

LITTLE CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 19th September 2018 at 7pm

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

Also present: Mrs Carol Wilson and Rev'd Judith Morgan, Parish Clerk.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Brian Shaw, County Cllr Alan Kennon and Mrs Lynn Philipson

35/18 Declarations of Interest - there were none.

36/18 Co-option of new members

On the proposal of Cllr J McCartney, seconded by Cllr K Stephenson, Mrs Carol Wilson and Mrs Lynn Philipson were co-opted as members of the Parish Council, to serve the unexpired portion of this current term of office.

37/18 Approval of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr J McCartney, seconded by Cllr K Stephenson, the minutes of the Meeting held on 13th June 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record.

38/18 Public Participation - No members of the public were present.

39/18 Village Hall

- i) The clerk reported that the bid to Cumbria Community Foundation for £2299.00 for replacement energy saving lighting for the village hall, had been successful. It had since come to light that Mr Bob Gunson, who was going to undertake this work, had retired. The Clerk had spoken to CCF and obtained an extension to the grant time table until 31st December 2018, to allow the Parish Council time to find another contractor for this work. Various suggestions of alternative electrical contractors were suggested, and it was hopeful that a local firm could be given the work.
- ii) There was discussion of an incident in which a party had left the Hall in a dirty and untidy condition following their celebration. Cllr McCartney had come into the hall on the following day and had cleaned as much as she could, but the Tuesday evening dance class had made a complaint and had cut short their session on that occasion. An email from Mr Bob Gunson was read to the meeting. The Dance Class had since decided to cancel all future bookings with the Village Hall and relocated to Great Clifton village hall. It was felt that these two things were not unrelated. Discussion of possible security deposits to be taken with all occasional bookings, to be included on the **Agenda** for the next meeting.
- iii) Various amounts of money were handed to the Treasurer and reimbursements for out of pocket expenses were made.
- iv) Cllr C Wilson circulated up to date accounts sheets which were discussed and received. It was noted that Cllr Wilson was unlikely to be at the next meeting, due to family commitments.
- v) Cllr J McCartney proposed a trip, with a contribution of £10 per person, to be held on Wednesday 10th October, to Cleverleys and Blackpool. This was agreed. Cllr McCartney to open the Village Hall for bookings on Monday 1st October from 1.00pm until 2.30pm. Seats to be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Posters to be put up in the usual places.
- vi) The possibility of a Christmas Party, with contributions from participants of, say, £10 per head against a £15 meal, was discussed. To be further discussed at the next meeting.

- vii) Cllr McCartney proposed that, from the end of October until February, the hall could be opened on alternate Mondays for a soup and roll lunch, to raise much needed funds. Posters to be put in the usual places asking for volunteers to help with this venture. It was clear that this could only happen if enough volunteers came forward to help.
- viii) Cllr C Wilson agreed to ask a contractor to look at the gutters with a view to cleaning them out.
- ix) A cheque for the Village Hall insurance was signed.
- x) Cllr C Wilson stated that she had ordered new Bingo books, at a cost of £96. Bingo to be an Agenda item for the next meeting when the financial arrangements could be discussed.
- xi) It was agreed that, for reasons of hygiene, tea towels would no longer be provided and user groups would be asked to bring their own.

40/18 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- i) Further to Min 25/18 i) The Clerk had applied to the One Stop Shop's 'Carriers for Causes' scheme but the application had been refused as the Village Hall is too far from a One Stop outlet. Cllr I Elliott explained that the sponsored walk and bike ride planned by Mr Darren Brown had not gone ahead as planned. Patrons of the Pub had raised £67 in sponsorship, which they were happy to contribute to the defibrillator fund, bringing the total raised to date to £913.17. The clerk was instructed to make further applications to grant making bodies for the shortfall in the money to purchase and install a defibrillator. The Clerk was also instructed to seek funding for the playground equipment planned for the village green, at a cost of around £40,000. It was noted that, despite some initial enthusiasm, the villagers had not formed a committee to take this project forward and if it was to come into being it would be dependent upon the Parish Council's efforts alone. The Parish Council wished to record its disappointment at this lack of progress.
- ii) Further to Min 25/18 iv), The evening of entertainment with Stevie D had been successful, enjoyable and had raised some much-needed funds for the Village Hall. The occasion had only been slightly spoiled by a resident of a nearby property video-recording people standing on the car park and, later, calling the police to the event. The police had visited, inspected and found nothing amiss. It was noted that the Village Hall is licensed to hold such events up until Midnight, although in practice this is rare. The same resident had been unpleasant with several hall users over the use of the car park. The Clerk was instructed to write to the resident concerned outlining these facts and pointing out that use of the Village Hall car park, whilst enjoyed by several villagers as a privilege, it only permitted at the Parish Council's discretion and permission may be withdrawn at any time.
- iii) Further to Min 25/18 xii) an email from Ms K Cordin was read to the meeting and the Chairman also read a series of text messages which he had received from Ms Cordin. Resolved; no further action be taken at this time.
- iv) Further to Min 26/18 i), emails from Amber Sykes (County Highways) and Cllr A Kennon (CCC) were read and received. New signs had been installed on the U2187 which were satisfactory.
- v) Further to Min 33/18 the Clerk had reported the issue of rats at Chapel Brow, to Home Group and an email in reply was read. Resolved; no further action be taken at this time.

41/18 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman updated the council on Cllr B Shaw's condition and it was agreed that Cllr Shaw be given 'leave of absence' for the duration of his convalescence. Clerk to keep in touch with Cllr Shaw via email and to invite him to have input on any issue the council may discuss, via that medium. It was hoped that, when sufficiently recovered, Cllr Shaw would be able to attend Parish Council meetings again.

42/18 Allotments - all ok.

43/18 Clerk's Report - A poster from Royal Mail re Scam Mail was passed to Cllr J McCartney for display in the noticeboard.

44/18 Accounts for Payment

The following were approved:

Rev J Morgan - salary and expenses for July,

August and September £467.94

HMRC (PAYE) (3 months) £ 102.60

R Stephenson - grass cutting £450.00

R Bell - grass cutting, bus shelters etc £450.00

45/18 Planning - no new plans to discuss.

46/18 Parish Maintenance

- i) Cllr J McCartney recounted a recent incident in which a resident had refused to remove her dog from the community area adjacent to the Village Hall car park despite having had it pointed out to her that this is a 'no dog' area. Cllr J McCartney to speak to ABC re the possibility of improved measures to ensure dogs are not exercised on this piece of land. Cllr R Bell reported that the grass at the top of Chapel Brow resembles a dog toilet - Cllr C Wilson to speak to the resident dog owner and ask that this be cleared up. It was agreed that several areas of the village are being despoiled by dog mess and Cllr J McCartney agreed to pursue the matter further with the dog warden. Cllr McCartney to also speak to the people who empty the dog bins as these are often overfull, creating additional problems.
- ii) There was further discussion of parking problems in the parish, especially at Scots Croft and at Chapel Brow. Clerk to contact County Highways to request a site meeting, Cllr K Stephenson and J McCartney to attend provided they are given sufficient notice.
- iii) Clerk to write to Stagecoach requesting a wall mounted timetable be fitted to the bus shelters, similar to those in neighbouring parishes.
- iv) Clerk to write to United Utilities asking for a timetable and schedule of works for the next round of activity likely to disrupt travel through the parish, in particular to give details of shuttle buses.

47/18 Items for next agenda - Under Village Hall a) booking deposits, b) bingo, c) Christmas Party

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 9th October 2018 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 9.08pm

Signed..... Chairman