

STAINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 27th January 2020

at 7.30pm in Crosscraze School, Crosscraze

Present: Chair Julie Knowles; Vice Chair John Stott; Cllrs. Geoff Wilson and Ian Valentine; District Cllr. Brian Cooper (until 8pm); District Cllr. Roger Bingham (from 8.15pm to 8.45pm); the Clerk and two members of the public.

75.19 APOLOGIES were received from Cllr. Hilary Waterhouse (reasons noted) and from District Cllr. Tom Harvey.

76.19 MINUTES: Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2019 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.

77.19 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION: None.

78.19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

79.19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: No new issues were raised.

80.19 REPORTS:

a) Neighbourhood Policing Team: The Clerk read out a written report (copy of the full report held by the Clerk). There had been no incidents specific to the parish but there had been several incidents in the adjoining area.

b) District Councillors: District Cllr. Cooper reported on the Customer Connect programme (an update in this regard had been emailed to Cllrs. on 23/1/20); the Northern Rail situation; and the reduction in the percentage of affordable homes in several planning cases. District Cllr. Bingham also reported on the Customer Connect programme including the expected savings of approx. £1.5 million pa and on the District Council budget increase; unexpected government grants; smaller fire engines; the bio diversity strategy; the police budget increase to allow for more police officers; and county lines drug problems.

c) County Councillor: There was no report.

81.19 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS:

a) Several large potholes were reported and councillors were reminded that they should be entered on the highways website (HIMS).

b) The Clerk had reported the problem with mud collecting outside number 1, Stainton Cross and that one of the base large timbers on the wooden bridge adjacent to Stainton Court appears to have collapsed.

c) The Clerk reported that he was still in discussion with the Canal & River Trust and Lancaster Canal Trust with regard to payment to SLDC for emptying the litter bin in the aqueduct car park.

82.19 TREES: Cllr. Valentine confirmed that any work was to be carried out on a volunteer labour day in March 2020.

83.19 COMMON LAND: The Clerk reported that he had still not heard from the Council's solicitor with regard to the letter that had been written to the landowner's solicitors and therefore presumed that no reply had been received.

84.19 LITTER PICK: The annual litter picking day was agreed to be Saturday 4th April 2020 and Cllr. Wilson offered to make the arrangements with SLDC for supply of the equipment required. It was agreed to join the Great British Spring Clean organised by Keep Britain Tidy.

85.19 PLANNING:

It was noted that the following planning applications had been notified as **approved** by SLDC since the last meeting:

None

It was noted that the following planning applications had been submitted to SLDC and circulated to the members of the Council since the last meeting:

None

86.19 FINANCE:

a) The following payments were approved:

Crosscraze School – Hire and associated costs of meeting £20.00

M R Richardson – Clerk's December & January salary £557.55 less PAYE £111.40 plus

expenses £21.22 (broadband/telephone/postage) and motor expenses £19.80

(44 miles @45p)

£487.17

HMRC – PAYE re M R Richardson

£111.40

b) The Clerk reported that the funds held by the South Westmorland Village Maintenance Group had been depleted by the cost of gritting trips in recent years not being collected from parishes and were now insufficient to pay for the annual insurance and the cost (including VAT) of two gritting trips if they were necessary in a short space of time. The Clerk also reported that the unpaid insurance and gritting in the last two years in respect of the parish amounted to £240 and after a lengthy discussion it was **agreed to contribute additional working capital to the Group of up to £250 and that any costs relating to the parish in the Group's current year would be paid so that the working capital was maintained. The payment for additional working capital would come out of earmarked funds. It was also agreed that membership of the Group would be reviewed in one year's time.**

- c) The budget comparison 2019/20 was received and considered and the budget 2020/21 was discussed, amended and **approved**. The parish precept was agreed at £4,875 – an increase of 3.17% - and the signing of the parish precept form for 2020/21 from SLDC was **authorised**.
- d) A report was received from the Chair and Vice-Chair that the Clerk's annual appraisal had been carried out and that his work was considered to be more than satisfactory. Their recommendation that the Clerk's pay rate be moved from spinal column point 17 to point 18 from 1st April 2020 with annual increases thereafter (subject to satisfactory performance) in the spinal column point range 18-23 was **approved**.
- e) The Clerk reported that the reconciled bank balance at 31st December 2019 before making the payments in a) was £7,390.34. The Chair was authorised to counter-sign the bank statement.

87.19 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: This is to be held on Monday 23rd March 2020 in Crosscrake Primary School, Crosscrake at 7.15pm. and it was agreed to invite Carrie House from the Canal & River Trust to address the meeting with regard to the Towpath Trail project.

88.19 CONSULTATION & FUNDING REQUESTS: None

89.19 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- a) **B4RS:** It was reported that the installation was almost complete.
- b) **Stainton Aqueduct:** Cllr. Wilson reported that the towpath was now expected to be completed and opened shortly. The river work had stopped due to spawning fish and the work would have to be done outside the fish migration season.
- c) **Celebration of VE Day 75 on 8/5/20:** It was agreed that the Council would not be organising any events.
- d) **BT payphone removal consultation:** The Clerk reported that a request had been made to BT for adoption of the payphone and that the local first responders had offered to supply and fit a defibrillator when the payphone was adopted.

90.19 CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence received and not included as an item on this agenda was noted:

- i. CALC – LTN22 disciplinary and grievance arrangements November 2019 (emailed to Cllrs. 23/11/19)
- ii. CALC – Final paperwork for District Association meeting on 28/11/19 (emailed to Cllrs. 23/11/19)
- iii. CALC – SLDC priorities for local councils (emailed to Cllrs. 26/11/19)
- iv. CCC – Urgent road closure – U5629, Crosscrake (emailed to Cllrs. 29/11/19)
- v. CCC – Temporary closure of sections of footpath along Lancaster Canal (emailed to Cllrs. 2/12/19)
- vi. CALC – Cold to Cosy Homes service and community energy champions (emailed to Cllrs. 2/12/19)
- vii. CALC – December 2019 newsletter (emailed to Cllrs. 22/1/20)
- viii. Canal & River Trust – Notice of steering group meeting on 29/1/20 (emailed to Cllrs. 22/1/20)
- ix. CALC – Paperwork for next meeting of District Association on 5/3/20 (emailed to Cllrs. 22/1/20)
- x. CALC – North West Coastal Access January 2020 update (emailed to Cllrs. 22/1/20)
- xi. SLDC – South Lakeland Local Plan upgrade and review briefing on 30/1/20 (emailed to Cllrs. 22/1/20)
- xii. Canal & River Trust – Steering group agenda for meeting on 29/1/20 (emailed to Cllrs. 22/1/20)
- xiii. RAF Spadeadam – Battle of Britain 80th anniversary celebrations 7th to 13th September 2020 (emailed to Cllrs. 24/1/20)
- xiv. CALC – NALC's Spring conference on 17/3/20 (emailed to Cllrs. 24/1/20)
- xv. Cumbria Police – Local CCTV cameras and security advice for rural communities (emailed to Cllrs. 24/1/20)
- xvi. SLDC – Request for topics for consideration by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee 2020/21 (emailed to Cllrs. 27/1/20)

91.19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- a) The Clerk reported that a Parish Council election would be held on 7th May 2020.
- b) The Clerk reported that there was to be a series of "Kendal Fun Run" jogging events from April to August 2020 with the 29th June 2020 event going through Stainton / Crosscrake.

92.19 COUNCILLORS' ISSUES TO BE RAISED AT NEXT MEETING (No discussions must take place on these matters but will be placed on the next Agenda): None.

93.19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 23rd March 2020 in Crosscrake School, Crosscrake following the Annual Parish Meeting which commences at 7.15pm.

The meeting closed at 10.25pm.

