

Wetheral Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday,
13th July 2022 at 7.30pm in Scotby Village Hall
PRESENT

Chairman – J. Dobson

Councillors

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| S. Mossop | G. Mitchell | N. Northman | P. Armstrong |
| D. Hughes | M. Higginbotham | H. Hughes | S. Higgs |

Also present; District Cllr Christian & County Cllr Marriner

28/22 Apologies for absence

Resolved to receive and approve apologies for absence from Cllr Lyman and District Cllr M Bowman, County Cllrs J Mallinson & Dobson.

39/22 Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 8th June 2022

- (i) **Resolved** to authorise the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Council Meeting of 8th June 2022.

40/22 Requests for Dispensation

None were requested.

41/22 Declarations of Interest

- (i) Cllr Higgs declared an interest in items relating to Carlisle City Council.

42/22 Public Participation

- a. Residents – No residents were present.
- b. Police report – Not received.
- c. Councillor Reports
 - ~Cllr Marriner- noted that the Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans have been published. (Not including Wetheral Parish currently).
 - ~Cllr Higgs - Cancellation of the speed watch meeting due to transfer of key police personnel.
 - Bus survey results, results to be available at the next meeting, noted little commonality.
 - ~Cllr Dobson, Carlisle local committee have agreed to survey the Parish Councils on the introduction of 20mph speed limits in rural villages, CALC to co-ordinate.
 - A69, de-trunking – ongoing discussions.
 - Borderlands- Several projects to improve the physical environment of Carlisle are well advanced: Railway Station, Southern Gateway (Citadels) Cycling & Walking infrastructure

43/22 Council Committees

- (i) Further to the current vacancy for Cotehill & Cumwhinton ward; **Resolved** to appoint the following,
- a. Planning & Finance & Grants – Cllr Higginbotham
 - b. Rights of Way & Personnel – Cllr Mossop
 - c. Cemetery – Cllr available on the day.
- (ii) Note, any Cllr unable to attend a meeting, please ensure a substitute is arranged. Each Ward member to forward their comments to their committee representative or the Clerk.
- (ii) **Resolved** to confirm the forthcoming meetings dates.
- a. Rights of Way Committee. Monday 1st August, 1pm, suggest Monday 24th October, 1pm members to confirm (budget meeting).
 - b. Finance & Grants Committee, Tuesday 4th October, 9.30am, suggest Tuesday 29th November, 9.30am (precept meeting).
 - c. Cemetery Committee, Thursday 3rd November, 10.00am. TBC

44/22 Minutes of Committee Meetings & Working Groups

a. **Resolved** to receive the minutes of the following Committee meetings/working groups and to accept any recommendations contained therein;

(i) **Cemetery Committee** meeting held on 29th June 2022.

Specifically;

a.22/06 (i) Chapel energy costs **Resolved** due to the estimated electricity cost, Clerk to obtain the cost of a “pay as you go meter”. If this is not cost effective or available, the members will consider the future operation of the Cemetery Chapel.

b.22/06 (iv) Disputed water bill. **Resolved** to pay the full amount owing including the debt collection agency costs. Cllr D Hughes to dispute the invoice & future charging.

c.22./08 (iii) Cemetery fees **Resolved** to accept the proposed fees, effective 1st August 2022. Clerk to inform funeral directors and update the website.

d. Noted the Groundsman is unavailable for a number of weeks due to a planned operation. Cover has been arranged for the grass cutting in the main cemetery and basic maintenance.

(ii) **Planning Committee** meeting held on Monday 27th June 2022.

(iii) **Finance & Grants Committee** held on Wednesday 6th July 2022.

Specifically;

a. F&G 07/22 (i) **Resolved** to appoint an arbitrator to resolve issues relating to the construction of Scotby Pavilion with SEP Construction Ltd.

b. F&G 07/22 (v) To include the Scotby village hall replacement roof in the precept 2023-24.

c. F&G 07/22 (vi) **Resolved** to suspend standing orders 10(xv) to allow approval of the replacement boiler at Scotby village hall without a tender process. Financial Regulation 2022; 11. Contracts, (iii) For work to be executed or goods or materials which consist of repairs to or parts for existing machinery, equipment or plant.

As the boiler has been stripped of all parts as obsolete, asbestos removed and the heating boiler is required for September 2022 onwards to allow the continued operation of Scotby Village Hall, otherwise closure would be required. **Resolved** to delegate the consideration of the quotations to the Chairman & Vice Chairman due to the urgency of the work.

d. F&G 08/22 b. The Strand, **Resolved** to approve the additional costs of £1390.

e. F&G08/22 (iii) a. **Resolved** to approve the 5% pay increase to all staff members, backdated to April 1st 2022. (Once the NJC have agreed the national pay rise, the % shall be adjusted accordingly, not below 5%)

b. **Resolved** to purchase a replacement laptop up to the value of £500)

45/22. Planning Applications considered;

(i) **App 22/0497 Birkhill Farm, Great Corby**

Replacement windows, new conservatory and reconfiguration of link building.

Resolved – No Observations

(ii) **App 22/0498 Birkhill Farm, Great Corby (LBC)**

Replacement windows, new conservatory and reconfiguration of link building

Resolved – No Observations

(iii) **App 22/0014/TPO 13 Scotby Village**

Removal of 4 lower limbs to Oak tree (TPO 54)

Resolved – No Observations

(iv) **App/E0915/D/22/3298144 20 Jennet Croft, Wetheral**

Erection of 1.8 m fence (retrospective)

Resolved – No Observations

(v) **App 22/0530 Washbeck Lambley Bank, Scotby**

Single storey extension & 2 storey side extension and widen existing access.

