

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Thursday 8 February 2024** at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

Present – Cllrs. Peter Clarke (Chair), Brian Rendell, Tom Grindey, and Iain Richards; Westmorland & Furness (W&F) Cllr. Janet Battye; the Clerk and no members of the public

1/24 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Adrian Bland, Elizabeth Moffat and Mary Capstick (reasons accepted and noted)

2/24 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2023 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

3/24 Declarations of Interest

None

4/24 Requests for Dispensation

None

5/24 Public Participation

None

6/24 Ongoing Items

- Extension of 50mph limit to Levens Bridge: There was nothing to report
- Proposed village 20mph zone: The Council considered and approved the scope and location of the 20mph application as set out in the form drafted by the working group. The request for parishioners' opinions had resulted in a significant majority in favour and it was agreed to submit the application
- Crow Wood and yellow line parking restrictions: A reply had not yet been received from Ms Upton regarding clarification of the ownership of the area used for parking and the Clerk was asked to send a reminder
- Field of Dreams: A reply to the Council's claim was still awaited
- Street Light Removal: The Clerk informed the Council that he had been informed that the work was now not expected to be done until May/June 2024

7/24 Reports

- a. Westmorland & Furness Cllr. Battye reported regarding the agreed Highways Plan, which includes resurfacing the A6 from Leasgill to Milnthorpe and A590 safety improvement and tree management work (all of which will commence in the near future) and reviewing all gritting arrangements in the Summer; the issuing of the Climate Action Plan; the agreed Council Tax increase of 4.99% for 2024/25 with empty homes being taxed this year and an increase in second homes tax from April 2025; a new Local Plan, which is expected to take three years to complete; and Integrated Care Board funding
- b. The Athenaeum: Cllr. Clarke reported on a meeting that had taken place re the damp proofing at which it was agreed that the appropriate solution was tanking with a third quote awaited. The Snooker Club had offered a contribution of £15,000 towards the current estimated cost of £30,000 and other grants were being pursued with no contribution offered by the Council. It was noted that one Cllr. Trustee didn't agree with the proposed tanking. The Clerk reported that the half-year's Accounts to 31 January 2024 had been received and emailed to Cllrs. Cllr. Grindey reported that there was to be a quiz night on 24 February and that John Chew was to give a talk on 13 April on memories of his time at the Blue Bell

8/24 Planning

- i) It was noted that the following planning applications had been **submitted** to W&FC and circulated to members of the Council since the last meeting:
 - 2023/1037/FPA Malston, Haverwood, Woodhouse, Milnthorpe**
Erection of a wooden gazebo in front garden area
 - 2023/1109/FPA Wanthwaite, Heversham**
Rear extension, detached double garage and a raised patio area to the front
The Council had **no comments** to make on these applications
 - 2024/0064/FPA Valley View, Leasgill**
Internal and external alterations & extensions, installation of PV solar panels, creation of additional off-road parking and turning point
The Council requested **additional information** re this application
- ii) It was noted that the following planning applications had been **approved** by W&FC since the last meeting:
 - SL/2023/0510 Rear of Sunnyside, Woodhouse Lane, Heversham**
Erection of a detached dormer bungalow and associated landscaping with access taken from Woodhouse Lane
 - SL/2023/0102 The Creggans, Woodhouse Lane, Heversham**
The alteration of existing detached double garage with flat roof to create a pitched roof with office/gym/games space
 - SL/2023/0766 Tweenways, Heversham**
Two storey rear extension, external rear staircase and detached garage following demolition of existing utility and store
 - SL/2023/0663 Grievegate, Leasgill**
Replacement of conservatory with extension and associated external works, alteration to existing openings

- and addition of stone facing
- iii) It was noted that application **2023/1027/LDPR** for a Lawful Development Certificate (proposed) re extensions at **Valley View, Leasgill** had been **refused** by W&FC
- iv) Neighbourhood Plan group: There was no report

9/24 Highways / Footpaths / Trees and Woods

Highways:

- a) Cllr. Richards had reported on HIAMS the need for remedial work on the small depression in Woodhouse Lane caused by the B4RN cable crossing the road but W&FC had said that no work was needed
- b) W&F Cllr Battye had reported on HIAMS the Dugg Hill potholes and the need for a grit bin at the top of Dugg Hill
- c) The Chair noted that the potholes near the island should be dealt with when the A6 was resurfaced
- d) The Chair had been approached regarding the parking outside Sands View and it was agreed to wait for the decision on the 20mph application before discussing this further
- e) Cllr. Capstick had sent a message that the hedge opposite Plumtree would be cut soon
- f) It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Dallam Estate regarding the need to attend to the hedge opposite The Crescent in Leasgill
- g) It was agreed that Cllr. Richards would attend to the small trees at Mabbin Hall Lane

