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Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th November 2019, 19.00, at Thornhill Social Club

Present

S Meter, J Nugent, D Humphreys, K Cook, M Slater, W Johnson, S Caddy
& G Threader (Clerk)

Apologies

None

2. To declare any interest in items on the agenda

None

3. To consider approval of the minutes from the meeting held on October 16. Also to include any matters arising from October's minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 October 2019 were approved. SM confirmed that everyone had received his email regarding the Smart Meter proposal being refused.

WJ confirmed that the boundary for the Mill Lane play area picket fence should leave the post box, phone box and History board accessible to people with dogs. SM asked the Councillors to vote on the shape of the fence line and the unanimous decision was square. SM will finalise the specifications to enable the Clerk to obtain quotes.

4. Public participation

One member of the public was present, see item 8.
County Councillor Paul Turner was also present.

5. Finance

To Pay	Comments	Amount
Gillian Threader Clerk	November Salary - £389.33 Internet - £15.00 Travel - £8.00 Stamps - £4.20 Paper for printer - £3.99	£420.52

Poppy Appeal	Remembrance Day Wreath Beckermat Cemetery	£50.00
Playdale	Playground equipment for Thornhill (replacement of posts to Junior swings & replace seats on toddler swings)	£4028.18
Thornhill Social Club	November Meeting	£20.00

The Finance report provided by the Clerk was accepted.

6. Budget update.

.The Budget update provided by the Clerk was accepted and it was noted that the Playdale spend is now recorded under Parish Maintenance.

7. HMRC and Tax update re salary etc.

Clerk explained that software is set up and she is just waiting for the amount of tax payable to be confirmed as the first amount asked for was obviously incorrect and has not been updated. The Clerk also explained that she has been paid net of 20% of her salary for July, August, September, October and November to offset the tax owed.

8. Appointment of New Councillors

Eric Jewitt was asked to leave the room while the Councillors discussed his application to become a Councillor. JN proposed Eric and WJ seconded the proposal and this was passed by a unanimous vote. EJ was invited back in to the room and told his application had been successful.

9. Progress Reports

- **Cumbria Police Report**

There are now only 3 generic Police reports and no individual Parish reports, more information on statistics can be found online, Clerk suggested putting this information on the website.

- **Roads and Transport schedule**

SM noted that following the last meeting Highways England had trimmed and cut back branches to the south of the cycleway, SM has written and thanked them for the work.

Paul Turner was invited to cover the rest of Roads and Transport issues. PT said the turnout for community Speedwatch awareness training was disappointing with only 8 people attending but they were all given a good awareness of the process. The Police Officer covered the reporting procedures, paperwork and warnings systems involved for volunteers. MS asked PT to clarify the costs as he had been given the impression that the Parishes would have to buy the equipment between

them, PT apologised explaining that was incorrect and he was hoping to source funding for the equipment that could then be shared between his Parishes. PT also confirmed that no money will be spent until problem areas are identified, these will then need to be risked assessed. WJ mentioned the following areas in Beckermat; Morass Road from the church to where the road narrows, Mill Lane from the 30mph to the T junction past the school and Nursery Road from 30mph to the church. PT then discussed the Capita Survey, after the meeting at Lilyhall some studies had been done, Beckermat to St Bees (routes to Sellafield), the options had been outlined but there is no funding until April 2020. JN would these be going out to the village to see which options they wanted.

Recommended the implementation of a 20mph speed limit for all Beckermat west of the railway bridge on Braystones Road plus extend the area of the existing speed limit. Still waiting for an update on Hunter Rise, possibly money from the developer to do improvements but the legal process can take 12 to 18 months. There will be a consultation with the community early 2020 as it is anticipated that funding will be available during 2020/21, this will look at the options of physical methods to slow down traffic, speed bumps etc. Data machine needed where the school is and there is a cost as these are hired in.

WJ and JN both suggested quarterly updates from PT would be helpful. PT said the old ideas of shutting one end of the village had gone just after he was elected, he also asked if there were still issues with parking. WJ noted that parking on Morass Road and cycling in, MS noted the same issue on School Green. JN said the token system was working well. EJ asked KC if parking was still an issue near her.

- **Football club update**

Nothing to update.

- **Web site update**

The Clerk had received an update on usage of the Parish Council website, visits continue to be between 350 and 500 per month with on average 2 visits per individual visitor. There are some minor changes being made at the moment and if they are considered worth implementing by the person looking after the website they will attend a meeting early 2020 to discuss these with the Councillors. SM asked that the Silent Soldiers were added to the asset list.

- **Lengthsman project**

KC had asked Works 4U for a report and got a brief reply stating the strimmer damaged posts at School Green had been taken out which took 3 men some time due to the concrete being 3ft deep. The new posts are at the depot to get holes drilled ready for installation. MS thought the way the holes had been left was unsafe but SM had put cones on top of pallets and was satisfied that was safe. The overhanging branches on the Beckermat to Braystones Road have been cut back on the bus shelter side. Thornhill cemetery car park has been resprayed and the pit bogey at Thornhill has been trimmed plus Wodow Road has been litter

picked. KC note that the seats by the bus shelter needed re-varnishing and the plaques were unreadable plus there was moss on the roof of the bus shelter, JN will look at this and report back at the next meeting. KC wants to replace the plaques and the Councillors voted unanimously to accept her proposal. KC confirmed with WJ that it was usually necessary to chase Works 4U for reports/action next Lengthsman meeting is the 10th of December.

