

Wetheral Parish Council
Minutes of the Annual Meeting with Electors held on Wednesday,
11 th May 2016 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, Wetheral

PRESENT:
Councillor Mike Higginbotham – Chairman

Councillors

B. Earp
G. Round

P. Bainbridge
C. Dodd

J. Melrose-Woodman
S. Higgs

D. Poole
A. Strickland

Also present: 12 residents of the Parish

1. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 13th May 2015

The minutes of the previous meeting were available for inspection and approved for signing by the Chairman as a true record.

2. Chairman's report given by Mike Higginbotham;

The Parish Council has had another busy year with a new play area in Cumwhinton and new equipment for Scotby and a multi-use games area, new bus shelters and defibrillators in our villages.

Presenting the views of the local parishes can be frustrating and difficult especially with challenging planning applications. But it is one of the most important functions of the Parish Council and as such we must continue to do our best.

Finance has been a difficult issue this year with the loss of the concurrent City Council grant support from April 2016. After considerable debate within the Parish Council it was decided to increase this year's Precept charge to offset this loss to enable the Parish Council to continue its current level of service provision and new projects in its rolling 5 year plan.

Unfortunately this year we lost three longstanding Parish Councillors :- Marguerite Murray (7 years) Ian Yates (12 years) Nigel Holmes (20 years). We will miss their input, dedication and hard work done in their roles as Parish Councillors but thank them and wish them all the best. The resulting vacant posts will give the opportunity for other local people to join and bring with them new ideas and direction to the Parish Council.

Finally I would like to thank the Vice-Chairman, Parish Councillors and the Parish Council staff for all their dedication and hard work in performing their duties during the last 12 months for the benefit of all the local residents.

3. The Vice Chairman gave a presentation on all the projects undertaken by the Parish Council and future ones. This included the Parish Councils Finance.

4. Presentation was given by Tic Toc Cumbria – Helen McKenzie and Ian Jackson on the use of defibrillators which was well received by all.

Tic Toc are raising funds through many events and sponsorship to place public access defibrillators throughout Cumbria. On June 18th – Beat the Clock; to try and install as many defibrillators as they can in the area including, 3 in Wetheral Parish.

5. Open sessionNo questions were raised.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm