

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Wednesday 24 July 2024** at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

Present – Cllrs. Peter Clarke (Chair), Mary Capstick and Adrian Tayler; Westmorland & Furness (W&F) Cllr. Janet Battye; the Clerk and one member of the public

99/24 Apologies were received from Cllrs. Tom Grindey, Elizabeth Moffat and Natalie Fletcher (reasons accepted and noted). It was noted that Cllr. Fletcher had signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form between meetings and that this had been witnessed by the Clerk

100/24 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2024 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

101/24 Declarations of Interest: None

102/24 Requests for Dispensation: None

103/24 Public Participation: The member of the public explained the background to and the reasoning behind the Woodhouse Farm planning application, which he believed would improve and reinstate the farmstead. He drew attention to the biodiversity gain and the substantial residential support given to the application on the W&FC portal. The Council asked if there was any possibility of opening the adjacent old railway line to the community as this would strengthen the accessibility to Heversham and benefit the community as well as mitigating both the pedestrian village access dangers and the fact that there was no affordable housing included in the proposal. The member of the public offered to explore this further with the applicant

104/24 Ongoing Items

- Extension of 50mph limit to Levens Bridge: There was no further information as to whether the request to amend the proposal to 40mph on the A6 from one parish boundary to the other was still under consideration
- Crow Wood and yellow line parking restrictions: No reply had yet been received from W&FC regarding clarification of the ownership of the area used for parking
- Field of Dreams: A reply to the Council's claim was still awaited
- Street Light Removal / Reinstallation: This was still scheduled for the end of August
- Newsletter / Update: This had been finalised and was being published as an insert in the Parish News

105/24 Reports

- a. Westmorland & Furness Cllr. Battye stated that W&FC were looking at consolidation of the different waste collection regimes in the W&FC areas (including green waste); rural crime was a priority; Kendal Town Hall was being remodelled internally as part of the council buildings survey; and there was to be a consultation regarding leisure services – she referred particularly to the Kendal Leisure Centre. She also remarked that parishioners who had car damage due to driving on wet tar on the A6 should claim from the contractor not W&FC. Her attention was drawn to what was considered to be incompetent closing off of the roads subsequently
- b. The Athenaeum: The Council had received no further communication regarding the tanking

106/24 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:

2024/1132 and 1158/TCA St Peter's Church, Heversham

Long list of tree work

2024/1141/FPA Woodhouse Farm, Woodhouse

Demolition of open sided barn, conversion of two traditional stone barns, reinstatement & conversion of one traditional stone barn into 3no residential dwelling and conversion of two outhouses into ancillary garaging and storage for Woodhouse Farm & the two barn conversions on the eastern portion of the farmyard with associated infrastructure and ancillary facilities

The Council **strongly supported** this application, which it considered to be in an appropriate location and to improve the vicinity with sensitive treatment of the barns

2024/0855/LBC Plumtree Hall, Heversham

Listed Building Consent for the refurbishment of the Annexe adjoining the rear of Plumtree Hall, including replacement of wooden window frames and external doors with UPVC frames and construction of an entrance porch to the north elevation. Also, the replacement of a wooden bay window frame with a UPVC frame located above the garden store/garage to the north elevation of the Main Hall

The Council **supported** this application

- ii) It was noted that the following planning applications had been approved by W&FC since the last meeting:

2024/0507/FPA Land at Swallowmire, Milnthorpe

Relocation of livestock housing & creation of wash bay (retrospective) and relocation of manege & installation of horse walker

2024/0064/FPA Valley View, Leasgill

Alterations & extensions, installation of PV solar panels and installation of retaining wall (part retrospective)

The Council noted that it had not received a satisfactory response to its questions regarding the planning process in this instance but that an online meeting had been proposed to discuss the matter

2024/1132 and 1158/TCA St Peter's Church, Heversham

Long list of tree work

- iii) Neighbourhood Plan group: There was no report but it was suggested that the group should consider its response to the Local Plan consultation
- iv) It was agreed to defer the discussion on planning policy and action regarding objections until the Valley View online meeting had taken place

107/24 Highways / Footpaths / Trees and Woods

Highways:

- a) The email from Stagecoach concerning a bus diversion as a result of a proposed road closure at Leasgill from 19 August 2024 was discussed and questions were asked as to why the Council had not been notified officially about the proposed road closure and why there had been no communication with affected parishioners. It was agreed to pursue these matters urgently
- b) Cllr. Tayler's offer to empty the poo bin at the bottom of School Lane for September was gratefully accepted

Footpaths/Tracks:

- i) The Chair reported that the kissing gate at Tristrams had been repaired but not that directly onto the head

Trees and Woods:

- i) The Chair reported regarding the ash die back on the Old Railway Line and that it was understood that Dallam School had received a report. It was agreed that the Council should request a copy of the report and pursue the proposed meeting to discuss the issue with the school
- ii) The Chair reported that the Jubilee Copse had been overtaken by vegetation but that he would investigate further. He would also clarify the position regarding the second instalment of saplings with Iain Richards

108/24 Playground Report

- i) Cllr. Clarke had inspected the playground since the last meeting and reported no problems
- ii) Cllr. Capstick would monitor the equipment and carry out the inspections until the next meeting
- iii) There was no report regarding repairing and replacing the playground fencing and repairing the gate pillars but the Clerk had contacted former Cllr. Rendell about this and the work was in hand

109/24 Training

The Chair urged councillors to attend the virtual Code of Conduct session run by W&FC on 31 July 2024 from 5.30pm to 6.30pm

110/24 Finance

- a) It was noted that there had been the following receipts since the last meeting:
HMRC – VAT refund re The Athenaeum for 2023/24 - £1,299.41
- b) The following payment between meetings was approved:
The Athenaeum - VAT refund 2023/24 - £1,299.41 – cheque 737
- c) The following payments were approved:
M R Richardson – salary and expenses to 31/7/24 - £1,606.60 – cheque 739
HMRC – PAYE re M R Richardson - £346.80 – cheque 740
Npower – street lighting electricity June 2024 - £126.26 – cheque 741
Lakes Design and Print Ltd – newsletter / update - £68.00 - cheque 742
- d) The budget comparison 2023/24 was received, explained by the Clerk and noted
- e) **Resolved** that it be noted that the closing bank balance at 30 June 2024 was £27,936.94, which had been reconciled with the bank account, and that the bank statement be signed by the Chair

111/24 Policies and Procedures

The Clerk had emailed to Cllrs. copies of the revised Financial Regulations, which were discussed and **approved**

112/24 Correspondence

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

- i) CALC – W&FC's biodiversity toolkit (emailed to Cllrs.3/7/24)
- ii) W&FC – Natural Kendal July 2024 newsletter/Compost Demo event on 13/7/24 (emailed to Cllrs.3/7/24)
- iii) CALC – Recording of W&FC Local Plan briefing on 27/6/24 (emailed to Cllrs.3/7/24)
- iv) Cumbria Police – Neighbourhood Policing Team update June 2024 (emailed to Cllrs.4/7/24)
- v) W&FC – Local Plan consultation 8/7/24 to 9/9/24 (emailed to Cllrs.9/7/24)
- vi) W&FC – Public Space Protection Orders consultation for W&F (emailed to Cllrs.9/7/24)
- vii) W&FC – Urgent road closure – Woodhouse Lane (should be Moss Lane) (emailed to Cllrs.11/7/24)

113/24 Westmorland Gazette – Matters from this meeting to be reported for the Westmorland Gazette:

- None

114/24 Items for Information – no decisions or action permitted

- Cllr. Tayler said that the Open Bowling Club competition was to be held this Saturday

115/24 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- a. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tree Scheme Plaque – When new trees are ready later in 2024
- b. Proposed village 20mph zone – September 2024 agenda

116/24 Date of next meeting

It was agreed the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 25 September 2024 and will commence at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

The meeting closed at 9.32pm

