

GREAT CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL [NO. 131-NOV]

The General Meeting (No 131-Nov) of Great Clifton Parish Council to be held on Thursday 17th November 2022, 7pm in the Village Hall

Parish Councillors summoned to attend: Jonathan Coles, Malcolm Fee, Peter Gaston, Jo Kirkbride, Robert McKenzie, Irene Owens, Paul Scott, Alyson Smith, Noreen Walker. Also invited: Councillors: Debbie Garton, Jimmy Grisdale and Mark Fryer.

Minutes

Attendees were Jonathan Coles, Malcolm Fee, Peter Gaston, Jo Kirkbride, Robert McKenzie, Irene Owens, Paul Scott, Alyson Smith.

1. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and apologies for absence were received from Paul Arts, Noreen Walker, Debbie Garton, Jimmy Grisdale and Mark Fryer. There were no declarations of disclosure pecuniary interests to note. The clerk informed councillors that she had received a resignation email from Paul Scott due to family issues.
2. There were no members of the Public in attendance.
3. The minutes of last General Parish Council Meeting held on 20 October 2022 and numbered 130 was discussed, all agreed that they were of a true record and the Chair signed. There were no matters arising from the minutes held on 20 October 2022.
4. The Chair announced that he had attended the church and laid a Poppy Wreath on behalf of Great Clifton Parish Council for Remembrance Sunday on 13th November. Cllr Owens informed councillors that she had also placed a Poppy Wreath at the Chapel on behalf of the Parish Council.
5. Items for Discussion on Village / Parish Matters
 - *Footpaths – Cllr Coles said that he had cleared a congestion from the Cat Banks footpath, and it is now clear. *Cllr Coles also reported that the new finger signpost on the footpath at Pit Gap had gone missing, he has informed Highways of this. *Cllr McKenzie said that he had spoken to the landowner from the area at Camerton Lonning regarding the muck and rubble being strewn over from the bank and blocking the path, the owner said that most of the water was running down the bank from the top of the path. He said that he would be happy to get his mini digger and clear the mud from the middle of the path and see if he could form a barrier to have the water run down the side of the path. *Cllr McKenzie said that he had not heard from The CCC Highways Department regarding the water running onto Coldfitz Lonning and flooding the footpath further down – AM to send a reminder to Highways and Home Group.
 - *Rose Villa – email had been sent out to planning, MP, Leader of the council and responses were received to say that the issue is being investigated. We will be given a report when available. It was said at the meeting that some fencing had been put up to hide the site but more needs to be done.
 - *Cllr Gaston has contacted the school who have agreed to the tubs with the painted stones being sited by the school. The children will be involved in laying the stones out and they will be set in a coating of lacquer.
 - *Parish Elections for 2023, the clerk has been issued with the upcoming election vacancy form and all clerks have been requested to issue this on their website page as soon as possible as we begin the six-month period leading up to the elections. The Clerk and Cllr Kirkbride are working to resolve an issue with the webpage and will have it compliant asap.

Malcolm Fee 1

*Cllr Coles informed councillors that he has submitted the following comment to the constituency boundary commission *Boundary between the proposed constituencies of Whitehaven and Workington, and Penrith and Solway. *The proposal is that the parish of Great Clifton (south of the river Derwent) is to be in the Whitehaven and Workington constituency while Camerton (north of the river Derwent) is to be in the Penrith and Solway constituency. *The proposed constituency boundary follows the parish boundary along the historical course of the river Derwent. Since the course of the river has changed over the centuries (with a major change in 2009) a small part of Camerton parish is south of the river and a small part of Great Clifton parish is north of the river (round NY038300). Is not the defining of new parliamentary constituencies a good time to put right this anomaly?

