

LITTLE CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors Ian Elliott, Jean McCartney, Ken Stephenson and Roland Bell.

Also present: Mrs Carol Wilson, Mrs Lyn Philipson and Revd. Judith Morgan, Parish Clerk.

Apologies for absence were received from County Cllr Alan Kennon and Cllr Brian Shaw

75/17 Declarations of Interest - there were none.

76/17 Police Matters - no police officer was present but an email regarding Inclusive Mobility Budget was read to the meeting. Some finance may be available for adaptations such as dropping kerbs to allow wheelchair access. Councillors were asked to consider where in the Parish this might be appropriate, with the matter to be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Police would no longer be attending Parish Council meetings and were introducing a new initiative whereby members of several parish councils would be invited to a meeting with the police on a regular basis, probably every 10 weeks or so. In view of this, it was agreed that 'Police Matters' be removed from the regular agenda in future.

77/17 Approval of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr R Bell, seconded by Cllr K Stephenson, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th October 2017 were approved and signed as a correct record.

78/17 Public Participation

Mrs C Wilson raised concern re the state of a vacant property near her home. It was agreed that this was an environmental health issue and the clerk was instructed to contact Allerdale District Council for help.

79/17 Village Hall

The following issues were discussed:

- i) It was agreed that Mrs Philipson would organise a Christmas Bingo, to be held on Wednesday, 6th December. Cllr I Elliott to produce posters for this event, Mrs Philipson to purchase raffle prizes, and will be reimbursed from Village Hall funds.
- ii) A quotation of £590 to fit the new kitchen was accepted from Mr D Wood. Kitchen to be fitted in January 2018, Cllr I Elliott to liaise with Mr Wood in this regard. Cllr B Shaw to be reimbursed from Village Hall funds for the cutlery purchased from Nisbets. Cllr I Elliott to order shelves for the cupboard once the kitchen fitting is completed.

- iii) The painters expected to complete their work on Saturday 11th November. It was noted that, when the Hall next needs to be redecorated, arrangements would be made to close the building for one week whilst the works were undertaken. There had been mixed reactions to the colour scheme and compliments about the new window blinds.
- iv) Mrs C Wilson circulated the accounts, which were discussed. It was noted that the accounts had an in-year deficit of £8,000, mainly due to redecoration and kitchen upgrading. £17,000 remains in the savings account.
- v) There had been a slight increase in the bookings recently. Mrs Wilson agreed to furnish Mrs A Woodcock with receipts for recent payments of booking fees.
- vi) Christmas Party - Pickthalls to supply transport - bus to cost £100. Overall cost of this event was not significantly different to last year's party. Lists had gone up in the usual locations around the parish. Cllr I Elliott to confirm what meal choices are available. Cllr J McCartney to purchase additional raffle prizes from a budget of £50, agreed. Cockermouth Ukulele Band is to play a mixture of Carols, 60s music and County and Western music. A donation to be made to the Band for their services. Coach will pick passengers up at 3.30pm and drop back to Little Clifton by approx. 6.30pm.
- vii) It was agreed that, as the hall is currently undergoing redecoration and kitchen fitting, no Christmas decorations would be put up for this year.
- viii) It was agreed that a key for the emergency door padlock would be hung on a hook in the kitchen.
- ix) Mrs Philipson asked that the Sunday Dance group leave up 4 tables after their session, to assist the Monday evening Bingo session. Cllr I Elliott agreed to speak to Mr Gunson about this request.
- x) Some hall users had not been turning the heating down after their session. Mrs Wilson to arrange for a poster reminding users to do this, to be displayed in the hall.

80/17 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- i) Further to Min 64/17 i) The Clerk reported that County Cllr A Kennon had advised that the quickest fix for this problem would be for the Parish Council to erect a roadside mirror. Cllr Kennon had said that no-one would object to this, so long as the mirror was fixed securely.
- ii) Further to Min 66/17 i) a new offer letter had been received from CCC naming the Village Green next as the site for equipment. The Clerk was authorised to accept this offer.
- iii) Further to Minute 66/17 iv) the pothole had been reported to County Highways again.
- iv) Further to Minute 73/17 i), the clerk was instructed to report again the problems with fallen leaves which ABC staff had swept into the road, and to ask that the road be cleared and the drains unblocked.

81/17 Precept

The clerk presented the budget figures for the current financial year and projected budget figures for the financial year 2018/19. It was noted that there is a projected in year overspend in the current financial year of £2,164.22, which will halve the council's reserves. In addition, the Council wished to improve the environs of the Village Green to include new fencing and play equipment. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk contact Annalee Holliday at Cumbria Community Foundation for advice on wind farm grant aid available to assist with the Village Green project. On the proposal of Cllr I Elliott, seconded by Cllr R Bell, it was resolved that the Parish Precept be set at £7,500.00 for 2018/19.

82/17 Defibrillator.

It was agreed that the council proceed with plans to provide a defibrillator for the village. Clerk to contact Greysouthern Parish Council for advice. This to be a fund-raising project for the whole village in 2018.

83/17 Provision for Young People

The Council gave further consideration to the issues raised by two members of the public at the last meeting: it was noted that the Council has provided a football net on the land adjacent to the Village Hall and has the grass in that area cut regularly during the growing season, for the benefit of young people from the parish and that, the parents had been offered the opportunity to run a supervised youth club in the Village Hall free of charge, but had declined this offer. In view of this, there was nothing else the Parish Council could currently offer. Resolved: no further action.

84/17 Chairman's Announcements - there were none.

85/17 Allotments - nothing new to report.

86/17 Clerk's Report - The following items of correspondence had been received:

- i) Information from ABC re Brownfield Plan (Draft) - to be displayed in notice board.
- ii) Request from GNAAS for a donation. On the proposal of Cllr K Stephenson, seconded by Cllr R Bell, it was resolved that a donation of £200 be sent.
- iii) Letter from JBA Consulting giving details of works to be carried out at the railway bridge, Bridgefoot. - received.

87/17 Accounts for Payment

The following were approved:

HMRC (PAYE)	£ 34.20
Rev J Morgan - salary and expenses	£157.62
GNAAS (donation)	£200.00

88/17 Planning - There were no new applications to be considered.

89/17 Parish Maintenance - Nothing new to report.

90/17 Matters for Next Meeting

- i) Village Green Development
- ii) Defibrillator Project

Date of next meeting - Wednesday 13th December 2017 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed..... Chairman