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**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 17th February 2021 19.00
Virtual meeting via Zoom (no physical location)**

Present

S Meteer, K Cook, E Jewitt, J Nugent, T Barlow
& G Threader (Clerk).

Apologies

D Humphreys, S Caddy and M Slater

SM noted he had received a letter of resignation from Derek Humphreys. It was agreed the Clerk would send a letter thanking Councillor Humphreys for his service to the Parish Council.

2. To declare any interest in items on the agenda

None

3. To consider approval of the minutes from the meeting held on 20 January, also to include any matters arising from January's minutes.

SM proposed accepting the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 January 2021 and EJ seconded the proposal.

4. Public participation

None.

5. Finance

The Finance report provided by the Clerk were accepted. SM explained that there was still some work to do on the fence at Thornhill Football ground to install the kissing gate which would be a further cost.

Finance Report – February 2021

To Pay	Comments	Amount
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Gillian Threader Clerk	February Salary - £389.33 (- 20% £77.87 for tax) Internet - £15.00 Travel - £8.00 Book of 12 first class stamps - £10.20	£344.66
Imperative Trading	Defibrillator for Beckermat (VAT £293)	£1758.00
NPower	Electricity for TFC 1 st Dec to 31 st Dec Sept (bill date 16 Jan)	£9.54
Darren Fawcett	Fencing at Thornhill Football Field (VAT £74.00)	£444.00

6. Budget update

The Budget update provided by the Clerk was accepted. SM explained that the transfer from reserves was not going to be necessary due to the work on the monument being undertaken in the new financial year. The budget for the current year was 16k and with VAT of approx. 1k the Parish Council is on target to finish under budget.

7. Date for Annual Parish Council Meeting following NALC guidance

The Clerk noted that NALC had published guidelines suggesting parish councils brought forward their Annual Parish Council meeting to the first week in May while it was still legal to hold online meetings. It was agreed that no decision needs to be made at this point and this can be revisited at the April meeting.

8. Contractors - updated list

Clerk to send the updated list to SM.

9. Website – rights of way in the Parish

The member of the public maintaining the website had asked that any Councillors with android phones could check if the tabs on the web page were opening correctly in landscape mode, SM (using a tablet), TB and the Clerk had successfully done this. KC asked if the map with the rights of way could be downloaded and JN confirmed this was possible.

KC had found out about “Rights of Way, restoring the record” from the BHS (British Horse Society). Rights of way should be registered by 2026. EJ asked how the Parish Council should do this and KC will report back at the March meeting.

SM had asked that a caveat was added to the map on the website to recommend that physical maps were used in conjunction with the information on the website.

10. Report from member of the public regarding night time noise issue from cars parked at TFC changing rooms

A member of the public had emailed the Clerk to report car parked outside the TFC changing rooms in the early hours of the morning with lights on and playing loud music. The member of the public asked if the gates could be locked at night, SM thought this could cause more problems with access and that closing the gates at night should deter further issues. KC asked if locking them would be a possibility in the future. The Clerk to write to the member of the public with regard to closing the gate and also reporting any further issues to the police as well as the PC.

11. Dog Fouling in the School Green Play Area & request for dog waste bin Braystones Road - update

Dog fouling

TB had seen photos of a sign re cleaning up after your dog in the Whitehaven News and JN asked why the PC couldn't put their own signs up. SM explained that CBC should be supplying signs for areas covered by PSPO's. SM doesn't want the PC to pay for something that should be supplied by CBC but agreed that JN could bring a list of sites in Beckermat that she felt signs would be useful at. SM stated that all residents that saw dog fouling should report to CBC. TB will forward the photo from the newspaper as he thinks signs would be useful.

Dog waste bin

SM had previously received a request from a Low Side Quarter Parish Councillor requesting that a bin be placed in the layby near the pumping station. SM thinks the best place would be in Braystones rather than part way down the road. SM as Ward Councillor suggested the location to CBC. SM had received a reply from CBC today saying they would contact the relevant Parish Council to see if they would pay for the installation and emptying of a bin. Based on previous charges if a PC has to pay to have a bin emptied twice a week it would cost almost £12 per week. EJ said should a new bin come under LSQ and SM noted that there was already a bin at Beckermat end so the other end of the road would be the best site but this would be down to LSQ.

12. Planning applications

- *4/20/2265/0F1 - BARN ADJACENT BARWICKSTEAD, BECKERMET.*
SM thanked the Councillors for their comments on this planning application.
- *APPLICATION FOR WORKS ON VARIOUS TREES THAT ARE PROTECTED BY A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER LAND AT OAKLANDS, BECKERMET*
SM noted the trees were not within the PC boundary as they were the other side of the A 595, an ash was to be felled, the remaining trees topped and 2 new trees planted.
- *Sellafield's Upcoming and In-Progress planning applications 20/01/2021*
No comments.

13. Road and Traffic Issues in the Parish

No updates to report and no further correspondence from Paul Turner.

