

Beckermet with Thornhill Parish Council

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Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17th October 2018, 7pm, at Beckermet Reading Rooms

Present

P Manning, J Edwards, D McGhee, S Meteer, K Cook, D Humphreys, K Woolley,
W Johnson, M Slater, G Threader (Clerk)

1. Apologies

J Nugent and S Caddy

2. To declare any interest in items on the agenda

No interests were declared

3. To consider approvals of the following minutes of previous meetings:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 September 2018 were approved. It was agreed that the Clerk would add a note confirming the previous month's minutes were the finalised version when sending the next meeting's agenda to the Parish Councillors.

4. Public participation

2 members of the public in attendance

5. Finance

The Finance report provided by the Clerk was accepted.

It was noted that the cheque for Scott Farmer was made out to the person who runs the administration side of his business.

To Pay	Comments	Amount
Gillian Threader Clerk	October Salary - £340.23 Internet - £15.00 Travel - £8.00 Stamps - £4.02	£367.25
Darren Fawcett	Payment of grass cutting contract	£2592.00 (Inc. VAT)
Scott Farmer	Repair of roof after storm damage, Thornhill Football Club	£80.00
Waterplus	Water supply for Thornhill Football Club	£58.46
Beckermat Reading Rooms	October Meeting plus £18.00 outstanding from February	£38.00

6. Budget update

The budget report provided by the Clerk was accepted. The mandate for who can sign cheques was revised to PM, SM and SC.

It should be noted that there is £2932.50 outstanding to come from the community fund for the football changing room. Additionally, there will be about £4K VAT to claim back when the new financial year starts in 2019.

7. Progress Reports

- **Police Report**

The Clerk confirmed that PC Ben Mitchinson had been invited to the meeting but had not replied to a recent email asking for both a Police Report and confirmation of attendance. It was agreed the Clerk would invite him to the November meeting.

- **Roads and Transport schedule**

SM supplied the following updates, overhanging branches Nursery Road, reported 18/7/18, the response from CCC was they have looked and further work is required. Pathway requires repair from Thornhill Social Club opposite recycling centre, reported again on 7/10/18, SM not happy with response and has requested serious consideration be given to resurfacing this section of the footway. Unblock drains to avoid flooding of road at Cop Lane near Bingo Wood, Cumbria Highways responded in August saying there is more work to do. Nursery Road breaking up close to Nursery wood, reported again 1/10/18 and response

received confirming further work required. Road breaking up at junction of Cop Lane and Morass Road, reported again 7/10/18 with photographs and request for serious consideration to be given to resurfacing this section of the highway.

- **Rights of Way in the Parish**

The main issue raised was the number of paths that have become very overgrown with briars and bracken etc. Some clearing had been done over the years with the History Club plus some help from a Whitehaven based Ranger. It was thought there was too much work for the Lengthsman and it would incur an additional cost. It was suggested that the PC could get some help from CBC but SM said it was the responsibility of the County Council. MS suggested asking for volunteers. It was also mentioned that the paths were shown on the village green information board and therefore, should be walkable. It was decided that the paths should be checked to see which need attention.

The status of Potters Lanning would also be checked.

The decorative disc on the milestone on the cycle way had fallen off due to deterioration since the millennium. After a discussion on accountability, Sustrans, etc. the Chairman agreed to replace it.

- **Football club extension update, and situation re the second/keys**

SM has completed the report required by the end of September and is following up the outstanding payment from the CCF. The team leader has left but SM and the Clerk are sorting the financial information required and hopefully the PC will receive the remaining monies before Christmas.

Ian Wells had returned his set of keys for the changing room on 17 October. SM and SC to arrange a meeting to sort out an arrangement for the juniors to include how many times used and how much to pay.

JE mentioned the Football Club agreement of £50 per annum was due at the end of September, Clerk to chase this up. It was agreed that the Football Club agreement would be reviewed at the next meeting.

- **Web site update report**

DMG reported that earlier in the year there was approximately twice as many visits to the website compared to current usage, probably due to there being little to say regarding Moorside. A request for someone to take over the website would be broadcast.

- **Lengthsman project report**

It was noted that an elm tree had come down next to the nursery play park and was possibly a job for the lengthsman. SM suggested getting a quote to sell the tree as firewood and it was agreed that SM should go ahead and get quotes. KC commented about the smell in bus shelter, WJ to check this before possibly forwarding to the Lengthsman.

SM suggested putting concrete plinths around some of the play equipment to help prevent damage from strimming, MS suggested this could cause a safety issue and maybe PVC pipe would be a better solution. WJ to ask Lengthsman for suggestions.

KC asked if the Lengthsman scheme guaranteed a set number of hours work, WJ said although there is no set hours currently, this could be discussed next year if the PC continues to use the Lengthsman scheme; but it could be a negative.

JE mentioned the large amount of fallen leaves outside the primary school, Clerk to contact CBC if leaves had not been removed.

- **Replacement of brackets. Flower planters on the railings for TVA**

The planters were bought by the TVA but belong to the PC and are on the assets list. DH agreed to ask the TVA to identify the planters and specify just what work needed to be done. If new brackets were really needed, could he find out if a commercial bracket would be suitable due to the cost of getting bespoke brackets made locally.

- **Proposal for 2 benches for OAPs at Thornhill**

DH had emailed the Home Group 3 months ago asking for a donation towards 2 benches near the OAP bungalows, there has been no reply, DH will follow up.

- **Update on development of Community Led Plan (CLP)**

64 people attended the drop in meeting where some good solid practical suggestions were put forward, some of which would be too expensive without input from NuGen. 11 new people came forward from the drop in meeting. There will be a follow up newsletter as part of the BVA and another steering group meeting to go through the output from the drop in meeting.

