

LITTLE CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Bridgefoot Village Hall on Wednesday 6th July 2022 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors Ian Elliott, Jean McCartney, Lynn Philipson, Ken Stephenson, Roland Bell, Carol Wilson and Daniel Cassidy

Also present: County Councillor Alan Kennon, Borough Councillors Peter Gaston and James Grisdale, Mr Keith Parker, Mrs Fiona Heslam and Rev'd Judith Morgan, Parish Clerk

There were no Apologies for absence.

31/22 Declarations of Interest

Cllr J McCartney declared an interest in Agenda Item 8 – Allotments – and was not present whilst this matter was discussed.

32/22 Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr L Philipson, seconded by Cllr C Wilson, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th June 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

33/22 Public Participation

- i) Mr Keith Parker explained the process of applying for Community Asset Transfers and offered to complete the forms on behalf of the Parish Council regarding the field behind Scots Croft, currently owned by Cumbria County Council. This was warmly received, and it was unanimously agreed that Mr Parker be authorised to do this on behalf of Little Clifton Parish Council.
- ii) Mrs Fiona Helsam updated the Parish Council on the Bridgefoot and Little Clifton Community Energy Hub which she had set up in recent months. Mrs Heslam had contacted Quentin Merrit, Low Carbon Community Project Manager at CAFS, who had advised that once a group is formed to take the project forward, free consultancy for a feasibility study would be available. The project would be small scale to begin with as it would involve retro-fitting houses so people would need to opt in. The Zero Carbon Cumbria Project may wish to be involved. Minewater heating had been featured in national newspapers in recent days. Mrs Helsam urged interested parties to get in touch with her as it was important to secure funding before the pots are empty. A Community Energy Hub is a possibility. The project had been advertised on the village's WhatsApp Group and it was agreed that Mrs Heslam could use the Village Hall free of charge for meetings to progress the project. Cllr D Cassidy offered to join the steering group.

34/22 Village Hall

- i. Book Money of £2.01 was passed to the Treasurer.
- ii. The issue of Solar Panels was outstanding – Cllr D Cassidy offered to take this forward.
- iii. Cllr D Cassidy reported that there were two distinct models for Vehicle Charging Points, with by far the best option being for the Parish Council to install them and pay for them. Government Grants are available. Cost of installation is approx. £2,000 per unit with a suggestion that two units would be appropriate. The first 3 years are free of charge, then a cost of £5/month per unit is levied if the units are still required. GDF funding is also available, and applications are being received now, with seismic surveys offshore beginning next year. Cllr Cassidy agreed to progress this issue.
- iv. The mirror had been fitted in the gents' toilet, towel rail still needed.
- v. The chairman agreed to print, sign and return the plans to the Architect for the improvements to the entrances etc.
- vi. Cllr J McCartney agreed to contact Jason about fitting extractor fans to the toilet areas and a cooker hood extractor. It was confirmed that Jason has agreed to fit the lights to the exterior of the building.
- vii. Cllr C Wilson advised that a new electrical inspection would be needed in May 2023 and annually thereafter.
- viii. Mr David Thompson's invoice for £356, which detailed a number of works, was passed to Cllr C Wilson for payment.

35/22 Matters Arising

- i. Further to Minute 23/22 ii an email reply from Mrs Sue Shaw confirmed that the matter of the Church wall would be rectified as soon as possible.
- ii. Further to Minute 23/22 iii a reply from Mr Matear was read to the meeting. Cllr K Stephenson stated that Mr Matear had made a good job of cutting back the overgrowth.
- iii. Further to Minute 29/22 iii a reply was received from Leanne Pettit of the Cumbria Constabulary offering 8th, 20th or 22nd September sometime between 10am and 3pm for Community Speedwatch training. The Chairman agreed to co-ordinate volunteers and liaise with Leanne.
A reply from Steph Davis-Johnson of County Highways was also received, quoting 85th percentile figures obtained during information gathering exercised since 2017. It was felt that the 85th percentile does not give the full picture and the 100 percentile figure would give a more accurate indication of what is happening. Councillors expressed the views that 30mph is too fast for the road up to Little Clifton from Bridgefoot and that Tendley lorries are still speeding through the village. The Clerk was instructed to ask Mrs Davis-Johnson to meet with members of the Parish Council for a site visit and to discuss their concerns on site. Borough Cllr P Gaston also wished to be present at such a meeting.
A letter from Mrs Carol Elliott was also received and read to the meeting. Mrs Elliott remains concerned at the number of speeding and noisy vehicle in the village and that a fatality is waiting to happen. Mrs Elliott to be invited to be part of the site meeting with Steph Davis-Johnson when it is arranged.

36/22 Chairman's Announcements

The chairman reported that a window had been smashed at the pub at around 7.45am recently. The damage was caused by children playing with a football whilst waiting for the bus to school. It had been reported to the police and CCTV from the Village Hall had sound recordings of the youngsters' voices, so it was possible to identify the young person responsible for the damage. The child's parents would pay for the damage.

Cllr L Philipson reported that young people had been playing football on the Village Hall car park the previous Monday evening, had been spoken to and had moved on.

37/22 Allotments

Cllr J McCartney left the room whilst this matter was discussed.

A letter from Mr Michael McCartney had been received in reply to the Parish Council's letter to him in June. The letter was read to the meeting. Mr McCartney had since moved a bank of soil from his allotment and created a parking space for his vehicle. This was acceptable to all parties. Cllr K Stephenson reported that another allotment holder may do something similar soon as he has had a mini-stroke and needs his vehicle on site. The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr McCartney stating that the Parish Council is happy with this solution and that the matter is now closed.

Rat poison had been purchased to deal with the ongoing problems.

Cllr J McCartney re-joined the meeting at this point.

38/22 Clerk's Report

- i. An email from Allerdale GDF was received, requesting an opportunity to address the Parish Council on the plans for a Geological Depositary Facility in West Cumbria. The Clerk was instructed to invite a representative to address the September meeting.
- ii. An email from Mr and Mrs Yeo, asking questions about the village green, was read to the meeting. It was noted that the area is looked after by Home Group. Borough Cllr P Gaston agreed to raise the issues with Home Group whilst Cllr K Stephenson offered to take a look at the fencing to see what needed to be done.

39/40 Accounts for Payment

The following were passed for payment:

HMRC	PAYE (July)	86.00
Rev J Morgan	Salary and Expenses (July)	381.21
R Bell	Grasscutting	300.00
J Griffiths	Rat Poison	116.99
HMRC	PAYE (August)	86.00
Rev J Morgan	Salary and Expenses (August)	371.76

40/22 Planning

No new applications were received.

41/22 Parish Maintenance

- i. It was noted that the hedge near the bus stop had been cut back although the sections near to the British Telecom box was still in need of attention.
- ii. It was reported that Mrs Carol Elliott has been removing Himalayan balsam in the village.

42/22 Matters for next meeting

None identified

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 14th September 2022 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.23pm

Signed: _____ Chairman Date: _____