

Beckermet Village Association

Minutes of meeting held on 25 April 2019

- 1 The Chair opened the meeting by thanking those present for attending.
Members present: John Mackay (Chair), Lesley Barlow (Secretary), Tim Barlow, Margaret Benn, Anne Dickinson, John Dickinson, Lynn Hobbs, Alan Kiel, Frank McKee, Geoff Nugent, Simon Spencer
Apologies received: Margaret Collinson, Doreen Head, Peter Manning, Doug McDevitte, Linda McDevitte, Andrew Moore, Sarah Moore, Lillian Tyson, Keith Woolley, Margaret Woolley

- 2 **Previous meeting minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2019 were accepted as a true record.

- 3 **BVA Financial Update**
No income had been generated in the year to date. Actual and expected expenditure (£305.13), relating mainly to the hire of the Reading Rooms and the BVA newsletter, represented standard outgoings and fell within the current budget (£513.00 balance at end of 2018/19).
It was noted that no grants were available from the Parish Council for operating costs. The Chair's offer to run the Summer Quiz Fundraiser was gratefully received.
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- 4 **First Responders Financial Update**
The account balance at the end of the 2018/19 year stood at £1499.71 – meaning that sufficient funds are available to cover planned expenditure for the current year, relating mainly to the hire of the Reading Rooms, training session and the purchase of a training defibrillator.

- 5 **Parish Council Matters**
Peter Manning had provided a written summary of matters being addressed by the Parish Council (PC):
 - 5.1 School Green: confirmed as being under the *public space protection order* of Copeland BC – as such, no dogs are allowed.
 - 5.2 A team is being developed to use a speed gun to deter speeding traffic – anyone interested in volunteering should contact the BVA Chair or secretary.
 - 5.3 A defibrillator has been purchased for Thornhill. One training session has taken place and a second is likely – interested parties should contact the BVA Chair or secretary.
 - 5.4 The lengthsman scheme is to continue for a further 2 years – suitable requests for the lengthsman should be submitted to the PC.
 - 5.5 The PC has offered a grant of £2,500 for the repair of the Reading Room kitchen and toilet.
 - 5.6 Concerns relating to the proposed development accessed via Hunter Rise had been submitted as part of the planning process - the application has since been withdrawn.

- 5.7** Twelve seats are available on the PC but, as only 8 expressions of interest had been received, the planned elections in May would not be necessary. The PC would welcome more interest as people can be co-opted at any time.
- 5.8** As part of its 2018/19 budget, the PC had supported a number of proposals in Beckermet: new Nursery kitchen, picnic table and benches on School Green, Armistice Centenary items, lengthsman jobs etc. The precept will remain unchanged at £13,000.
- 5.9** The NDA has restarted its effort to find a place for nuclear waste burial. No submission has been made by the PC – and the stance of Copeland BC appears to be neutral.

6 Community Led Plan Update

The next steps for the CLP Committee focussed on the development of a questionnaire for the village based on the feedback gathered at the opening evening held in September 2018.

7 Newsletter

It was noted that Geoff Nugent had taken on responsibility for the Newsletter. Future Newsletters would be published every other month and would include a diary of village events, including activities at The White Mare. Opportunities for sponsorship of the newsletter to increase the number of editions were being investigated.

8 Matters of Concern to Residents

8.1 Sellafeld Railway Station Parking

Parking at the station was limited to 20 minutes drop-off only but was being dominated by Sellafeld employees parking all day. It was agreed that this matter should be raised with the Railway User Committee.

(Post meeting note: Discussions between Community Rail Partnership and Northern Rail indicate that work will be starting shortly to improve the toilets and facilities. It is understood that this will also include the possibility of permits/meters at the station to discourage bad parking behaviours.)

8.2 Plastic waste Near St Bridget's Church

Concern was expressed at the amount of plastic arising from discarded silage wrappings on the lane near St Bridget's Church. It was agreed that the farmer should be requested to keep the area clear.

8.3 Notices posted on lampposts

It was agreed that, as part of his report in the Newsletter, the Chair would remind everyone of the need to remove notices from lampposts once the activity being advertised had passed.

9 Any Other Business

It was noted that items for the Newsletter should be submitted by 17 May.

10 Date of next meeting

18 July 2019 (AGM)