- **Thornhill Playpark (Litter Collection)**

The Clerk had sent 3 emails to “waste officers at Copeland” as instructed following her emails to Clifford Walker. The relevant form had been completed online and sent as a hard copy but no replies had been received. Clerk to follow up again.

- **Community Led Plan**

WJ confirmed the questionnaires had gone out and that she would have a meeting with JN to summarise the responses.

JN asked if The Parish Council would be prepared to fund half the costs of the printing the questionnaires (total cost £83.25). MS asked why the Parish Council should fund it, SM said the Parish Council is just one body and that the CLP is a government initiative. MS proposed a one off payment for the questionnaire but SM said JN would have to make a grant or donation application, Clerk to forward the relevant forms to JN.

Other Projects

- **Play equipment**

DH noted that the damaged swing post had deteriorated further and that the swings may need to be taken down. SM agreed to check and take any action needed.

- **Grass round cherry trees**

The Councillors discussed the issue of the contractor being unable to cut the grass by the cherry trees as some residents had not moved their vehicles as requested in letters delivered by the Clerk. JN volunteered to strim the area and to ask her husband to talk to the owner of one of the vehicles so that a suitable arrangement can be made for regular grass cutting in 2020.

- **Tree Planting**

SM asked if any of the Councillors were interested in planting trees for “National Tree Planting Week”, KC suggested more cherry trees plus one to replace the one lost in Beckermet. SM said that it would be an agenda item in December and the Councillors should be prepared to discuss their suggestions then.

- **Seat in Beckermet Cemetery**

DH had been approached by people in Thornhill asking if Copeland would donate a seat for the cemetery. Clerk to contact the bereavement manager.

10. Planning Applications

- *Installation of new precast concrete lift shaft and passenger lift access and internal modifications, Sellafield Site, Seascale*

JN explained the building had never had a lift, this would be internal and needed as part of the emergency evacuation plan.

- *Sellafield Ltd.'s upcoming and in progress planning applications (21/10/2019)*

No objections were raised.

11. Documents forwarded to us

- CALC annual meeting notes.

No issues raised.

- Cumbria Kindness and Volunteer Training.

No comments.

12. Reports from meetings attended by Councillors

JN attended the LPCF meeting and emailed her report to the other Councillors.

SM had attended a full Council meeting regarding the strategic plan 2017 to 2035, 5 new staff have been appointed. There is a local plan for Copeland and there is a consultation period of 8 weeks between 25th November 2019 and 20th January 2020 to consider issues and options. SM is responding as a Ward Councillor and asked if anyone was interested in responding on behalf of the Parish Council. SM explained the document is available to view online and in libraries and summarised a section on sustainable villages. There will be a consultation on preferred options in May/June 2020 and a pre submission consultation in winter 2020. The document is from CBC, Copeland Local Plan 2017- 2035. Issues and Options draft 2019. Clerk to use details from SM to try and obtain a hard copy of the document for the PC and to find and forward the link.

Meetings planned before next PC meeting

Lengthsman/Works 4U Dec 10th

West Copeland Partnership Dec 2nd

3 Tier

13. Review of representation on external bodies

- *WCSSG - J Nugent*
- *Spent fuel and management - J Nugent*

- *Risk and Hazard - J Nugent*

JN agreed to attend the above meetings once and see how much the contents overlap as she would be unable to attend all of them on a regular basis.

- *Emergency Planning - K Cook*
- *Roads and Highways - S Meteer*
- *West Copeland Partnership - K Cook*
- *CALC District Meetings (3 Tier) -*
- *Thornhill Football Club - S Caddy/S Meteer*
- *Lengthsman - K Cook*
- *GDF -*
- *Community Led Plan - W Johnson if she is still on the steering group*
- *IT related meetings - D McGhee as a member of the public.*
- *Local Parish Forum – J Nugent*

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

DH said the names on the monument in the cemetery were fading, SM had checked the website to confirm the Parish Council owns the monument but CBC own the land. SM suggested nylon brushes and water would clean the monument but SC thought it was a specialist job for a monumental mason. SM said clean first and then discuss proposals and costs at December's meeting.

MS commented that the give way road marking on Church Road had worn away. SC said there was the same issue with the junction from Thornhill to the main road. Paul Turner said to report the issues using HIMS. SM said he would look at the Thornhill junction and report if needed.

Paul Turner noted that there was no disabled parking bay at Thornhill Social Club and there was nothing stopping people parking in front of the defibrillator.

SM reported on the flag raising ceremony in Thornhill 4th November, some children had been present and there had been a reading.

15. Date and location for next meeting

- Wednesday 18th December at Thornhill Social Club