

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Thursday 14 March 2019 in the Athenaeum, Leasgill at 7:30pm

Held in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972

Present : Councillors Brian Rendell (Chairman), Peter Clarke, Adrian Bland, Gordon Capstick, Tom Grindey, Iain Richards and Adele Shepherd; County Cllr. Roger Bingham; District Cllr. Kevin Holmes; Malcolm Richardson (Parish Clerk) and 32 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from PCSO 5342 Mark Leigh.

2. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2018 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Dallam School Plans for the Heversham and Leasgill Sites

Mr. Nigel Whittle (the Dallam School headmaster) and four colleagues spoke about the school's plans following the purchase of the Primary School site for continuance of educational purposes. These would include provision for small groups of students with tailored curriculum classes, adult educational and special educational needs programmes. The site had presented a refurbishment challenge but it had been made watertight and statutory compliance measures had been undertaken. The school has a clear commitment to and wished to continue to engage with the local community. The existing links through parish use of Tristrams, the Tennis Club, the Milnthorpe Sports Centre and community educational courses were examples. The Milnthorpe site is over-subscribed and the school now had 130 boarders who were encouraged to engage with the community as their local family. Examples of this were helping at the church; helping with the litter pick; the charity car wash; and tea and cake for locals. Parishioners highlighted the possible parking and traffic problems at the Primary School site and Mr. Whittle confirmed that they were already being considered. County Cllr. Roger Bingham asked if the description of the site could be the "Leasgill School Campus" rather than "Leasgill Campus".

4. Reports

- a. Cllr. Brian Rendell expressed the Council's grateful thanks to Cllr. Adrian Bland for his service as Chairman for the previous six years and presented his report with regard to the activities of the Parish Council during the past year. Several projects had been completed including the old railway line footpath and a new flower bed at the north end of the village and others were nearing completion such as the LED street lighting and the double yellow lines near Crow Wood.
- b. The Kendal Neighbourhood Policing Team: The police report forwarded by PCSO Mark Leigh was presented by the Clerk. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.
- c. County Councillor Roger Bingham expressed his thanks for the get well messages received during his illness. He reported on the work done and in progress with regard to footpaths, flooding and potholes and referred to the problem with regard to the closure of Crooklands bridge by the Canal Trust and the complete lack of communication with the County Council. He also reported on the County Council budget for 2019/20 and the affect on the area of county lines drug dealing.
- d. District Councillor Kevin Holmes reported with regard to SLDC's Customer Connect project and the Coastal Strategy amongst other items of interest.
- e. The Athenaeum: Cllr. Tom Grindey reported that the Athenaeum continues to be a valuable asset to the village and that it is still well used. Treasurer John Smith has retired after around 15 years of excellent management of the financial affairs and has been succeeded by Graham Whitwham. A defibrillator has been fitted; new floor coverings completed; and a waterproof rendering applied to the west gable.

5. Reviews of Progress and Open Discussions

The following matters were discussed in open forum:

- a. B4RN Broadband: Cllr. Richards reported on the current position and the envisaged routes. There was general agreement that excellent broadband was a necessity for the village and thanks were expressed to Dallam School Charitable Trust for financing the cabinet installation

and the connection to their Heversham site with facilities for follow-on connections for the parish.

- b. Street Lighting: The Clerk reported on the current position. Several LED lights were already in place and the remainder would be done once some ordered fittings had been received by the contractor and the village road works had been completed.
- c. Speed Indication Devices: Funding was in place but a decision was awaited from the relevant authority.
- d. Public Transport / Double Yellow Lines: The Traffic Regulation Order recommendations were to be discussed by the relevant Committee next week.
- e. Playground: Cllr. Rendell reported on the condition of the playground including the recent removal of several items of rotted equipment.
- f. Promotion of Wild Flowers and Wildlife: It was reported that amongst others Dallam School were in favour of such a project.
- g. Footpaths and Pathways: Several problems had been identified and solved and the Parish Council had purchased two dog poo bins which were being well used.
- h. The Village in the 2030s: Cllr. Clarke reported that Heversham's population was getting older year by year and the Parish Council wondered whether there were things that it should be doing to make the village a better place in which to live in the 2030s. He asked for the help of parishioners in exploring this issue by completing a leaflet which he distributed.

6. Public Participation

Matters raised included problems with speeding traffic on Woodhouse Lane (including bicycles) and the reported increase in direct trains from Arnside to Manchester Airport.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Malcolm Richardson
Clerk to the Council