

Ms G R Threader (Clerk)

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Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16th January 2019, 7pm, at Beckermets Reading Rooms

Present

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

Apologies

W Johnson, 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 12th December 2018 were approved.

4. Public participation

None

5. Finance

The Finance report provided by the Clerk was accepted.

To Pay	Comments	Amount
Gillian Threader Clerk	December Salary - £340.23 Internet - £15.00 Travel - £8.00 Stamps - £8.04	£371.27
Beckermets Reading Rooms	January Meeting	£20.00

6. Budget update

The budget report provided by the Clerk was accepted. It was decided that the information on the budget report would be reviewed before the start of the next financial year.

7. Parish Precept

It was agreed that the Parish Precept would remain at £13,000. Clerk to complete and return the relevant forms to CBC. It was noted that the Parish Council would have costs for the upcoming elections on the 2nd of May but no details had been received. Clerk to contact CBC to obtain the estimated costs.

8. Initial thoughts on what is needed for the future of this area

SM suggested a future where the area wasn't dependent on Sellafield and that children and grandchildren shouldn't see the area as the UK's nuclear dumping ground. After further discussion it was decided that a separate meeting on 23 January wasn't necessary.

9. Progress Reports

- **Police Report**

Councillors were satisfied with the level of detail in the Police report provided and there were no contentious issues.

- **Roads and Transport schedule**

SM stated there was no real progress, he had reported a pothole at Thornhill but was waiting for any progress on the ongoing issues previously reported.

- **Rights of Way in the Parish**

The interested member of the public wasn't present.

- **Football club update**

Clerk reported that there had been no reply from the letter sent to TFC, possibly due to an incorrect postcode. Letter to be re-sent after confirming address via phone call. Reply to be received within a fortnight of letter being sent.

- **Web site update report**

DMG is contacting the lady who is going to take over the running of the website later in January as arranged.

Website usage has gone down since last summer, however the minutes are regularly being downloaded.

- **Lengthsman project report**

PM asked if there were any jobs for WJ to give to Lengthsman. KC said the grass by the old station hasn't been cut and it belongs to the Parish Council. Clerk to check what is in the contract and inform KC. KC also noted that one of the four cherry trees in the preservation area had died, it was agreed this should be removed. Clerk to contact Copeland Council re the necessary permission to have the tree removed. The chain linking the posts has been removed and it was not known when this happened or who removed it.

- **Replacement of brackets, flower planters on the TVA railings**

There had been no reply from the 2 people that had been asked to quote for making the brackets. Clerk to get quote from the Blacksmith at Bigrigg, it was agreed that galvanising the brackets wasn't essential.

- **Community Led Plan**

On the 5 January there was a two hour meeting in the White Mare with Trudy Harrison. The steering group met and discussed the issue with roads, and that buses, a shop and a football pitch were all things they would want in the village. Trudy Harrison said not to worry too much about funding but to ensure there was a genuine need for any proposals put forward. The steering group's next meeting is the 24 January.

Other Projects

- **Public Space Protection Order**

Copeland is looking at areas to implement Public Space Protection Orders, these would cover areas where dogs or alcohol would be banned. The steering group meets on the 17 January and after some discussion it was decided that in Thornhill the main two areas would be no alcohol in the park and no dogs in play area in the centre of the village, in Beckermest no dogs on school green play area. It was decided that Mill Lane would be monitored until the spring but may need adding as a no dogs area at a future stage.

The Playing field at Thornhill was discussed as a possible no dogs area but is complicated as CCC own the top end, the Parish Council own the bottom end plus it is believed there may be as permissive path through the playing field.

- **Inspection of play equipment Beckermest**

MS stated that three items of play equipment would need some attention in the foreseeable future, the stepping stones, swinging bridge and the toddler swing. MS to contact the Lengthsman to see if he could undertake any of the work or if it would possibly be a job for a joiner, The possibility of using metal sleeves to protect the wood from rot and damage by strimming was also discussed. There are three or four trees over the beck at the Mill Lane play area and SM to check with the man that bought the tree for firewood to see if he is going to take these.

- **Inappropriate Sellafeld Car Parking**

PM hasn't received any replies so the formal position is that the village has no problems. KC has continued to put notices on cars in the car park but has had no reaction, KC also noted that cars had started parking on Sellafeld Road. PM has a meeting at Sellafeld at the end of the month and will raise the issue again.

- **Community speed watch**

PM has heard that three people are required, two to check the speed and one to operate the camera. PM to email JN and another contact to see if more people are interested in joining, members of the public can be involved, it doesn't have to be solely Councillors.

Previously there wasn't a lot of support for a speed limit on Braystones Road, MS commented on the high levels of traffic in the mornings. SM will contact Paul Turner again for an update.

- **Dogs on Mill Lane Playing Field**

PM reported on behalf of WJ who had regularly visited the playing field and not found any issues. MS said he had talked to some young lads on the playing field and they hadn't had any problems with dogs, however the manager of the Nursery still has concerns. WJ intended to liaise with the manager of the Nursery.

- **Defibrillator**

SM had originally proposed that the Parish Council approach Thornhill School with a proposal to have the school-based defibrillator sited on the wall of Thornhill Social Club. The Clerk noted that no reply had been received from the letter sent to the school. SM then proposed that the Parish Council provide a second defibrillator for Thornhill. This met some resistance, and suggestions that some of the funding should come from a Thornhill sponsor, possibly via the TVA. SM said the TVA wouldn't be in a position to contribute and outlined the costings he had obtained via the North West Ambulance Service. About £1,300 would pay for a defibrillator and a stainless-steel storage cabinet: it was estimated that it would cost approximately £100 to feed electricity through the wall from the social club. Maintenance would be oiling hinges on the cabinet, and SM (on behalf of the Parish Council) would complete weekly checks. MS supported Parish Council backing to fund a defibrillator for Thornhill; it was agreed in principle, and it was agreed that SM would bring a formal proposal to the February meeting.

10. NuGen

PM attended, NuGen will finally be finished at the end of February and the Liquidator is in from next week. Work is going at top speed to fill 161 bore holes, there is still the water treatment and compound to get rid of; plus the picnic area to put back. Plastic pipe will remain across the bog holes and the road to Sherwen's farm has been left by request. Farms that had notice to quit have had these rescinded and those that have already left will have the option of a new lease. NDA have ownership of the land and are not actively marketing it but waiting for interest.

GDF consultation had invited any group to talk about a disposal facility in their area (group must contain a member of Borough or County Council). It was considered that there had been no interest, as a million pounds per year for economic development wasn't worthwhile- and ignored the downsides. SM said this area should have got retrospective payments.

11. Planning Applications Received

No planning applications had been received.

12. Reports from meetings attended by Councillors

- *Risk and Hazard Management 21 December*

PM attended, work has started on the B6 chimney (only the wide part is being dismantled). The very old Sea Tanks are being pumped out as part of the decommissioning, not finally treated just getting moved.

- *MP's surgery 5 January*

It was considered that this had been a bit disorganised; however, a number of villagers attended and spent quality time with the MP. County, Borough and Parish Councillors also showed their presence and were able to network.

- *3 tier meeting 6 December*

Possible investment in Borderlands including Carlisle Station and Berwick on Tweed. Consultation on "Environment of the West Coast" was the other main topic. EA having drop-in sessions.

- *Spent Fuel 15 January*

JN attended, report to follow.

- *NuGen 15 January*

Covered under item 10.

Meetings planned before next PC meeting

- *CALC Executive 18 January*
- *PSPO Steering Group 17 January*
- *Sellafield Local Parishes 30 January* (PM will mention car parking again)
- *WCSSG meeting, including "the future of Copeland" Feb 4*
- *Discussion on GDF at Penrith, with NDA/RWMD Feb 20.* (Parish needs to keep up to date, but no wish to volunteer to host)

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

MS raised the issue of putting a fence by the river in the play area, DMG explained that the Parish Council had been advised against this as it could result in public liability claims against the Parish Council.

MS also noted that the Beckermest sign at the top of the village was still lying beside a gateway. SM thought the sign had been recovered. It was agreed this would be checked before the next meeting.

KC said the old stone hump (top of a sandstone post) that the council knocked down had been recovered and suggested it be used as a decorative feature in the car park/village green. Agreed- KC has a contact that will undertake the work.

14. Date and location for next meeting

Wednesday 20th February 7pm Thornhill Social Club