Footpaths/Tracks:

- i) There was to be a meeting of the Footpaths Working Group with the Countryside Access Officer on 12 February

Trees and Woods:

- i) The Clerk reported that the second batch of free trees would be received between 26 February and 8 March and Cllr. Richards offered to grow them on in his garden
- ii) It was reported that there were some red crosses on trees on the old railway line and a report was awaited
- iii) The state of the top kissing gate above Quarry Wood was discussed, together with the proposed changes to the gate from the wood near the cockpit
- iv) It was agreed that Cllr. Richards would attend to the fallen trees in Quarry Wood and keep the firewood
- v) It was agreed to discuss Quarry Wood and the Trailway at the Annual Parish Meeting

10/24 Playground Report

- i) Cllr. Rendell had inspected the playground since the last meeting and had reported no problems
- ii) Cllr. Rendell continued to monitor the equipment and would carry out the inspections until the next meeting
- iii) Cllr. Rendell reported that the seesaw was now installed

11/24 Village Tidy

It was agreed that the annual tidy would be held on 6 April 2024. The Clerk was asked to make the usual arrangements and the Chair was to place a notice in the parish magazine

12/24 Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed that the Meeting would be held on 18 April 2024 and that, in addition to the normal reports, there would be a talk on fraud prevention by a Cumbria Police representative and the discussions re the 20mph limit, Quarry Wood and the Trailway. Cllr. Richards requested that attention be drawn to the Digital Telephone Service Charity

13/24 Finance

- a) It was noted that there had been the following receipt since the last meeting:
Leasgill Quarry Trust - playground grant - £1,490.00
- b) The following payments between meetings were approved:
Npower – street lighting electricity December 2023 - £116.39 – cheque 715
Drew Ford Garden Machinery Ltd – mower service - £254.97 – cheque 716
- c) The following payments were approved:
M R Richardson – salary and expenses to 31/1/24 - £1,785.73 – cheque 717
HMRC – PAYE re M R Richardson - £395.40 – cheque 718
Npower – street lighting electricity January 2024 - £123.91 – cheque 719
A2A Advertising Ltd – SSL web hosting fee - £48.00 – cheque 720
Pam Forrester – defibrillator battery - £340.39 – cheque 721
Thomas Robinson – gritting - £120.00 – cheque 722
CHB Surfacing Ltd – seesaw installation - £984.00 – cheque 723
- d) It was noted that the precept request 2024/25 had been submitted by email without the necessity for a form
- e) The Financial Risk Assessment 2024/25 was received and approved
- f) **Resolved** that it be noted that the closing bank balance at 31 January 2024 was £15,312.54, which had been reconciled with the bank account, and that the bank statement be signed by the Chair

14/24 Correspondence

The following correspondence received and not included as an item on this agenda was noted:

- i) Office of the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner – Asking for views on the policing budget proposals (emailed to Cllrs. 10/1/24)
- ii) Cumbria Police – Wildlife & Rural Affairs newsletter December 2023 (emailed to Cllrs.10/1/24)
- iii) CALC – Update re W&FC and CALC conversation (emailed to Cllrs.10/1/24)
- iv) CALC News November & December 2023 (emailed to Cllrs.10/1/24)
- v) Cumbria Police - Neighbourhood policing team update December 2023 (emailed to Cllrs.10/1/24)
- vi) CALC – Training programme January – July 2024 (emailed to Cllrs.16/1/24)
- vii) CALC – D-Day 80 pin badge (emailed to Cllrs.16/1/24)
- viii) CALC – CAFS newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.17/1/24)
- ix) Highways England – A590 safety improvement work (emailed to Cllrs.2/2/24)
- x) CALC – Love your liver roadshow in Kendal 6/2/20 (emailed to Cllrs.2/2/24)
- xi) Cumbria Police – Neighbourhood policing team update January 2024 (emailed to Cllrs.8/2/24)

15/24 Westmorland Gazette – Matters from this meeting to be reported for the Westmorland Gazette:

- Village Tidy
- Annual Parish Meeting

16/24 Items for Information – *no decisions or action permitted*

- Parish Council election on Thursday 2 May 2024

17/24 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- a. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tree Scheme Plaque – When new trees are ready in 2024
- b. Planning policy and objections – Spring 2024

18/24 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that future meetings of the Parish Council will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each relevant month from Wednesday 27 March 2024 and will commence at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill
However, the May Annual meeting has to be within 14 days of the Parish Council election and it was therefore agreed that this would be on 8 May 2024 (this was changed to 15 May 2024 – per email to Cllrs.9/2/24)

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm