

# Minutes of Beckermet with Thornhill Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 15 May 2024 commencing at 19.00hrs Venue: The Reading Rooms, Beckermet

Present: (JN) Julie Nugent (Chairperson) (TB) Tim Barlow (Vice Chairman), (SC) S Caddy (EJ) Eric Jewitt, (MS) Michael Slater, (LB) Lesley Barlow (Acting Clerk)

# 1 Apologies

Kath Cook, T Church (Clerk).

2 To declare any interest in items on the agenda

None.

# 3 Public Participation

Member of the public in attendance to discuss planning application.

4 Approve the minutes of the BwT PC meeting held on 20 March 2024. Review actions from previous meetings

The minutes from the March Parish Council meeting were approved as a true and accurate record.

The actions were reviewed, updated, closed out or marked as ongoing, as appropriate.

#### 5 Finance

March/April Finance Report

Report noted.

Reserves held by the PC were healthy. It was agreed that a planned spending activity should be established to demonstrate compliance with standard practice of maintaining reserves at around 2/3rds of the precept.

Approve Clerk's May 2024 salary and allowances

APPROVED for payment.

Approve Zurich Insurance quote

Approved 3 year option subject to confirmation of inclusion of Thornhill playpark.

ACTION 1: TC to confirm and conclude.

Chairperson's signature weth Selos

# Discuss Annual Governance and Accountability Review

The AGAR paperwork had been audited and approved by the external auditor. Asset value was recorded at £350,000 to reflect depreciation of existing assets and the inclusion of the two new playparks.

# ACTION 2: TC to submit paperwork.

Implement new model financial regulations

Deferred.

# 6 Planning Applications

There are no comments/objections on the planning applications.

# 7 NDA Funding Update

A second quote was still awaited – if this was not forthcoming in the short term, the application would be submitted.

#### ACTION 3: JN to submit application when complete

# 8 Progress Reports

# 20mph Speed Limit outside Beckermet School

A single application to cover all primary schools in the area had been submitted. No issues were expected but a formal response was awaited.

# Asset Transfer Form - Land at Thornhill

Ongoing.

#### Sellafield to Seascale Cycle Track

Ongoing. The recent Sellafield Site Safety Committee had discussed the issue in relation to protected species which may be affected, indicating its intention to raise the matter with the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust (ARC).

#### New Website

Ongoing.

#### Beckermet in Bloom

Reported that participation this year would be at initial level only, resulting in a report outlining required future actions. The report would allow the group to develop an action plan for subsequent entries. Following receipt of the report, requests for support from the PC would be considered.

The request to replace the hanging baskets at the bus stop (purchased by the PC) with floor-based planters (funding request submitted to the BVA) was agreed.

# 9 Councillors' reports on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council/Report Minor Matters

Chairperson's signature The Della

# Feedback from meetings

TB had attended a second Visioning workshop and would circulate the slides for PC members only.

MS had attended a Sellafield Safety Committee meeting. Copies of the ONR report and the Environment Agency report were available.

MS had attended the NDA meeting – the demolition programme had been paused pending a full stocktake of assets...

# Minor matters

 EJ reported that the 'Tommy' soldier required further repair. It was agreed that a replacement should be investigated along with the purchase of additional large Remembrance Day poppy signs.

#### ACTION 4: EJ to take forward

- Two members of the public had highlighted concerns over the height of the stile at Potters Lonning. Agreed that the matter be considered as part of the ongoing work of improving footpath condition and access. Following attendance by a County Council representative a report was expected shortly identifying next steps.
- It was a concern that recent road closures appeared to have gone ahead with no prior warning or consultation.
- Quote from Calder Landscapes: JN agreed to investigate an alternative approach that would include the removal of the stumps and roots.

#### ACTION 5: JN to take forward

#### 10 Recruitment of additional councillors

BwT Parish Council would welcome additional representation from Thornhill.

#### 11 Date and time of next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will take place in Thornhill Social Club on Wednesday, 19 June 2024 at 19:00hrs.

All business concluded; the meeting closed at 20:25hrs