

GREAT CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL AGM-2024

CLERK: Mrs Angela Meek, 10 Newlands Lane, Workington, Cumbria CA14 3NF

The **2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the Great Clifton Parish Council on was held on Thursday 16 May 2024 - Following APM - at the Village Hall in Great Clifton.

MINUTES

Attendees were Councillors Paul Arts, Jonathan Coles, Jo Kirkbride (Vice Chairman), Peter Gaston, Robert McKenzie, Alyson Smith.

1. The Vice Chair welcomed all to the meeting.
2. **Apologies received** for Absence Malcolm Fee (Chairman). Cllr Cole said of a Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests with regards to the Community Youth Group. There were no resignations and no co-options to note. The parish council has five vacancies.

Councillors wished to thank Cllr Fee for his hard work and dedication acting as Chair, they all wish him a speedy recovery from his illness and look forward to seeing him back at parish council meetings when fully recovered.

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 11 May 2023 numbered (AGM-2023) were signed by the Chair as a true record. Minutes of the GM held on 21 March 2024 numbered [141-MAR] were discussed and the Chair signed. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
4. **Election of the Chair** – Cllr McKenzie proposed Cllr Kirkbride, Cllr Coles seconded, all agreed, Cllr Kirkbride accepted and signed the Acceptance of Office as Chair.
5. **Election of the Vice Chair** – Cllr McKenzie proposed Cllr Gaston, Cllr Coles seconded, all agreed, Cllr Gaston accepted and signed the Acceptance of Office as Vice Chair.
6. **Public Participation Session**
There were no members of the public at the meeting.
7. **The Internal Auditor** for 2024/25 was approved as Mr Holmes [A] the clerk will contact Mr Holmes.
8. **The RHIB Insurance** for 2024/25 was approved by Councillors, due on 1st June 2024 a cheque was signed on the night.
9. **Financial Matters** presented by the Clerk –
Bank Statement number 327 dated 31st March 2024 – start balance £17362.79, end balance £15842.69, no money in, money out £1520.10.

Bank Statement number 328 dated 30 April 2024 – start balance £15842.69, end balance £22018.69, money in £6500.00, money out £324.00.

Schedule of Payments – Village Hall Committee, Youth Group Room Hire [809] £324.00. CALC, Annual Subscription [810] £297.43. Mr Holmes, Internal Audit [811] £85.00. Zurich, Annual Insurance [812] £1079.67. Cumberland Council, Annual Play Inspection [813] £58.00. Triple T Ltd, April Grass cut [814] £440.00. A Meek, half year expenses [815] £146.14 – late receipts handed to the clerk at the meeting was for petrol for the mower [816] £55.00, all cheques were agreed, and the Chair signed.

It was noted that there is a need for more councillors to become signatories for the signing of cheques, the clerk and Cllr McKenzie were not comfortable to sign a cheque made out to their name – the clerk to take the cheque book to Cllr Fee for signatures. Cllr Arts, Cllr Gaston, Cllr Kirkbride and Cllr Smith will complete forms to become signatories for the Trustees account.

Receipts – Cumberland Council, [BACS] 1st Precept payment £6500. Signing of cheques, Overview of accounts for inspection, all agreed, and the Chair signed as a true record of the accounts.

Overview of the 2024/25 accounts to date were discussed and agreed as a true record.

Close of accounts for 2023/24 were discussed and the Chair signed Re: AGM 2024.

10. Parish Matters

- Great Clifton Community Youth Group – donation letter requesting the sum of £200 towards a climbing wall for the May half term break. Cllr Coles left the meeting to enable a discussion. Councillors felt that the Parish Council had already made a significant contribution to the costs of the Youth Group and there was concern about further anticipated requests for funding during the year which are not budgeted for. Cllr Coles noted the Youth Group have sufficient funding for the climbing wall hire but felt the Parish Council should support the Youth Group. Councillors agreed with the principle of supporting the Youth Group and suggested the group consider applying to the Parish Council for a yearly grant which could be considered against annual PC funding. Cllr Coles was informed that on this occasion the Community Youth Group's letter for the £200 donation had been unsuccessful.
- Grass Cutting - Councillors noted discussion on village Facebook groups expressing dissatisfaction with the Parish Council due to grass not being cut. Cllrs Gaston and Arts had both reported the matter and the grass was cut shortly afterwards. It was noted that there was confusion and incorrect information regarding the responsibilities of the Parish Council and Cumberland Council. Residents are encouraged to contact the Parish Council Clerk or attend a Parish Council meeting if they wish to enter into discussion or raise an issue with the Parish Council. It was also noted that any resident can make a report to Cumberland Council on their App.
- Codfitz Lonning is still flooding during rainfalls, a gully is required to allow the water to drain from the footpath – AM to contact Countrywide Access who are responsible for public footpaths.
- Cllr McKenzie noted that the grass on the rugby field had not been cut to a satisfactory manner. The Clerk will contact Triple TTT to ask them to address this issue before further payment is made.
- AM was asked to contact Home Group to get permission to plant a Monkey Puzzle Tree on a site at Riverside.
- Harry Gyll footpath project – Cllr Smith has gained permission to access the field and clear the area by the stream.
- Cllr McKenzie has filled the planter tubs around the village with summer flowers.
- Cllr Smith asked about the reinstatement of the noticeboard on the Gavels – Cllr McKenzie to organise.
- Bus shelter refurbishments – the clerk has asked Mapel Leaf to give a quote for the works and is waiting for his response.
- The Finger post at Pit Gap Lonning, Public footpath 211008 has been put in place with a warning not to remove.

11. Planning Applications/Decisions

- WTPO/2024/0013 - Fell damaged trees - Mabel Wood, Moor Road, Great Clifton
- FUL/2024/0051 - Manor Developments Cumbria Ltd - Proposed new 3 bed end terraced dwelling 25A Gatehead, Great Clifton, CA14 1TN
- FUL/2024/0064 - Proposed development of 9 houses and associated works - Land Off, William Street, Great Clifton, Cumbria.

Councillors had no objections in general to the above.

- RMA/2023/0001 - Reserved matters of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of development, together with ground assessment Phase 2 study and coal mining assessment for approved application OUT/2022/0004 for the erection of new dwellings, Abbott Wood, Great Clifton
Councillors agreed to put their concerns to Mark Fryer and ask him for his view and to consider appropriate action.

12. Village Hall – Report Cllr McKenzie

- Two lights have been repaired in the main hall and are now in working order.
- A new combination lock has been purchased for the main gate; this will be better than having keys.
- The annual fire extinguisher checks have been completed and due to new regulations, we had to purchase three carbon dioxide extinguishers which cost over £700.
- The fire risk assessment, child protection and disability policies have been updated.
- The clerk is to forward the insurance certificate to display on the notice board.
- We are looking to Fibrus to bring an internet service to the hall through its funding programme.
- E.on are ready to fit smart meters in the hall if the signal is strong enough.
- We are looking for someone to join the Village Hall Committee as members are low.

13. Nothing to note for Allotments.

14. Agenda items for 18th July 2024 Meeting to be forwarded to the clerk before 10 July 2024.

15. Dates of meeting for the year ahead are:

18th July 2024 [GM] 19th September 2024 [GM]
21st November 2024 [GM] 16th January 2025 [GM] 20 March 2025, GM.

The meeting closed at 20:50

