

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Thursday 16 September 2021** at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill. The meeting followed Covid-19 government guidance

Present – Cllrs. Peter Clarke (Chairman), Brian Rendell, Tom Grindey, Elizabeth Moffat, Iain Richards and Adele Shepherd; District Cllr. Kevin Holmes; the Clerk and no members of the public

120/21 Introduction to Dallam School's new Headteacher and new Head of Boarding and discussion of the School's plans for the future

The Council were pleased to meet Dallam School's new headteacher, together with the new head of boarding and one of the assistant headteachers. A useful and constructive conversation took place during which the Council expressed its willingness to support the school in whatever ways may be helpful and its wish to maintain the existing open lines of communication. The School also wished to continue the links and connection so that the students in the Boarding House continued to be part of the community. It was stated that no decisions had yet been made regarding the former primary school; that there had been restrictions on the boarding house due to the pandemic; and that the boarding intake model had changed post Brexit as only UK passport holders were now eligible

121/21 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. Adrian Bland (reasons accepted and noted) and County Cllr. Roger Bingham

122/21 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2021 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chairman

123/21 Requests for Dispensation

None

124/21 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Rendell declared a family interest in the planning application regarding College Green Farm

125/21 Public Participation

None

126/21 Ongoing Items

- B4RN: Cllr. Richards reported that he and Cllr. Bland had a very good meeting with B4RN at the County Show. The Chairman had written to Tim Farron MP regarding the changes to Project Gigabit and the impending closure of the voucher scheme and Mr. Farron had written to the relevant Secretary of State in that regard. A subscription to Parish Online of £75 plus VAT for another year was approved
- What's Back On in Heversham: The leaflet had been circulated to all households, along with the History Sketch produced by County Cllr. Bingham, which had been very well received
- Heversham Village Heritage Exhibition: This was on indefinite hold
- Commemoration seat in memory of Cllr. Gordon Capstick: The seat had been ordered and paid for and the plaque would be ordered when the seat was received
- Preparations for the adjourned Annual Parish Meeting on 7 October 2021 were finalised
- Climate Emergency Working Group: A meeting had been arranged in October

127/21 Reports

- a. District Cllr. K. Holmes reported with regard to the new Code of Conduct adopted by SLDC and recommended for all parish councils in the area. The main changes were the necessity to consider friendship more carefully when deciding whether an interest needed to be declared and to declare gratuities offered even if turned down. The Clerk stated that the new Code of Conduct had been circulated and would be on the next agenda
- b. County Cllr. Bingham had sent a report regarding the current Covid position; improved hospital facilities; electricity charging points; car park use; cemetery regulations; and the stalling of the local government reorganisation judicial review
- c. The Athenaeum: The annual general meeting was to be held next Thursday 23 September 2021

128/21 Planning

- i) It was noted that the following planning applications had been submitted to SLDC and circulated to members of the Council since the last meeting:

SL/2021/0737 College Green Farm, Heversham

Change of use of agricultural land for the siting of storage containers for storage business (part retrospective)

The Council had **no objection** but requested that the containers were painted lakeland green

TR/2021/0148 Hillside, Woodhouse Lane, Heversham

Complete removal of 3 beech trees. To replant replacement trees within the curtilage of the property

The Council commented that the trees are valued and that it would wish to see them retained unless felling was absolutely necessary on safety grounds. The Council had subsequently been notified that the application had been **refused**

SL/2021/0814 1, Haverwood, Woodhouse, Heversham

Replacement single storey rear extension and replacement detached double pitched roof garage

- ii) It was noted that no planning applications had been notified as approved by SLDC since the last meeting
- iii) It was noted that no report had yet been received from SLDC regarding the reported development without permission
- iv) The Chairman stated that the Neighbourhood Plan group had nothing new to report

129/21 Highways / Footpaths / Trees and Woods

Highways:

- a) The Chairman reported that there had been a meeting in August with Stainton and Sedgwick Parish Councils and Hincaster Parish Meeting. It had been a useful sharing of information and there were common concerns across the parishes. It was however decided that making a concerted approach to the proposals for speed limits and to improving road safety in the area between the A65 and the A6 was not feasible
- b) Highways Dept had reported that Woodhouse Lane was not thought suitable for traffic calming measures
- c) The Council **agreed** by a majority vote, after weighting risk, that CCC Highways Dept and County Cllr. Bingham should be informed by the Clerk that removing the northern double yellow line gap (parking space) between Crow Wood and the Playground was the Council's priority and that speed limits were secondary
- d) The hedges referred to in the previous minutes had all been trimmed
- e) The Clerk was asked to send a thank you card to Norma Morris regarding her work in cutting the grass at Leasgill Green

Footpaths/Tracks:

