

GREAT CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL [139-Nov] GM

CLERK: Mrs Angela Meek | greatcliftonpc18@gmail.com

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The **GENERAL MEETING** of the Great Clifton Parish Council was held on:
Thursday 16 November 2023, 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

MINUTES

Attendees: Paul Arts, Jonathan Coles, Malcolm Fee, Jo Kirkbride, Robert McKenzie, Alyson Smith. Angela Meek, Clerk.

- The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.** There were apologies received for absence from Cllr Fryer.
- There was no disclosure of pecuniary interests to note. There were no resignations, and no co-options to note. There are 5 vacancies on the parish council.
- Minutes of the General Meeting** held on 21 September 2023 and referenced 137-Sep were discussed – amendment from PCSO to PC Sarah Parkinson - all agreed that they were of a true record of the meeting and the Chair signed the minutes. There were no matters arising from the above signed minutes.
- Public Participation Session** – No members of the public were present.
- Correspondence Letters/Emails received since the last meeting.**
 - Allerdale GDF** – informing they have taken the decision not to take Allerdale further in the search for a suitable site to host a GDF, funding from them will cease.
 - The Annual Playground Inspection** was due to be completed on 30 October 2023 – Cllr McKenzie said that an official was seen in the park and thinks that the inspection has been completed.
 - Received a report of a planned bonfire on the Gavels** – Clerk contacted Home Group and they said that they would send letters to all households on the Gavels.
 - Anthony Brent, metal detecting on GCPC Land** – letter to be sent from the parish council relaying Terms & Conditions relating to permission. (**Clerk to prepare letter**).
- Planning Applications:** *M.F. - Gavels Field.*
Planning Application RMA/2023/0001 - Cllr Fryer, the Cumberland Council Representative for Great Clifton Parish Council was asked to **CALL THIS IN** to enable further consultation – we have had no contact with Cllr Fryer so cannot confirm a call-in was made (**Clerk to contact Cllr Fryer for an update**).
- Financial Matters** presented by the Clerk were:
 - Bank Statement no. 321 and dated 30 September 2023, start balance £83,537.29, end balance £20,788.53, no money in, money out £145.00. please see BS no 321 for breakdown.
 - Bank Statement** no. 322 and dated 31 October 2023, start balance £20,788.53, end balance £20,643.53, please see BS no 322 for breakdown. Trustees account report sheet agrees with bank statements.
 - Schedule of Payments/Receipts** [797] £45.00. At the meeting put to the council for payment was - Receipt for mower costs £29.37, Hall Hire Invoice £252.00 (to the

Chair's Signature.....*Malcolm Fee*.....

- **Bus Shelter Repairs** – Cllr McKenzie to request a quote from a local builder, there is a two-week period and if the builder does not quote the clerk has been asked to go forward with the quote from contractor Mapel Leaf.
- **Trees reported to be hindering traffic** leading down to the Derwent Vale School, a bus driver said they are in danger of smashing the bus's windows which could cause injury to children – the clerk informed councillors that she had reported this the week before the meeting and highways are dealing with the report.
- **Water Reported running across the road near the mission Church** possible blocked drains **(A)** the clerk to report to Highways.
- **The seven benches** in various locations in the parish are reported to be requiring rub down and repaint **(A)** Cllr McKenzie to ask if a local painter would quote for the works.
- **The newly purchased bench** will be sited in the play park in the spring.
- Cars, vans and work vans (Fibrus) are parking on the pavements and verges on the Gavels causing problems for pedestrians, prams and disabled access. **(A)** the clerk to report to highways, and to Home Group.
- **Fly tipping at the garages on Clifton Lodge** – there has been reports of a Younghusband and Son's van has been openly fly tipping in this area, Cllr Gaston reported to Cumberland Council and this was promptly cleared, but the next day the same van was seen leaving the area and a door was said to have been placed at the same site – **(A)** the clerk to send a letter to the company and to inform PCSO Luke King.
- The planter tubs are due to be emptied of foliage for the winter.

10. Village Hall: Report by Cllr McKenzie

- Two parish residents have booked the hall, Rachael and Claire are wanting to start a youth club on Monday evenings.
- Four dance groups are currently using the hall on a weekly basis.
- A local band uses the hall for practice on a regular basis.
- Iggusund have kindly donated £40 towards the Christmas tree which has been ordered and should be delivered the first week in December.
- The energy company has offered a deal which if taken on a one year's contract the price of the electric and gas will drop by half, this will halve the standing charges so the committee have decided to take up this offer.