Other projects

- **Maintenance of play equipment**

Follow up of ROSPA reports showed there was nothing above medium risk. SM has looked at the reports and found nothing urgent. Mill Lane swings recommendations for raising and replacing the bushes but SM has checked and there is very little wear. MS agreed to remove the rope as per the report's recommendation as the reports are done for public liability insurance.

- **Village car park and leaflets**

PM had contacted Sellafield Police, who were able to arrange the removal of the yellow van that had been parked on the School Green car park for 3 months. The leaflets from Sellafield regarding cars parked in villages (while people use the park and ride and 3 in a car schemes) have taken a very soft approach. KC agreed to place leaflets on windscreens in the village car park when appropriate.

- **Community speed watch**

MS and KC volunteered to undertake the training, WJ to forward the email about the training to the Clerk. Clerk to email a reply on behalf of the PC.

- **Returning Tommies**

Plaques are up in the schools but not the Perspex Tommies. The primary school is going to do an event and it was agreed that WJ would ask for dates.

MS asked where might be suitable sites for Silent Soldiers that were being obtained via his wife and daughter who are involved with the Guides. KC suggested Morass Road and Fell View, and this was agreed as they were at the village entrances.

- **Poppy wreaths**

SM requested 2 wreaths, one for each war at an approximate cost of £60 in total. This was agreed.

8. NuGen update including

a) NuGen Parishes meeting held on 26 September

There is still no buyer and only approximately 35 employees left. Toshiba are unwilling to continue to fund NuGen beyond March 2019, making the real deadline for a decision on whether to abandon- December 2018. Future government funding will be regulated asset based and will have to go through parliament before it can be applied.

9. NDA waste strategy

There was a response from the area via West Cumbria Site Safety Group. Input is not finished but comments from the PC were fed in by PM.

10. Local Health Meetings

Cumbria Partnership (influences the NHS), next meeting to be held on 25th Oct at West Cumberland Hospital. Info via their web site, and this is the only local opportunity to input. Clerk to let JN know of the meeting.

11. Consultation re Whinlatter, Environment and Coastal Erosion

The PC had been asked to comment on these consultations, but felt that it was not appropriate as expert knowledge was really needed.

12. Planning Applications Received

- *Replacement data centre, single storey modular building, Sellafield site, Sellafield, Seascale CH/4/18/2398/OF1.*

No comments made.

- *Application for lawful development certificate for the proposed development involving the increase in the existing walls and the installation of a roof to enclose an existing substation and the replacement of metal gates with vented doors, Lowry Hill Substation Beckermeth CH/4/18/2392/OE1.*

DMG noted that the transformer had recently been replaced and that a roof will add approximately a third to the overall height. No further comments or objections.

- *Change of use from a summer house to a dog grooming facility, Brandon How, Morass Road, Beckermat. CH/4/18/2416/0F1*

No comments made.

13. Reports from meetings attended by Councillors

- ***3 tier meeting 13 September – LEP, Sellafield travel, highway working, health improvement, ward boundaries***

The LEP new chairman said that LEP has to compete with all other LEPs under the Northern Strategy.

The overall feeling was that Sellafield are fairly happy with the way the 3 people in a car scheme and the park and ride are working, but were still making improvements.

Highway workers including volunteers are covered by H&S regulations and volunteers now have to be registered.

Ward boundary changes will mean there will just be one CBC councillor for Beckermat area.

- ***Risk and Hazard Management 19 September***

Paul Robson gave a presentation on the mark 2 version of the SIXEP ion exchange plant; this will be a smaller replacement for the existing one, which won't last for the life of Sellafield. The duty will be significantly less.

- ***Spent Fuel Management working Group 16 October (JE)***

The meeting expressed disappointment that the meeting of the Nuclear Sector held at Carlisle in September had not been well publicised and WCSSG representatives had not been invited. SL on schedule to end fuel shearing in Thorp by mid-November. Thorp Chemical plant operations should be completed by end February 2019. Magnox reprocessing is slightly behind schedule this year but SL still expect to have completed Magnox Reprocessing around mid-2020. The EA noted that with the end of reprocessing imminent, they are looking to change the Sellafield Environmental Permit and as part of the process there will be an 8 week public consultation starting on 25 October.

PM agreed to look at the consultation to see if an input was appropriate from the PC.

- ***West Copeland Partnership meeting on Monday 24th September (KC)***

It was agreed to continue the Lengthsman scheme provided that funding could be arranged

Meetings planned before next PC meeting

- ***Cumbria Health Trust 25 October***
- ***WCSSG 6 November***

14. Councillors' reports on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council, other items including items for future agendas

KC raised the issue of dog fouling on the football pitch area in Beckermat. SM will contact CBC to look into the situation from a legal aspect. Meanwhile, it was agreed that the PC would try to keep dogs out from the 1 January 2019, at which time the old sign would be taken down and a new sign put up. Residents would be informed via the BVA newsletter and the website (WJ to write a paragraph for this).

The recycling scheme doesn't collect from some properties in Beckermeth. The skips in the school yard have been removed, partly at the school's request; this means a small number of residents now have to travel out of the village to recycle.

There are 2 drop in sessions (19 October and 7 November at Grizebeck Village Hall) regarding the proposed improvements to the A595 at Grizebeck.

DMG stated that she is prepared to look after the website for a limited time after she stands down from the PC next year if a replacement has not been found.

Clerk to contact JN to see if she attended the Transport for the North meeting on 9 October.

SM agreed to chair the December PC meeting as PM will not be available.

15. Proposed dates for PC meetings 2019

There will need to be a PC meeting in April and the May meeting will need to fit in with guidelines for appointing councillors after the elections on the 2nd of May. Further details to be discussed at the November meeting.

16. Date and location for next meeting

Wednesday 14th November, at Thornhill Social Club 7pm.