

KIRKANDREWS ON ESK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING of KIRKANDREWS ON ESK PARISH COUNCIL held in MOAT VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs W. Bundred (Chairman), P. Armstrong, Z. Armstrong, L. Cragg, S. Richardson, A. Wallis and D. Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk

064/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cumberland Councillor Pickstone had given his apologies to the Clerk.

065/23 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

RESOLVED to note that no requests for dispensation were received.

066/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED to note the following declarations of interest:-

Councillor Richardson declared a non-pecuniary interest in any item relating to Moat village hall.
Councillor Bundred declared a non-pecuniary interest in any item relating to the Parochial Church Council

067/23 MINUTES

RESOLVED to authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2023, confirmed as a true and accurate record.

ACTION: WB

068/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION –

068/23.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

RESOLVED to note there were no members of the public present.

068/23.2 CUMBERLAND COUNCILLOR REPORT

RESOLVED to note that Cumberland Councillor Pickstone updated members on the following:-

- **Request for double white lines on A7 near Glinger junction –** Added to investigation list for 2024/25.

069/23 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

RESOLVED to note that Councillor Bundred reported on the following:-

- **LONGTOWN DEVELOPMENT GROUP –** Information had been circulated to members by email prior to the meeting. Councillor Bundred reported that the group was moving forward and that he had volunteered to help with community buildings.
- **BECK BURN WIND PANEL FARM –** Issues with safeguarding policies and grant requests forms were ongoing. Another meeting to consider the memorandum would take place in due course.

Signed (Chairman).....

Date.....

070/23 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

There were no applications for planning consent to be considered.

071/23 NOTIFICATION OF DECISIONS

RESOLVED to note the following decision by Cumberland Council:-

- **23/0127 – Frankstown Farm, Longtown** – Construction of a new slurry lagoon, protective fence and access track.
GRANTED

072/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS -

072/23.1 BANK RECONCILIATION to 30.10.23

There was submitted a report by the Clerk on the reconciliation of the Council's financial records with its bank account statements.

RESOLVED to receive and note the bank reconciliation and balances to 30th October 2023 of £24,022.65.

072/23.2 CLERKS SALARY AWARD 2023-24

RESOLVED to note the report and the recent pay award which had been agreed at the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) for the financial year 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 in the amount of £1 per hour.

072/23.3 EXPENDITURE TO APPROVE

RESOLVED to authorise/ratify the following expenditure for payment:-

- £35.00 ICO – Data Protection - Direct debit*
- £835.52 A. Riddell – net wage to 30.11.23 - cheque number 101090
- £5.00 CALC – Chairs Forum Course - cheque number 101091
- £1110.00 W&E Carruthers– grass contract - cheque number 101092
- £23.00 Royal British Legion - cheque number 101093

072/23.4 BUDGET 2024/25

RESOLVED to note that members gave consideration to the 2024/25 draft budget report submitted by the Clerk and agreed to the following amendment:-

- £1 per hour increase to room hire costs

The precept would not be agreed until further information from Cumberland Council was received detailing the council tax base for the parish.

Signed (Chairman).....

Date.....

072/23.5 BECK BURN WIND FARM COMMUNITY POT -

072/23.5.1 GRANT APPLICATIONS

072/23.5.1.1 LONGTOWN YOUNG FARMERS CLUB

RESOLVED to award £2,000.00 to help towards the club levy for Longtown for the 2024/25 YFC year.

072/23.5.1.2 INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

RESOLVED to award £200.00 if confirmation was given that residents of the parish attended. Councillor Richardson would confirm this in due course.

ACTION: SR/Clerk

072/23.5.2 COSTS FOR COASTAL PATH SIGNAGE UPDATE

RESOLVED to note there was no current information available on plans for the end of the path therefore signage costs could not be investigated at the current time.

072/23.5.3 UPDATE ON COSTS FOR REPLACEMENT OF CLIMBING EQUIPMENT AT MOAT PLAY AREA.

RESOLVED, after a lengthy discussion on the number of children using/benefitting from play equipment, that:-

072/23.5.3.1 Clerk to arrange removal of climbing frame at Moat play area.

072/23.5.3.2 Clerk to investigate whether a play area could be installed at Greenmill.

ACTION: Clerk

072/23.5.4 COSTS FOR INFORMATION PANELS

Members considered design and location of information panels.

RESOLVED that Councillor Bundred would consider information for up to 3 panels and that Councillor Wilson would confirm the location for a panel at Plumpe/Gretna Chase area. Consideration of designs would be agreed at a future meeting.