6. Projects Planning for 2022

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- Cllr's JK & AS - The Children's Christmas Party Planning is almost complete, with food, drinks and party games being in place, they are still seeking a Father Christmas to hand out gifts and are trying to find the costume that was purchased some years ago, if this cannot be found they will need to purchase a new Santa outfit. Cllr's Fee and Gaston put their names forward to be Santa if no one could be found, with the short timeline of two weeks before the party it was agreed to Cllr Gaston being the taller, that they accept his offer. Cllr's Smith and Kirkbride said of the cost of everything going up with inflation they might go over the grant funding of £300. Discussed at the meeting was to raise the grant to £500 in line with inflation. Cllr Gaston proposed, Cllr McKenzie seconded, and all agreed that the grant be raised to £500.00
 - Cllr McKenzie reported that he was progressing slowly on the grant application for the Solar panels for the village Hall as he is waiting for feedback from other sources. He will continue as and when this allows.
 - (PA) Pump Track – Update sent from Paul Arts via email to the clerk – he has met and had a site visit with one of the partners of Clarke and Kent who are the company he has been liaising with. The area by the playground is much better than the alternative at the end of the rugby field. Access is better – both for the construction (we will get a lot more for our money) but also the visibility and oversight of children using the track. Another local parish is having a pump track built and we will be able to get the drawings/plans etc from this free of charge. These will be sent to me once available, and he will be able to progress with the grant application if the parish council still want to proceed.
 - (Clerk) – Play equipment – the grant application form is now complete, all I need now is a business plan drawn up, most of this will be assembled by using the report I have completed already, it just needs to be more business like with figures and percentages being added. The management plan of the project will be handled by Whickstead which I hope that they will accept. There are just a few tweaks on the plan of the parks inclusive (disabled) swing seat and we are set to go, I am hoping to submit by early December in readiness for the grants reopening in January 2023.

7. There have been no Planning Applications / Decisions received from the October meeting.

8. Financial Matters - Report by Responsible Financial Officer

*Bank Statement 310 and dated 31 October 2022, start balance £10707.82 end balance £15650.77, Income ABC Second Percept payment of £5000, Triple t Ltd has not cashed their cheque yet, I will chase up next week. The clerk received receipts on the evening for expenses relating to the purchase of spring bulbs for the planters around the village, (CN 770) £36.75. The Great North Air AS donation form was discussed and as the service is much appreciated all agreed to a donation of £200 (CN 771).

*The Clerks Annual Salary increase has been reviewed and accepted by all Government Officers which the parish council have agreed, the back pay will be paid direct, and the clerk will amend the payments with the bank. The Clerk asked for her working hours to be reviewed as she cannot complete the tasks and duties within the current four hour per

week (16hrs per month) set out. The clerk informed councillors that as clerk at Lamplugh PC she works on a 24 hr per month contract with by-monthly meetings. She has the time to complete all tasks and duties and has time for laptop, website maintenance, filing and any ad hoc duties. Distributed to councillors were the clerks current time sheet and hours owed to date for discussion. The Chair asked if the meetings were by-monthly would it make a difference, the clerk responded that it would make a slight difference but would not solve the issue as the workload will still need to be completed. The clerk set out hours and cost to the parish council for discussion: *20hrs per month – Quarter £906.75, Annual cost £3627.00. *22hrs per month – Quarter £997.43, Annual cost £3989.70. *24hrs per month – Quarter £1088.10, Annual cost £4352.40. It was agreed that the by-monthly meetings be discussed at the next meeting. It was discussed that the clerk try 20hr per month to see if this would be enough, Cllr Gaston proposed, Cllr McKenzie seconded, and all agreed that the new hours. The clerk thanked the council and said she will begin the new hours in the new financial year when this has been budgeted for.

*Budget forecasting and Planning for 2023-2024 was discussed and the precept will need to be considered carefully with rising costs. The clerk handed out last years spend and part this year spend, all will bring to the next meeting for discussion and agreement. The deadline for the precept returned form is Friday 6th January 2023.

9. Correspondence Letters/emails received since the last meeting were discussed in items 8.
10. Village Hall report from Committee Chairman, Cllr McKenzie – the Christmas tree has been ordered from Patterson's of Brigham and will arrive on 28th November and will be in place and decorated in time for the children's Christmas party, we got the tree from this company last year and it lasted over two months. *The fire extinguishers have been checked and all passed, he was pleased with the fire risk assessment that we have in place and said that we should keep a record of checking the fire extinguishers each month to ensure no one is tampering with them. I have made a form to record this information. *We have priced up new toilet roll dispensers at a cost of approximately £125.00 for 6 dispensers and 12 toilet rolls to fit. This is due to the current roll holders being flimsy and keep getting damaged.
11. Allotments – the Clerk was asked to issue a letter for the notice board to inform plot holders to keep their hens inside
12. Items for next meeting
Budget forecasting and setting of Precept
By-monthly meetings going forward
13. Date of next meeting
15 December 2022

Meeting closed at 20:40

Minutes by Angela Meek, Clerk

Signed by Chair.....