14. Progress Reports

- **Salt bin Braystones Rd Beckermat**

EJ confirmed that the salt bin had not been delivered and SM will chase this up.

- **Football Club “Empowering our Communities” grant application update**

SM confirmed that the grant application had been unsuccessful.

- **Community Led Plan**

TB confirmed there are now 5 members on the committee and they are looking at ways clubs and societies can meet once the relevant restrictions are lifted. There will be another newsletter in the next month or two.

Other Projects

- **Defibrillator for Beckermat**

JN explained there might be a small charge for the electrical items needed to get the defibrillator set up, there will not be a charge for labour and a receipt will be provided. This was agreed by all present and as soon as it is set up SM will get the defibrillator registered and arrange training via a local person.

- **Gate for Millfields – update**

- SM has sourced 2 gates and 2 gate posts at a cost of £280.00 including delivery. MS to be contacted re storage and the relevant ironmongery can be bought as needed. SM to send the details to the Clerk so the order can be placed, arrangements can then be made for the gate to be fitted either by the person who cuts the grass or someone from the contractors list.

- **Play equipment – update and recommendations for repairs, (gate catch)**

JN has sent photographs to SM and the Clerk of the play equipment where parts have been removed for safety reasons and of equipment that needs watching for possible repairs. JN noted the shelter needs to be cleaned and that MS had spoken to the grass cutting contractor regarding some possible repairs to the slide. SM pointed out that requests should come through himself and the Clerk, JN confirmed it had just been a casual chat not a request for a quote. SM thought the cost of hourly labour for repairs could be high. JN agreed to meet SM to look at the work needed and SM noted the gate needs a bolt through the gate catch. JN has talked to some children about what they would like in the play area and the answer was a large slide and bigger swings.

- **Kissing gate for path at the field by TFC**

SM has salvaged the old gate from Millfields which will be serviceable as a kissing gate. The farmer had wanted the gate at the bottom of the field but SM wants to stay with the original proposal which the PC had agreed. SM confirmed that the PC owns the fence line and that he will arrange with the contractor to get the gate fitted.

- **Any other updates**

EJ reported that no work has started on the war memorial.

15. Reports from (online) meetings attended by Councillors

KC attended the West Copeland Partnership meeting but left as the meeting was about the Lengthsman scheme and no longer relevant to the PC.

Meetings planned before next PC meeting

EJ will attend the annual Sellafield emergency meeting and KC will forward him the date.

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

SM asked Councillors to send in requests for agenda items to the Clerk 10 days before the next meeting where possible.

JN had been contacted by the owner of the Royal Oak public house asking for a letter of support from the PC as they were applying for a grant to open a 16square metre shop (this would require reinstating an old door to give a separate entrance). All the Councillors agreed this venture should be supported as TB confirmed that the villagers had indicated that a shop was the number one priority on the questionnaires undertaken by the CLP. KC said the CLP should also show these findings in support of the proposed shop. JN and the Clerk to put a letter of support together.

SM had also been contacted by the owner of the Royal Oak and will write a letter of support in his role as Ward Councillor.

EJ reported an issue of overhanging bushes and shrubs from the garden of a bungalow next to the Hadrian's cycle way on the south side of the A595. SM confirmed he had previously met Highways England and the shrubs had been cut back. EJ explained the shrubs had grown back and now posed a possible danger to cyclists. It was agreed this would form an agenda item for the March meeting.

17. CiLCA submission for training

The Clerk outlined the benefits of the training, her reasons for wanting to undertake the qualification and a breakdown of costs shown below. Councillors asked questions to clarify some points and the Clerk then left the meeting to allow the Councillors to discuss her request. SM phoned the Clerk to ask her to return to the meeting where she was informed her application had been approved by 4 votes to 1.

From BWTPC		
Item	Reason	Cost
SLCC membership	Cost of membership	£109.00
SLCC	registration for CiLCA	£410.00
Knowles	1 of 2 essential books	£100.00
SLCC	Webinar tuition for portfolio (+ VAT)	£250.00

CALC	4 X courses for CiLCA	£160.00
CALC/ other	Personal tuition, checking of portfolio prior to submission (unable to confirm cost)	£100.00 approx.
		£869.00
From the Clerk		
ACLL	Membership of association of local council clerks	£40.00
Additional individual tuition if needed	I will pay any further tuition for my portfolio	
My time and commitment for a year of study	Some councils pay study time, some councils make CiLCA a condition of employment. I am prepared to undertake 30 modules each of which require a presentation folder in my own time.	
From IWSPC		
Charles Arnold Baker	Essential book which would become their property should I leave	£119 - £149 Dependent on SLCC membership
Some support from 2022/2023 budget as course will overlap, they have suggested possibly my 2 nd year of SLCC membership which I would need		

18. Date and location for next meeting

- Wednesday 17th March virtual meeting via Zoom

KC asked if the full link for the zoom meeting could be included in the email sent to Councillors rather than just the meeting number and pass number, this was agreed.