ACTION: WB/DW

072/23.5.5 REPLACEMENT OF JUBILEE TREES

Councillor Bundred reported on the failure of 3 of the cherry trees which had been planted to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee and that some of the beech hedging was damaged.

RESOLVED that Councillor Bundred would investigate costs and the matter would be on the next agenda.

ACTION: Clerk

Signed (Chairman).....

Date.....

073/23 GREENMILL

073/23.1 DITCH MAINTENANCE

Councillor Bundred reported that once again there was a lot of standing water in the area and the ditch appeared to be blocked with vegetation.

RESOLVED that Councillor Wilson would contact the MOD contractor to report the problem.

ACTION: DW

073/23.2 WOOD DITCH POLLUTION

RESOLVED to note that the water seeping from the old tip had been reported to the Environment Agency but no response had been received.

074/23 COMMEMORATIVE SEATING AND PLAQUES

RESOLVED, after discussion, that Councillor Bundred would choose a plaque design, circulate for agreement and pass to the Clerk for purchase. The seat at Moat play area would be located along the boundary behind the climbing frame and the location for the seat at the church would be agreed with an on site meeting with Councillor Bundred.

ACTION: WB/ Clerk

075/23 BUS SHELTERS

Councillor Z. Armstrong updated members on the installation of perspex at the bus shelters.

075/23.1 RESOLVED that the bus shelters at Blackbank would be left with no Perspex installed.

075/23.2 RESOLVED that Councillor Wilson would remove the glass in the bus shelter at Greenmill and measure for perspex.

ACTION: DW

076/23 HIGHWAYS ISSUES -

076/23.1 MOAT SPEED INDICATION DEVICE (SID)

RESOLVED to note the matter of re-installation had been passed to Abigail Dodds by David Turner (both Cumberland Highways officers) but no response had been received.

076/23.2 GRIT BINS

RESOLVED to note that David Turner from Highways contacted the Clerk and 5 grit bins have been ordered for the previously agreed locations as follows:-

- U1001-101 – Entrance to Batenbush and further along the road on the hill
- U1263-101 – Between Blackbank and A6071 junction
- C1010 – Sark Hall to Scottish border
- 2 grit bins for the top of the hill leading down to The Inch

The grit bins would be paid for by the Parish Council (£132 excl. VAT per grit bin) as previously agreed and filled by Cumberland Council.

Signed (Chairman).....

Date.....

076/23.3 A6071 JUNCTION 45 OF THE M6

Councillor Bundred reported on a meeting with a representative of Cumberland Highways to discuss improvements to the junction. Councillor Bundred had pointed out that the no entry signs were too high, and that additional signage was required.

RESOLVED that the Clerk would contact Councillor Pickstone to request more action.

077/23 MASS TRESPASS

RESOLVED to note that Councillor Bundred reported to members that near to Glinger Burn, people had arrived by bus with placards and the press, to march across the border to highlight a 'right to roam'.

078/23 GREтна GREEN BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM

RESOLVED to note that Gresham House Devco Pipeline Ltd was preparing proposals for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) site on land south of Gretna 400KV substation, Gretna Green, DG16 5HR. The BESS would have a storage capacity of up to 456MW.

A public consultation event would take place at the Solway Lodge Hotel, Gretna on December 5th from 2-7pm for local residents to learn more about the project, view plans and speak to team members.

079/23 USE OF PERSONAL EMAILS

RESOLVED to defer the item as there were issues with the website.

080/23 BIODIVERSITY POLICY

RESOLVED to agree the draft policy submitted by the Clerk.

081/23 CALC

RESOLVED to note that all CALC emails had been circulated to members and that the following required a formal decision:-

081/23.1 GOVT. CONSULTATION ON VERY HARD TO REACH BROADBAND AREAS –

RESOLVED that Councillor Bundred would draft a response.

ACTION: WB

082/23 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY THE CLERK –

RESOLVED to note that all correspondence had been circulated to members and that none required a formal decision.

RESOLVED to note that the Clerk would attend the Community Panel network event on 23rd November.

083/23 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Precept 2024/25

RESOLVED to note that any further items for consideration should be submitted to the Clerk on or before 1st January 2024.

084/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th January 2024, Moat Village Hall, 7.30pm.

Signed (Chairman).....

Date.....

085/23 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

To consider resolving, in terms of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, (contract terms) it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and that they be instructed to withdraw.

086/23 GRASS CUTTING 2024

Members gave consideration to the quotes received for the 2024 grass cutting contract.

RESOLVED to accept the quote from W & E Carruthers in the sum of 1,800.00.

ACTION: Clerk

Meeting closed 9.15pm

Signed (Chairman).....

Date.....