- i) No report had been received regarding the existing cycleways and cycle paths in Heversham parish
- ii) The Footpaths Group had met in the Old School and a representative of the Lancaster Canal Trust had attended
- iii) The Chairman reported that work on the map / visitor information noticeboards in collaboration with The Athenaeum was progressing. They would be based on an OS map and include permissive paths. It was envisaged that one would be placed outside the playground and a second by the post box outside The Athenaeum. The possibility of a third at the Heversham Hotel was to be explored
- iv) The continuation of the licence for the old railway line had not yet been resolved with Dallam School

Trees and Woods:

- i) The Quarry Wood work was to proceed shortly. There was a considerable amount of ash die back, which would increase costs. However, the SLDC locality grant had been increased to £1,000
- ii) Possible locations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Green Canopy initiative were to be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting

130/21 Playground Report

- i) Cllr. Rendell had inspected the playground since the last meeting, continued to monitor the equipment and would carry out the inspections until the next meeting
- ii) A decision had not yet been received regarding the grant application for £8,000 to the Walney Extension Community Fund towards the finance for the next phase of the improvements

131/21 Leasgill Quarry Trust

It was agreed to request funding for the removal / restoration / replacement of the sign on the north gable of the old Bluebell and the erection of a plaque referencing it and the smithy fire-bucket hole in the adjacent wall; an additional dog poo bin at Fluster Gap; and playground improvements

132/21 Christmas 2021

It was agreed to purchase a Christmas tree for Leasgill Green

133/21 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in June 2022

It was agreed to hold an event before the lighting of the beacon on 2 June 2022 and the Clerk was asked to book The Athenaeum

134/21 Finance

- a) It was noted that there had been the following receipt since the last meeting:
HMRC – The Athenaeum VAT refund 2020/21 - £312.91
- b) The following payments between meetings were approved:
Npower – street lighting electricity June 2021 - £40.44 – cheque 591
HMPS – commemoration seat in memory of Cllr. Gordon Capstick - £209.50 – cheque 592
Npower – street lighting electricity July 2021 - £41.81 – cheque 593
- c) The following payments were approved:
Absolute Digital Print – newsletter - £145.00 – cheque 595
Npower – street lighting August 2021 - £41.81 – cheque 596
The Athenaeum – VAT refund 2020/21 - £312.91 – cheque 597
Geosphere Ltd – Parish Online subscription - £90.00 – cheque 598
- d) The annual payment of the Data Protection registration fee of £35 by direct debit was noted
- e) It was agreed to take no action with regard to replacing the defibrillator signs on the old telephone box
- f) It was agreed that the Clerk should explore options regarding changing bankers as HSBC have announced that they will charge parish councils in future
- g) **Resolved** that it be noted that the closing bank balance at 31 August 2021 was £17,844.12 which had been reconciled with the bank account and that the bank statement be counter-signed by the Chairman

135/21 Correspondence

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

- a. Further items from SLDC, CCC and Cumbria Police giving information re coronavirus (covid-19) matters
- b. Further items from CALC and SLDC concerning announcement of local government reorganisation decision
- c. CALC – Invitation to participate in DCMS survey about mobile rural network coverage (emailed to Cllrs.9/7/21)
- d. CALC – Newsletter June and July 2021 (emailed to Cllrs 16/7/21)
- e. SLDC – Council agenda for meeting on 27/7/21 (emailed to Cllrs 20/7/21)

- f. SLDC – Greening Campaign updates for Town and Parish Councils (emailed to Cllrs.30/7/21)
- g. CALC – Consultation briefing for the National Resilience Strategy call for evidence (emailed to Cllrs.30/7/21)
- h. CALC – Communicating issues around climate change (emailed to Cllrs.30/7/21)
- i. Cumbria Police – Wildlife & Rural Affairs bulletin Summer 2021 (emailed to Cllrs.30/7/21)
- j. CALC – Developing your skills programme for September – December 2021 (emailed to Cllrs.9/8/21)
- k. Kent Estuary Youth project – Summer 2021 newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.9/8/21)
- l. CCC- Connecting Cumbria newsletter August 2021 (emailed to Cllrs.13/8/21)
- m. SLDC – Locality Services newsletter August 2021 (emailed to Cllrs.24/8/21)
- n. NALC – Newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.1/9/21)
- o. CALC – South Lakeland District Association meeting on 16/9/21 (emailed to Cllrs.2/9/21)
- p. CALC – North West Coastal Access update September 2021 (emailed to Cllrs.7/9/21)
- q. CALC – NALC policy consultation on Local Nature Strategies (emailed to Cllrs.7/9/21)
- r. CALC – Cumbria Highways update for parish & town councillors re HIAMS (emailed to Cllrs.9/9/21)

136/21 Westmorland Gazette – Matters from this meeting to be reported for the Westmorland Gazette:

- Meeting with Dallam School's new Headteacher and Head of Boarding
- Adjourned Annual Parish Meeting

137/21 Items for Information- *no decisions or action permitted*

Cllr. Grindey stated that there was to be a poppy collection this year

138/21 Items for consideration for a future agenda

New Code of Conduct

139/21 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 14 October 2021 and will commence at 7.30pm in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

The meeting closed at 9.45pm