

Beckermet with Thornhill Parish Council

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Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th April 2018, 6.30pm, at Thornhill Social Club

- 1) **Present**
J Edwards, D McGhee, S Caddy, S Meteer, K Woolley,
D Humphreys, K Cook, W Johnson and G Threader (Clerk designate)
- 2) **Apologies**
P Manning,
- 3) **To declare any interest in items on the agenda**

No interests were declared
- 4) **To consider approvals of the minutes of previous meeting**
The minutes of the March 2018 Parish Council meeting were approved.
However, the Council asked for it to be recorded that a contributing factor in making the decision to award the grass cutting contract to Darren Fawcett was that they were satisfied with the quality of his work carried under his previous contract with the Parish Council.
- 5) **Public participation**
There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

6) Finance

It was resolved that the following payments requested to be made by the Clerk, should be made:

To Pay	Comments	Amount
Sian Tucker Clerk	April Salary - £368.30 Internet - £15 Travel - £8	£391.30
Thornhill Social Club	April Meeting	£20
Zurich Municipal	Annual insurance (Yr 3 of 3)	£604.31
CALC	Annual Subscription	£297.00

7) Budget Update

The end of year budget report provided by the Clerk was accepted. It was noted that £15,728.81 had been spent up to 31st March 2018 from the £14,290.66 of funding available to date (a precept of £13,000 plus £1,290.66 of additional income). It was noted that although this suggested that the funding limit had been exceeded the expenditure included a total of £4062 of spend on picnic tables and benches for the play areas plus improvements to the Thornhill Football Club car park. The additional funding of £1,438.15 (£15,728.81-14,290.66) will be provided from the Parish Council Reserve funds. The Clerk noted that the financial data had been submitted to the internal auditor and would then be submitted to the authorities for final audit.

The Chairman noted that a VAT claim for £1,248.99 had been prepared by the Clerk for submission (following completion of the internal audit) to HMRC.

The Chairman noted that he had reviewed the Parish Council funds and established that the Reserve was £38,424.23 at the end of March 2018. He noted that this was subject to the outcome of the audit and did not include the VAT claim to HMRC for the financial year.

8) Progress Reports

Police Report

A police report had been received that was accepted by the Council. During discussion JE noted that Bob Jones from Ponsonby PC had contacted him regarding requesting a special meeting with the police to share what happened and lessons learnt from the incident on 13 April 2018 on the A595 that resulted in traffic being diverted through Beckermet. After discussion the Parish Council agreed that it would be useful to arrange for an appropriate person from the police to attend a future meeting to discuss the incident.

Action: The Clerk to arrange for an appropriate person to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council to discuss issues associated with diverting traffic through Beckermet when the A595 is closed

Traffic & Highways Report

SM agreed to take over this area of responsibility for the Parish Council from JE at the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

JE noted that he had submitted the latest Traffic and Road schedule to CCC and had been advised by Paul Turner (CCC Councillor for Gosforth) that in future the information should be reported directly through the HIMS system.

JE noted that Paul Turner had advised him that the report on the outcome of the consultation on the proposed Experimental Traffic Regulation Order for Beckermet had been considered by the Highways Working Group in April and would be considered at the CCC's Copeland Local Committee on 15th May. JE noted that PM would attend this meeting for the Parish Council.

JE noted that the Parish Council had been informed that a project to protect the banks of the river Ehen and Black Beck near to Beckermet was proposed and that this may have an impact on the rights of way in the area.

Website Update

DM reported that she had carried out some major updates of the website to make it easier to access the meetings and assets pages. DM suggested that a review of the Parish assets should be carried out and it was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the May meeting of the Parish Council.

DM noted that to support compliance with the proposed Data Protection policy and procedure, Session Storage options had been removed from the web site to avoid confusion with Cookie usage, which requires user agreement.

Lengthsman Scheme

WJ presented a note summarizing the position with regards to the Lengthsman work and the Parish Councils continued participation in the scheme. The cost of participation for 2018/19 would be £1054. After considerable discussion it was agreed that it was essential to ensure that work carried out by the Lengthsman was not work that should have been undertaken by the local authorities. It was agreed that every Councillor should identify work to be carried out by the Lengthsman to WJ so that she could then coordinate its completion.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should continue to participate in the scheme in 2018/19 and that WJ would continue to act as coordinator to ensure we got value for money.

JE noted that he had been told by NuGEN that they could not make a decision on funding an apprentice in 2018/19 until their sale had been completed.

