

Holme East Waver Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Parish Hall, Newton Arlosh at 7-30 p.m. on Thursday 28th March 2024.

Present: Hodgson (Chair)

Councillors: Hopkinson, Stockdale, and Welsh.

Cumberland Cllr: Absent

Public attendance: None

Clerk: M Abbs

1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

The clerk to report any requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

No request for dispensations were made.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

No declarations were made.

2 Minutes

2.1 To approve the draft minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 25th January 2024. – **approved and signed.**

3 Report on action taken...

3.1 ...by members of the Council

Cllr Welsh reported that he had spoken to some dog owners and reminded them of their responsibilities to clear up after their dogs.

Cllrs asked the clerk to include the issue of dog fouling on the May agenda.

3.2 ...by the clerk

The clerk confirmed that he had made contact with the internal auditor but a date for the audit had not been set at that point.

The matter was in hand.

3.3 Public participation. (At the chairman's discretion)

None

4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 Defibrillators – Correspondence from the Community Committee concerning the adoption of two machines onto the Asset Register of the Parish Council. Payment/repayment authorisation for purchased defibrillator materials.

The letter from the Community Committee was examined and it was **agreed** that the two defibrillators one located in the village and another at Mossdale should be added to the Asset Register of the Council at a value of £1 each. Cllrs **agreed** that they were willing to pay for the ongoing maintenance of the machines.

The clerk would speak to Mr Hopkinson concerning this as there had recently been some expenditure on the machines. Cllrs were also aware that the return of unused Cinema Club money was anticipated from the group.

4.2 Letter from Cumberland Building Society concerning cheque book printing.

The clerk informed Cllrs that there may be a delay in the printing of new cheque books. Fortunately a new book was not required by the Council at the moment. **-noted.**

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5 New business

5.1 Playground – report on developments since last meeting. Possible decision on any required action including repairs. Possible approval of Inspection invoice.

The clerk advised that an invoice for the Inspection had still not been received.

Cllr Hodgson advised that he had carried out pressure washing of equipment in the playpark.

He now intended to buy some paint and apply it to some equipment. A quotation had been obtained for £250 (no vat) from Mr Pearson to shotblast and prime the goalposts, Cllr Hodgson would then purchase some paint and apply it to complete the refurbishment. New goal netting had been purchased at a cost of £209.85 – Cllrs **agreed and approved of the playpark expenditure** and thanked Cllr Hodgson for his work. The clerk was asked to contact Mr Rumney to ascertain when the first Grasscutting of the season would take place. The playground was being regularly inspected by Cllrs and there were no urgent matters requiring attention.

5.2 Audit arrangements for 2023/24.

The clerk informed Cllrs that he had been in touch with the internal auditor but no date had yet been set for the audit. An email had just been received from the external auditor which the clerk would examine closely following the meeting. – **noted**.

5.3 Good Egg Management Consultants – Discussion of services offered and possible appointment to act on behalf of the Council to assist fundraising in some areas of concern. Within the Parish these may include Footways, Speed control lights, Playpark improvements, History/information board, Thermal insulation improvements and Street Lighting.

The clerk notified Cllrs of advice he had sought and received from CALC - The Parish Council must keep its independence from other local organisations and be careful not to breach financial regulations with any payment made to a consultant/outside agency. Cllr Welsh requested sight of all the email correspondence that the clerk had had with CALC. The clerk would supply this. Following discussion a proposal to accept voluntary help in constructing bids from the consultant was **agreed**. Cllrs **agreed** that further discussion and appropriate resolutions would be required should any fees/payment become necessary.

5.4 Parish Plan – discussion of ongoing items such as footway request and information panel items.

Cllr Welsh would contact Cumberland Cllr A Markley concerning the current situation regarding the footway request prior to the distribution of an update to parishioners. The proposed wording for the Information Panel was discussed and Cllr Welsh would submit some proposed text covering the Parish's involvement during the war. The clerk said he would seek to condense the existing text then contact National Landscapes representative again. Cllr Hopkinson confirmed that some photographs were in the process of being taken. The anticipated costs of each project, where known would be added to the document.

5.5 Update on the website development including the latest on the grant request submission.

The clerk confirmed that a grant application for £500 had been submitted to Cumberland Council and he had just received confirmation that this had been approved. He would advise Cllrs when the payment appeared on the bank statement.

Cllrs **confirmed their approval to proceed** with the development of the site. The domain 'newton-arlosh.co.uk' would be sought and the clerk was instructed to purchase this. Payment for ongoing costs was **agreed along with the proposed wording of an 'Operational Structure'**. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council would not sell any advertising space on the site.

The clerk would now contact the Parish Hall to inform them that the development of the site would be going forward and requesting the payment of the promised £500 contribution.

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts to 31st January and 29th February 2024 (available at the meeting). -**approved**.

6.2 To approve the following payments.

6.2.1 Clerk: salary **£409.50 – approved**.

6.2.2 Clerk: expenses: phone and broadband £40.82, postage etc £13.95. Mileage 16 miles at 45p /mile £7.20 Total **£61.97 – approved**.

6.2.3 Information Commissioner – data protection registration fee. **£40.00 - approved**.

See also item 5.1 for authorisation of playground expenditure.

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7 Highways

7.1 Highways steward

Clerk update on speed warning sign request.

Cllr Welsh had reported a pothole near 'Fairishes farm.'

The clerk notified Cllrs of the latest correspondence he had received from the Authority concerning the request for permission to install a speed indicator device. A new authorisation system was being developed and had yet to be approved. – **noted.**

8 Planning.

8.1 Applications on which Cumberland Council decision is awaited.

None – **noted.**

8.2 Applications decided by Cumberland Council.

None – **noted.**

8.3 Applications dealt with under standing order.

None – **noted.**

8.4 Applications to be considered at this meeting.

None – **noted.**

9.1 Documents received for comment.

None -**noted.**

9.2 Documents received for information (available on request to clerk)

9.2.1 CALC Circular.

The above was **noted.**

10.1 Any information brought by members of the Council.

No items were reported.

10.2 Any information brought by Cumberland Councillor.

Absent.

10.3 Any information from the clerk.

No items were reported.

10.4 Police report

No report had been received.

11 Meeting dates.

11.1 Date of next meeting Thursday 9th May 2024 at after the Annual Parish Meeting in Newton Arlosh Village Hall

The clerk advised that due to the audit it might be advisable to hold the meeting a week later. Cllrs would check their diaries and notify the clerk to set a suitable date.

11.2 Future date: Thursday 11th July 2024 at 7.30p.m. in Newton Arlosh Village Hall -noted.****

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.20 p.m.