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

Before the meeting started SM asked for a minute's silence to be observed in memory of a former Clerk who had served the Parish of St. Johns Beckermeth.

Present

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

Apologies

S Caddy

2. To declare any interest in items on the agenda

None

3. To consider approval of the minutes from the meeting held on 17 February, also to include any matters arising from February's minutes.

SM proposed the approval of the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 17 February 2021 and TB seconded the proposal.

4. Public participation

None.

5. Finance

The Finance reports provided by the Clerk were accepted.

To Pay	Comments	Amount
Gillian Threader Clerk	March Salary - £389.33 (- 20% £77.87 for tax = £344.66) Internet - £15.00 Travel - £8.00 2 Ink cartridges for computer - £26.42	£399.25

	Filing boxes x 2 for 21/22 - £23.98 Zoom 1 month - £14.39	
Nick Murray	Electrical fittings for Defibrillator in Beckermat	£36.41
NPower	Electricity for TFC 1 st Feb to 28 th Feb (bill date 13 Feb)	£9.54
Brampton Woodworks Ltd	Gates and posts for Millfields	£336.00

6. Budget update

The Budget update provided by the Clerk was accepted with the addition of another Npower bill of £8.49 received today (which would be overdue before the next meeting). SM noted that the original budget was £16,000 and that £1,800 had been ear marked as a transfer from reserves. The work on the war memorial would now be paid in 21/22 therefore, the transfer would not be needed, and the PC should finish the financial year approximately 2k underspent. VAT credit was estimated at £900 and other income approximately £300.

7. Date for Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk suggested that the Annual Parish Meeting should be held on the same date as the April meeting. It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held via Zoom at 6.30pm on Wednesday 21st April.

8. Servicing of the litter bin in Thornhill Play Park

SM confirmed he had successfully approached a local resident who had agreed to empty the bin on a weekly basis for a reimbursement of £100 (or a voucher to that value) and a contract had been signed.

9. Computer issue, proposal to buy Microsoft 365 to provide cloud storage back up.

The Clerk explained the need for a secure method of protecting the years of PC documents on the computer and recommended Microsoft Office 365. EJ suggested an external hard drive, however the Clerk felt that this would not protect against the possibility of fire or theft. There was unanimous agreement that the Clerk should purchase Microsoft Office 365 on behalf of the PC.

10. Local Government Reorganisation Consultation

SM outlined the different proposals and advised the Councilors to go to the online link and give their own feedback.

11. Dog fouling in the School Green Play Area

& Request for dog waste bin Braystones Road - updates

SM asked if there had been any further reports of dog fouling. JN reported that a member of the public had placed a sign asking people to clean up after their dogs on a bin in the playpark, JN has removed the sign as the play park is a dog free zone.

SM explained he had taken up the dog waste bin issue in his role as a Ward Councillor explaining that he thought a bin would be better situated in Braystones. A bin would require the relevant Parish Council to pay for regular emptying that SM thought would be unlikely to happen. SM suggested that if there were already suitable posts in place the PC could write to CBC and ask for signs.

12. Planning Applications

- *SL Upcoming & In Progress Planning Application 25.02.21.*

There were no objections or comments to this application.

13. Road and Traffic Issues in the Parish

JN noted there was a pothole approximately a metre wide on Sellafeld road on the way to the pond, JN will contact Paul Turner regarding this issue. Some potholes have been filled using a new system jet patching and thermal road patching technology.

14. Rights of way in the Parish

KC reported that the guide to recovering a right of way costs £30, KC will continue to investigate and will report back at the next meeting.

15. Progress Reports

- **Salt bin Braystones Rd Beckermat**

JN has not seen a salt bin but will check and let SM know.

- **Community Led Plan**

TB explained that a newsletter will be sent before Easter, Clubs and Societies will be asking for people to come forward and help with the necessary organisation. Hopefully, things will be up and running for summer with the BVA and CLP working together.

Other Projects

- **Defibrillator for Beckermat - update**

The Clerk is to write a formal letter thanking the parishioners who have fitted and agreed to maintain the defibrillator that they have fixed to their garden wall. JN to contact the Whitehaven News and see if they will publish details of the

new defibrillator. TB will check the number of first responders in Beckermeth and report back at the next meeting. SM noted that training in the use of the defibrillator would be organised once Covid regulations allowed.

- **Gate for Millfields – update**

The Clerk confirmed that the gates and posts had been ordered and should arrive in the next week to 10 days.

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

SM has put a long screw through the gate catch which has sorted the issue. SM explained that the TVA had originally paid approximately £15k for play equipment including the banana slide and other smaller pieces of equipment. The PC then took over the maintenance of the play equipment. The TVA and Homegroup paid for all the flower containers (the PC did give a grant for an additional container) the PC agreed to take over and maintain the planters (no actual planting).

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

SM had spoken to the contractor who had done the fencing at the TFC and it was agreed another contractor would install the kissing gate. SM has confirmed that the kissing gate will replace the current access.

SM has been given details of a suitable contractor, the Clerk to order work asking the contractor to contact SM before commencing the work so they can meet and confirm the location for the kissing gate.

- **Any other updates**

KC noted that some work had been done on the war memorial and EJ confirmed that it had been cleaned. KC would also like to get a tree or trees planted opposite the school for the 2022 Platinum Jubilee. KC has looked at the restrictions and thinks a crab apple or rowan might be suitable options. SM asked if there was a consensus to move forward, EJ said he would support 1 tree with reservations. KC to come back with a plan to move the proposal forward. TB noted that 2 trees had been taken down near the previous Chairman's house.

JN who owns the buildings on Cop Lane where the dogs are kept as there had been an incident when some of them had escaped and allegedly someone had been bitten. It was decided that the Clerk should write to CBC regarding the welfare of the dogs.

16. Reports from (online) meetings attended by Councillors

JN asked if there was anything the PC wanted in the BVA newsletter, SM suggested asking if parishioners would be interested in electric charging points for cars.

EJ gave an update from The CALC meeting via Zoom held on the 8th March, The main discussion was around lateral flow testing at 1 plant and that Sellafield are still recruiting apprentices. A delay for the planned site exercise for May to be postponed October due to Covid has been requested.

Meetings planned before next PC meeting

JN noted she will be attending the Local Parish Forum on Thursday 18th March.

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

TB asked if there would be any objections to a local fish and chip van visiting the village, it was noted Seascale had turned this down. All the Councillors supported the idea and the Clerk is to check if there are any legal issues.

18. Date and location for next meeting

Wednesday April 21st Annual Parish Meeting 6.30pm followed by April's Parish Council meeting at 7pm.

DRAFT