

Matterdale Parish Council

Draft minutes of the meeting which took place at 7.00pm on **Monday 4th January 2021** by “Zoom”.

“Present”: Cllrs Lloyd (in the chair), McAlpine, Shaw, Crofts, Mrs Beaumont, Firth, Holder, Mrs Gore, Harrison and Mrs Bray. County Councillor Neil Hughes joined the meeting by phone. Mrs Wilson and Mr Dobinson were unable to take part.

In attendance: the Clerk.

1. The **Minutes** of the meeting on **16th November 2020** were approved as circulated.

2. Exclusion of Press and requests for public participation/open forum

2.1 No members of the press or public had sought to participate in the meeting by Zoom or otherwise.

2.2 There were no notified public questions and there was no public forum.

3. Declarations of interest by Councillors/ requests for dispensation.

3.1 No Councillors needed to update their declaration.

3.2 None declared any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

3.3 None declared any prejudicial interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

3.4 The Clerk reported that no dispensation had been sought or granted.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes:-

4.1 Mr Trelease’s estimate for renewal of the **posts and fencing around Dockray Village Green** was accepted. It is expected that the expense (not budgeted) will be £380, including both labour and materials. Danger signs are required on the open boundary with the stream on the north east side of the green.

4.2 The **planning application for the proposed Community/Education building** on the Recreation Field has been submitted to LDNPA; the identification number is to be circulated to all Councillors.

4.3 Cllrs Firth and Mrs Bray have reviewed the update of the **Clerk’s employment contract**; the Clerk will liaise with them, in expectation that the draft can be submitted to all Councillors for approval at or before the next Council meeting.

5. Finance

5.1 The Clerk reported that the **balance** at HSBC Bank plc was £3031.34; at Skipton Building Society £66,362.86.

5.2 **Expenditure** was approved, namely £16.48 to Water Plus for water charges at the Recreation Field, £40.00 to CALC for a course fee and £370.00 to Mr Trelease for grass cutting in 2020.

5.3 The Clerk had **reviewed expenditure in the year to date** against the current year's budget. Nothing additional had been paid since his report to the meeting on 2nd November 2020.

5.4 The 2021/2 precept was agreed in the sum of £3,500.

6. Planning.

The Clerk reported on report on various **Planning Applications (all 7/2020)** namely :-

3115 **Windrush, Hutton** John-decision: granted

3124 **Rooking House Farm**-change of use of part of existing field barn to form single local needs dwelling- decision: granted

3031 **New School (aka Hope Springs), Matterdale**- application for revised ancillary office and studio building referred to Matterdale Planning Committee.

Matterdale Planning Committee:-

3161 **Emmers Farm, Thackthwaite**: barn conversion to provide living accommodation and alterations to **farmhouse-No objection**

3132 **Rushgill** House, Dockray: **extension-no objection.**

Watermillock Planning Committee:-

3109 **Knotts Hill** Caravan Park, Watermillock: extended site occupation dates-no objection

3151 The Limes, Watermillock: new sewage treatment plant-no objection

7. Highways

7.1 The public consultation on the proposed **A592 safety** works, delayed by the further Covid related lockdown, is expected go ahead in part by virtual process, with a face to face meeting at Glenridding Village Hall when covid regulations allow.. The section from

Waterfoot to Hartsop, which includes that part of the highway within the Parish is to be one stage of the process.

7.2 The proposal by central government to introduce a scheme for **unitary government** in **Cumbria** will be subject to public consultation involving parish councils. The proposal is to divide Cumbria into two unitary authorities but how is not yet known.

8. Cllrs Gore, Firth, Holder and Bray had met five times to discuss how the Council should respond to the issues raised by the initiative from an **Ambleside group**, aimed at reducing current and future **traffic problems** in the National Park. They had also met once with the representatives of other Ullswater parishes and Tirrel/Sockbridge Parish. Following a Zoom call between the Ambleside group and representatives of the LDNPA Sustainable Transport Working Group, Cllr Firth has drafted a letter to the latter, giving feedback at their request on the issues the Ullswater group consider should be addressed in the LDNPA's forthcoming consultation paper on sustainable transport issues, which he will circulate to all Councillors when it has been finalised. He was warmly thanked for his work to date on this.

9. The Council agreed to accept the informal notice given by Mr R Wilson to end his farm business tenancy of the Council's **Troutbeck holding**. Cllr Harrison spoke strongly against offering any of the Council's holdings for sale. The Clerk will seek advice from PFK on the possibility of granting grazing licences for that and the **Rushmire holding**. Environmental and historical information is to be sought and the future of these holdings will be discussed at the next meeting.

10. For **training opportunities**, Councillors were referred to the CALC website, which would be especially useful for new Councillors. Cllr Harrison reported that he had benefitted from attending a two part course.

11. Correspondence

11.1 The Clerk has received sales literature from **ElanCity** who supply various Evolis Radar **Speed Signs**; the cost of suitable signs on **A5091 at Dockray** would be at least £1,200 (assuming two interactive solar beacon devices were to be installed). The website www.elancity.co.uk provides the detail Councillors need if they agree on the need for signs to slow traffic there and funds can be made available for the purpose.

11.2 The Clerk was authorised to permit use of the Council's website to provide information about the **2021 Census**.

12. Future **meeting dates** were agreed as follows:-

1/3, 17/5 (AGM), 5/7, 6/9, and 1/11 if possible at Watermillock Village Hall, until Matterdale Church Room can resume hosting alternate meetings. (Zoom facilities will

continue until the relevant legislation requiring Zoom facilities to be made available is repealed).

D. L. Brown