11. Allotments: no report

12. Agenda items for November Meeting

Harry Gill project
Youth Club contribution from the parish council.

13. Date of next meeting – (meeting dates for the diary)

18 January 2024, 21 March 2024

Meeting closed at 20:25

end of financial year), Receipt for barrels £40.00. Cheques were signed at the end of the meeting.

- **Budget Planning for 2024/2025** – clerk forwarded report to councillors prior to meeting. Grants and donations were discussed as some were said to be not being taken forward – the parish council agreed to maintaining the precept at its present level and the clerk will complete the forms and forward to Cumberland Council's Finance Department before the deadline of 12 January 2024.
- **National pay Award for 2023/24** – the Clerks salary has been raised within inflation bringing it from £13.95 to £14.95 per hour back dated to 1st April 2023 – the cost to the parish council is £312.00 per annum which will be taken at the end of the financial year. The clerk will prepare a letter of the salary increase for signature at the March 2024 meeting and will then forward to the Cumberland Building Society.
- **Landline** The clerk has changed her internet connection as the current one was inadequate. Councillors were asked if they wish to retain a landline at a cost of £10.00 per month which could be shared between Great Clifton, Winscales, and Lamplugh Parish Councils. The clerk informed councillors that should they vote to permanently remove the land line, contacting the councils would be via email or home address only, as the mobile, while used for parish council work is also her personal mobile and would not be readily available to the public, advertised on the website, or any paperwork going forward. Councillors agreed that no land line is necessary. All Councillors will be forwarded the clerks mobile number to note.

8. Projects, Grant Applications

- **Children's Pump Track:** with the withdrawal of the siting of the GDF within Allerdale area funding has dried up from this source. Cllr Arts said that the next stage planning permission should be put on hold until another funding source can be identified. The project is to be put on hold and removed from the agenda.
- **Solar panels for the Village Hall:** Cllr McKenzie asked for this project to be put on hold until a funding source can be identified. To be removed from the agenda.
- **The Hearing Hub:** Cllr Kirkbride is also on hold. Not on the agenda.
- **The Harry Gill Project:** Cllrs Kirkbride, and Smith – during the winter months and leading into spring the area is to be cleared of brambles and undergrowth in readiness for the start of the project, Cllrs Art, Coles and McKenzie put their names forward to help with the clearing of the area.

9. Parish Matters

- **Rose Villa - Monkey Puzzle Tree** – [State of site]

Correspondence from Mr West regarding an email from Kerry McCartney saying she is still receiving complaints from the parish council. **The Monkey puzzle Tree:** Tree Surgeon inspection letter states the tree is a danger of falling – councillors noted that the date on the letter from Jacksons tree surgeon had been removed – **(A)** the clerk to contact the company to ascertain date of the letter. **(A)** Cllr Gaston to contact Kerry McCartney for an update.

- **Meeting arranged by Cllr Fryer** 9 November 2023, 7pm in the village hall – Cllrs Fee, Kirkbride and the clerk attended the meeting before 7pm - given that there were traffic lights both in Stainburn and on Gatehead, Great Clifton councillors and the clerk waited until after 7.30pm. Having then checked messages from phone and emails to no avail at almost 7.40pm it was decided that a meeting could not be completed within the one-hour time frame of the room booking.
- **Poppy wreaths for Armistice Sunday 12 November 2023** were delivered to Councillor Fee who laid the wreaths at for St Luke's Church and the Chapel.

The youth Group, due to begin shortly.

Cllr Arts and Cllr Coles had left the meeting.

Cllr Kirkbride requested a special meeting to be held whilst most councillors were together –

Cllrs Fee, Gaston, Kirkbride, McKenzie, and Smith were in attendance.

Discussed was the above youth group and how the parish council could support them.

It was discussed for the parish council to offer a one evening per week, two hour per evening room hire payment for a period of four weeks.

The two hours will include the setting up and the clearing up at the end, leaving the hall clean and tidy and ready for the next user.

Cllr Kirkbride proposed, Cllr Gaston seconded, and all agreed to the above support. **(A)** the clerk to inform Cllr Coles. Cllr McKenzie to inform a group leader.

Meeting closed 8:40