Resolved – No Observations

46/22 Bank Reconciliation

(i) **Resolved** to receive and note the bank balances to 30th June 2022.

Current Account £17,779.36

Deposit Account £228,879.89

Cumberland BS £38,238.54

Total in the bank £214,298.30

(ii) **Resolved** to authorise the Chairman to sign the bank statements.

47/22 Payment of Accounts

(i) **Resolved** to authorise payment of the accounts listed in the schedule of cheques dated 13th July 2022.
(VIN 87-121) Totalling £33,626.78

48/22 Village matters

(i) Wetheral Railway Station, noted CCTV system on loan. Cllr Higgs to confirm the cost of a permanent system.

(ii) General fly tipping- Wetheral & Cotehill- Noted.

(iii) Public footpaths and walkers' attitude to land owners. **Resolved** to promote the Countryside Code on the Council's Facebook page and include in the annual report.

(vi) Notice boards – **Resolved** to defer installation of the Durranhill noticeboard due to the uncertainty of future boundary changes.

(v) Defibrillator for hamlets- **Resolved**, Cllrs to review their wards for the requirement of additional defibrillators. (Burnrigg has been identified as a possibility). To be considered at the next full council meeting.

(vi) Heads Nook -request for bench and financial support. Noted a resident has made a request, however there are no suitable sites for the bench, and the resident has yet to respond.

(vii) Resolved to develop a strategy for the Parish, which could include the siting of a speed indicator device in the villages. (Possibly mobile)

49/22 External Representation

Resolved to receive reports from Parish Council representatives on outside bodies.

i. *Great Corby Village AGM* – minutes & Chairman's report to be emailed.

ii. *Down-a-gate centre meeting.* – minutes to be emailed.

iii. *Wetheral Community Hall AGM*- Noted that there is no longer a specific village hall committee.
The hall being managed solely by the Directors of WCA Ltd.

iv. *Hartley Trust*- update given from Cllr Hughes

a. **Resolved** to issue the draft lease agreement with the Hartley Trust to Carlisle City Council for the management of the playing field and pavilion facilities.

b. Renewable energy sources being considered due to the high cost of electricity and gas.

c. Noted, revenue is healthy due to sponsorship and grants. Currently reviewing costs and charges for the operation of the pavilion and field. Successful Jubilee 4-day event, this has brought new members to the committee and the village residents have been very supportive.

v. *Wetheral Playing Fields Association* update from Cllrs Higginbotham/Higgs

a. **Resolved** to defer a lease agreement with the Wetheral Playing Fields Association until a simpler version has been produced.

b.

Resolved to review the current constitution by the end of 2022.

c. Renewable energy sources are being considered, PV cells, waiting for the supplier to arrange a site visit.

50/22 Suspension of Standing orders

Resolved to suspend standing orders 10(xv), 3 (x) a meeting shall not exceed 2 hours. To allow the meeting to continue after 9.30pm.

d. Summary of account and operation plan; Accounting year Sept- August, accounts available shortly. Confirmed that the COVID grant received belongs to the Parish Council as the building owner. Suggested £20,000 be transferred to the WPFA deposit account from the current account. Successful Jubilee Big Lunch, £400 from the Cricket club being donated to the WPFA.

e. Issues occurred with a Crusaders fun day, parking a major problem, no prior warning to the Parish Council as field owner. **Resolved** to write to all user groups insisting an application is made to the Parish Council to use its land for anything other than normal sporting activities. This is the current procedure for the use all greens and land. In addition remind users of their duty to report incidents and dangerous occurrences on the field, this includes the presence of an ambulance on site. Cllrs Dobson, Higgs and the Clerk to produce.

f. Noted the Crusaders' user agreement expires July 31st 2022. Cllr Higginbotham to update the Clerk on its renewal.

50/22Schedule of Correspondence, Notices and Publications

Resolved to receive and note schedule of correspondence, notices and publications received since the last meeting and not on the agenda.

(i) Request by Royal Oak, Scotby to use the Scotby village green.

a. Resolved to allow the mini dog show on 21st August 2022, form required.

b. Resolved Clerk to write to the owner of the Royal Oak stating the following.

(i) August bank holiday weekend – need to confirm the times and days when the benches and deck chair are requested on the village green. NB. benches/tables are only permitted when an application is made for a special event. These must be removed by 8.00pm.

(ii) Food orders or the serving of food is not permitted on the village green as this is deemed a commercial activity. Customers may purchase takeaway food but must collect from the pub and take it to the green, as they could from any other food retailer.

(iii) Picnic tables are not permitted on the village green, other than approved pub tables, and customers should not be encouraged to bring them. Blankets brought by customers are acceptable.

(iv) Rubbish generated by users of the pub shall be managed by the pub staff.

(v) Live music not an issue for the Parish Council as it is in the venue.

(vi) A sign is not permitted on the village green. Any signage should be on the pub premises. This includes “no glasses beyond this point”.

(vii) Concerns raised that the event has been advertised on social media without the approval of the Parish Council. The applicant must ensure permission is granted prior to advertising an event.

(viii) Noted that the benches have been placed on the green at weekends recently, moved from the beer garden by pub users. This is not permitted as it will set a precedent for pubs in other villages. This must be policed by the pub staff to prevent it occurring again.

(ix) Use of the pub's large deckchairs on the green during may be permitted during pub opening hours (2 max).

(ii) Play inspection training -CALC, deferred until the next meeting, Clerk to circulate further information.

Next meeting August 10th 2022, in Wetheral Village Community Hall.