



Allonby Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th December 2023

Attendance	Action/ Decision
<p>Councillors: A. Jones (AJ) (Chair), S. Collier (SC), N. Wingfield (NW) P. Jones (PJ) and J. Potter (JP)</p> <p>K. Thurlow, Cumberland Councillor (KT)</p> <p>One member of the public</p> <p>J. Rae, Acting Clerk (JR)</p>	
<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>An apology for absence was received from Cllr J. Hanley. The reason for absence was noted and accepted.</p>	
<p>2. Declarations of Interest:</p> <p>No declarations of interest were received.</p> <p>No requests for dispensations were received.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 28th November, 2023 as a true record.</p>	
<p>4. Public Question Time</p> <p>No matters were raised.</p>	
<p>5. Clerk's Report</p> <p>JR reported that the AGAR was ready to be signed. Once signed the AGAR will be submitted to the external auditors. The website had been updated with agendas and minutes for this year.</p>	
<p>6. Progress reports for information</p> <p>a Car Parks – It was noted there had been no further developments regarding the car parks. It was agreed that Members would report the pot holes and submit photographs showing the condition of the car parks on the HIAM system at Cumberland Council.</p> <p>b Play Park – It was noted that S. Ringrose is carrying out monthly inspections of the play park. The swings will be installed after Christmas.</p> <p>c Toilet Block – It was noted that a letter had been sent to Cumberland Council with copies sent to the MP and several Cumberland Councillors regarding the ongoing costs incurred with the running of the toilet block.</p> <p>It was suggested that a sign be placed on the toilet door advising that the toilets are closed for the winter months and any complaints to be directed to Cumberland Council.</p>	<p>Members to log the issues with the car parks on the HIAM system at Cumberland Council</p>
<p>7. Cumberland Councillor's Report</p> <p>KT provided an update on the Solway and Fells Community Panel meeting held on 11th December. KT also reported that Cumberland Council had advised that without funding nothing further can be done regarding the car parks.</p>	



Allonby Parish Council

<p>8. Planning</p> <p>(a) Applications Received: None</p> <p>(b) Decisions: None</p>									
<p>9. Finance</p> <p>(a) Payment of accounts</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Water Plus</td> <td>£5,178.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E-on November</td> <td>£ 34.72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J. Hanley – Refund Christmas Lights</td> <td>£ 137.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Internal Auditor</td> <td>£ 80.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>(b) Annual Audit</p> <p>(i) Internal Auditors Report</p> <p>The internal audit had been completed and the auditor’s report circulated. The recommendations detailing the actions to address the weaknesses were noted and accepted.</p> <p>(ii) RESOLVED that the Chair and Acting Clerk be authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement.</p> <p>Following the resignation of the former Clerk it transpired that an internal audit had not been carried out and the AGAR for financial year 2022-23 had not been completed and submitted to the external auditor. Further investigation found that an annual return had not been submitted for the previous financial year resulting in a public interest report being issued.</p> <p>Measures have now been implemented to address these failings. A locum clerk was appointed in August 2023 with accounting statements prepared with the information available.</p> <p>(iii) RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign the Statement of Accounts.</p> <p>(iv) Publication on website</p> <p>The completed AGAR will be submitted to the external auditors and unaudited accounts published on the Parish Council’s website.</p> <p>(c) Budget 2024-25</p> <p>A draft budget had been circulated with the agenda. Members discussed the income and expenditure for financial year 2023/24 and future projects for 2024-25. RESOLVED that the precept levy be set at £16,800</p>	Water Plus	£5,178.30	E-on November	£ 34.72	J. Hanley – Refund Christmas Lights	£ 137.95	Internal Auditor	£ 80.00	<p>JR to submit the AGAR to the external auditors and publish on the website</p> <p>JR to submit the statement of precept levy for 2024-25 to Cumberland Council</p>
Water Plus	£5,178.30								
E-on November	£ 34.72								
J. Hanley – Refund Christmas Lights	£ 137.95								
Internal Auditor	£ 80.00								
<p>10. Correspondence for information</p> <p>Cumberland Council – Grants available – UK Prosperity Fund</p> <p>Cumberland Council – Community Investment Fund</p> <p>CALC Newsletter</p> <p>Charge my Street – Community owned EV charge points</p>									
<p>11. Vacancies</p> <p>No further expressions of interest had been received.</p>									



Allonby Parish Council

12. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

NW reported that the form to add her as a signatory had been signed and returned to Unity Bank.

NW advised that she had reported to Cumberland Council that damage had been caused by work vehicles crossing over the green. This had resulted in damage being caused to a BT line. It was noted that work vehicles are also blocking the path.

JP reported that the damaged sign reported to Highways had not yet been repaired.

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 23rd January, 2024 – 7.30pm

Meeting closed: The meeting closed at 8.46 pm