Data Protection

The UK Data Protection Act would become law on 25th May 2018 and to support this JE presented a draft policy, procedure and risk register for consideration by the Council. JE noted that the document may be revised if/when information is provided by CALC. The Council agreed to adopt the proposed document that allowed the Parish Council to demonstrate compliance with the UKDPR.

JE noted that PM had reported to him that only 12 of those included on the email distribution list used by the Parish Council (to distribute up to date news) had not given their approval for the Parish Council to use their e mail address for this purpose.

Thornhill Football Club – Change Room extension

SM reported that following the submission of all necessary documentation to support a grant application to the Copeland Community Fund, funding was now in place for the project. SM confirmed that match funding was in place. SM estimated that the construction work would commence around June 2018.

JE presented a note explaining transactions that needed to be made between the Parish Councils Bank Accounts to make the necessary funds available to pay the Parish Councils contribution toward the project and the VAT (which could be recovered in 2019 from HMRC). The Parish Council approved the proposals made by JE.

GDF Consultations

JE noted that PM had advised him that he had revised and submitted the submissions to both the Communities and Technical consultations in line with the comments made at the March meeting of the Parish Council.

Boundary Commission Proposals for Copeland Ward Areas

JE noted that the second round of Consultation on the changes to Ward areas had just opened and the proposal was that CBC should be split into 33 Wards with each Councillor responsible for ca1650 electors. The CBC proposal made in the first consultation, had been adopted by the Commission and this meant that Beckermet, Thornhill, Haile and Braystones would all be in the same Ward. The new Ward would have 1700 electors and one Councillor. The Parish Council noted that this was not in line with the suggestions it had made in its submission to the first consultation but agreed that it would not make a submission to the second consultation.

Other Projects

It was noted that the Thornhill telephone box has been removed.

SM noted that he was considering bringing forward a proposal for something to commemorate the end of World War 1. The Council encouraged SM to bring ideas forward that covered both Beckermet and Thornhill to a future meeting.

JE noted that N Power had contacted the Clerk about installing a Smart Meter in Thornhill Football Club. Contact details were passed to DH who agreed to follow this through to completion with N Power

9) NuGEN

JE noted that he had made contact with Jane Berry of NuGEN (successor to Kathryn Jackson) in order to maintain the Councils relationship with the organization. When asked about NuGEN plans to hold a public meeting JE had been told "their intention was to arrange to meet the wider community when there was a substantive update to provide on the sale". Given that NuGEN has not provided an update on the sale no public meetings have been arranged.

JE noted that following the outcome of the meeting arranged by Trudy Harrison MP in January, he had recently sent a letter to Sajid Javid MP (Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government) on blight in the Parish. The letter had been drafted with the help of PM, KW, Geoff Nugent (RAM) and other local residents. The letter had been forwarded to Trudy Harrison to attach a cover letter. JE noted that he would keep the Council informed of the response.

10) Community Led Plan

WJ reported that she had met with RAM to discuss the way forward on the development of a plan for Beckermet which was not clear at this moment. RAM was trying to arrange a meeting with Trudy Harrison MP to discuss how the MP developed a plan for Bootle. After discussion WJ agreed to keep the meeting up to date and to include this as standard agenda item.

11) Planning Applications received

JE noted that planning applications had been received covering changes to Townhead Farm outbuildings and extensions to 13 Station Crescent but the Council had made no comments. A number of applications had also been received covering demolition of buildings at Sellafield: again no comments had been made.

The Clerk had recently received an application for “Storage of additional nuclear materials in self shielded box store for a period of up to 100 years. Provision of two additional plant rooms, increase in height of fence to 4m and welfare facilities”. KW agreed to review this application on behalf of the council.

12) Meetings at which the council is represented

Representatives of the Parish Council had recently attended the following meetings:

The Spent Fuel and Nuclear Materials Management working group (JE)
The Risk and Hazard working group (PM)
The Emergency arrangements working group (KC)
The 3 Tier Meeting (PM, KW)

JE noted that PM had reported good progress was being made on identifying waste routes. He had also made a site visit and been very impressed by the changes that had been made to the facilities. He had also been interviewed to support provision of an article for inclusion in Sellafield Ltd magazines/ brochures.

Detailed notes on the 3 Tier meeting had been issued and were noted by the Council.

13) Councillors reports/upcoming meetings and other business

No meetings were noted and no reports were made.

JE noted that at the Annual Parish Council meeting it had been agreed that there was a need to urgently recruit new Councillors and that this should be an agenda item for future meetings. Councillors agreed to each try and identify suitable candidates and to report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

14) Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 23rd May 2018 at Beckermat Reading Rooms starting at 7pm.