

## 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 2nd November 2023.

Present: Hodgson (Chair)  
Councillors: Graham, Hopkinson, Stockdale, and Welsh.  
County Cllr: Markley  
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 requests 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.

Cllrs Graham and Stockdale declared an interest in item 6.2.4 due to their link with the Parish Hall Committee.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting.)

Members may, however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to contact the clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

#### 2 Minutes

**2.1 To approve** the draft minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023 - **approved and signed.**

#### 3 Report on action taken...

3.1 ...by members of the Council

No actions were reported at this point.

3.2 ...by the clerk

Report on Fells & Solway Community Panel Workshop

The clerk assisted by Cllr Marley updated Cllrs on the meeting at which the role of the panel, funds available, and size of the geographical area was explained. – **noted.**

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

Cllr Markley reported that Cumberland Council was facing a financial deficit for the year of £29 million. Sources of additional finance were being sought. Some of the grant money for the 'Borderlands' had been allocated or spent.

The £2 bus journey scheme had been further extended. It was envisaged that the Community bus scheme would be developed and used more in future. Cumberland Council would need to look at the current and future usage of local buses.

Cllr Markley was thanked for his report.

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### 4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 Notification of closure of the Cinema Club and Community Committee.

The e-mail received from the Community Committee was discussed. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council would take over responsibility for the defibrillators and pursue training in the inspection and maintenance of the defibrillators. Closing accounts for the Community Committee would be requested along with the unused cinema grant funds.

4.2 Wigton Baths Trust – request for grant support.

The request was **noted** without action.

### 5 New business

5.1 Grass cutting – review of tenders and appointment of a contractor for the 2024 season.

The clerk updated Cllrs on the tenders received to date. Following discussion Cllrs **agreed** to postpone a decision until the January 24 meeting. He said he would contact the contractors who had expressed an interest in the work to date.

5.2 Poppy Appeal – donation to Royal British Legion.

A donation of £100 was **agreed** in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The expenditure, in the opinion of the council, being in the interest of the area and its inhabitants.

5.3 Playground – report on developments since last meeting and current situation on potential grant funding.

Possible decision on any required maintenance.

Cllr Hodgson advised that the contractor had still not completed the required repairs and said he would contact the contractor again. Some issues had been attended to and Cllrs were aware of further required actions but believed that there were none requiring urgent attention.

The Inspection Report had not yet been received. An Inspection Rota was **agreed**.

5.4 Parish Plan including the Cumberland Council response to the FOI request concerning the footway request.

Update on the Information Panel.

Cumberland Council's negative response to the footway request was discussed and Cllrs **agreed** that they would continue to request a footway through the village. Parishioners would be advised of the Cumberland Council decision. Parishioners and CC would be asked if they were agreeable to attend a meeting. Cllr Welsh would draft a document for approval which would be distributed to parishioners in the village. The clerk was instructed to arrange for a short statement to go into the Parish magazine.

The clerk updated Cllrs on the latest situation concerning the Information Panel. A draft text was distributed for Cllrs to examine after the meeting and then respond to the clerk with comments.

The clerk was awaiting an answer from Cllr Mike Johnson concerning community speed monitoring groups. - **noted**

Cllr Markley left the meeting at this point.

5.5 Vacancy on the Council.

The clerk advised that there had been no interest in the vacancy. - **noted**

5.6 Discussion of potential funding sources from outside bodies/agencies.

Cllr Welsh asked if any of the Cllrs were willing to explore outside funding sources. None felt able to do this at the moment.

### 6 Finance

#### 6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> September and possibly 31<sup>st</sup> October (available at the meeting). – **approved**.

6.1.2 Confirmation of receipt of second Precept payment from Cumberland Council **£3750 – noted**.

6.1.3 Budget for 2024/25: see prepared sheet.

& therefore, precept request to Cumberland Council for 2024/25

The clerk outlined the latest situation relating to the setting of the Precept and reminded Cllrs of their current financial position. Members then considered the estimates for the rest of this year, and at the same time considered the grants usually paid to parish organisations. The need to keep the Council in a sound financial position was a major consideration in the discussions. Together with the anticipated expenditure for 2024/25 and some allowance for possible contingency, a budget was **approved** and it was **agreed** unanimously that the precept request for 2024/25 would be £8000. The Clerk was authorised to send the precept to Cumberland Council.

6.2 To **approve** the following payments.

6.2.1- Clerk: salary **£379.17 – approved**.

6.2.2 Clerk: expenses: phone and broadband £40.82, postage etc. £11.25, mileage 53 miles at 45p /mile £23.85

Total **£75.92- approved**.

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6.2.3 – Solway Garden and landscapes, I Rumney – Grasscutting (VAT £130.00) **£780.00 – approved.**

6.2.4 Grants to village organisations including Newton Arlosh Brownies, Newton Arlosh P.C.C., and Newton Arlosh Parish Hall

No grants were made to the Brownies or the Parish Hall at this point but future request for funding would be considered, if necessary.

A donation of **£500** to Newton Arlosh Parochial Church Council to assist with grass cutting was **agreed** in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The expenditure, in the opinion of the council, being in the interest of the area and its inhabitants.

### 7 Highways

7.1 Highways steward

No new matters were reported by Cllrs. – **noted**

### 8 Planning.

**8.1 Applications on which Cumberland Council decision is awaited.**

None – **noted.**

**8.2 Applications decided by Cumberland Council.**

8.2.1 OUT/2022/0021 – reserved matters application relating to appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, Part Field 7800, Newton Arlosh, (Mr K Foster) development permitted solely in accordance with designated plans. – **noted.**

**8.3 Applications dealt with under standing order.**

None - **noted.**

**8.4 Applications to be considered at this meeting.**

8.4.1 FUL/2023/0224 Farmyard Concrete, Moss Side Farm, B5307 Raby Grange, Newton Arlosh (Mr J Harrison) Following discussion Cllrs **agreed** that there were **no objections**. The clerk would inform the Authority.

**9.1 Documents received for comment.**

None - **noted.**

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

9.2.1 CALC Circular for October and November. – **noted.**

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**10.1 Any information** brought by members of the Council.

No further matters were raised.

**10.2 Any information** brought by County Councillor.

The report had been given earlier.

**10.3 Any information** from the clerk.

No further matters were raised.

**10.4 Police** report

No communications had been received.

**11 Meeting dates.**

**11.1** Date of next meeting **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.30p.m in Newton Arlosh Village Hall**

**11.2 Future date: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30p.m. in Newton Arlosh Village Hall**

The dates were noted and in closing the meeting at 9.30p.m. Cllr Hodgson expressed his thanks the Cllr Graham (Vice Chair) and the clerk for maintaining the running of the Council during his recent incapacity.