor had contacted them and they had referred her to The Friends of Allonby Green. Mr L Parker said it has been agreed to put a brass plaque on an unmarked seat. Mr L Parker said there are still some gaps for seats.

At this point Councillor A J Markley entered the meeting.

Mr R Hart said he has an item from C.A.L.C. re. Date Protection. A.B.C. may be appointing a Date Protection Officer for all Parish Councils. Councillor Markley advised that Clerk telephone Mrs W Jameson about this.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES: Allonby Village Hall – Mrs P Jones said work on the Village Hall is finished but there is a furore re. floor covering. We should be able to hold our next meeting in the Village Hall.

Community Forum – A letter re. Speeding has been in the “News & Star” and that we support it.

Mr A Jones asked about a blue plaque for Crook Cottage but there is no news yet.

PLANNING: A letter from A.B.C. re. Allerdale Local Plan (Part 2): Site Allocations Focused Consultation: Additional Sites Submitted and Policy Options 2017. Consultation ends 22.1.18 – noted.

CONSIDERATION OF 2018/19 PRECEPT: An e-mail was received from Anne Falcon, A.B.C. also a letter re. precept and a claim form. Mr J Kendall proposed we apply for the same amount as last year. Councillor A J Markley said he has been in touch with A.B.C. and we should look at precept to start work required re. fencing and gates on Play Area. Villagers spent £6000-£7000. Mr R Hart said it would be grant funded. Councillor Markley said if we put in the precept he can apply. There are problems with gates which would cost £1000-£2000. Councillor Markley could possibly get a smaller amount and we increase gradually to maintain/replace. The cycle path will be coming through finishing in 2019. We could build a fund up. The toilets can also be incorporated into the Playground. Following discussion it was agreed to claim £10,000.00.

An e-mail was received re. Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments – Notification of external auditor appointments for the 2017/18 financial year. An external auditor for smaller authorities has been appointed for 5 years from 2017/18 to 2021/22 ie. PKF Littlejohn LLP.

FINANCE: Clerk’ salary and expenses were agreed as follows:-

Pay period 20 November 2017 to 17 December 2017

8 hours at £8.717 per hour = £69.74

Less Income Tax of £13.80 = £83.54

Reimbursement of expenses:-

Photocopying - £5.10

Postage - £3.18

Total = £8.28

Plus 3 months' telephone expenses:-

Rental - £26.80

Calls - £6.80

V.A.T. - £8.16

Total = £41.76

Amount payable = £83.54+ £8.28 + £41.76 = £133.58.

Quarterly payment of Income Tax to HMRC - £48.40 agreed.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA: Mr A Jones asked what is the situation re. footpaths; work has stopped for the holidays but possibly will resume after the holidays.

The white line on Wigton Road in front of the new houses needs removing.

Mrs P Jones said big vehicles are making a mess of the road. Mr J Kendall said farmers also make a mess. It can be reported and the farmer contacted.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING; 15th January 2018 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm when members stayed together for social discourse – Ship Hotel - £40.00 agreed.