

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, GREAT CLIFTON, WORKINGTON AT 7.00PM ON THURSDAY 11TH MAY 2023

PRESENT Councillor Malcolm Fee (Chairman), Councillors Jo Kirkbride (Vice-Chairman), Paul Arts, Jonathan Coles, Peter Gaston, Robert McKenzie, Alyson Smith.
No members of the public in attendance.

Clerk: Mrs Angela Meek

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all to the meeting and said that this was the Parishes first meeting under the new Cumberland Council after vesting day on 1 April 2023. The Chair expressed his thanks to the Parish Clerk for her hard work during the year and to Councillors who continue to be a part of the parish council and by attending Council meetings. Thanks also went out to the Trustees and Volunteers of the Village Hall who allows the parish council to have their meetings in the hall.

1. **Apologies**

Mark Fryer, Representative for Cumberland Council gave his apologies.

2. **Minutes of The Annual Parish Assembly held on 19th May 2022**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

3. **Matters Arising from The Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. **Annual Overview of the year beginning Apr-2022-March-2023, Report by the Chair.**

Chair's report

April

A planning application Reference No: OUT/2022/0004

Outline planning permission with all matters reserved for new dwellings at Abbot Wood, Great Clifton – the council's reasons for objections to the application being poor visibility from exiting Abbot Wood, sewer pipes and underground tanks running too close to the proposed build, not considering the habitat of red squirrel's, bats, birds, and insects, and mature trees with TPO's in the way. Abbot Wood is a private road, and it does not state that they have sought permission from the landowner. The plans are vague and do not consider the issues highlighted as discussed.

May

Continuing issues with the state of the garden resembling as a scrap yard at Rose Villa - Parish councillors were able to question Mr West about the number of cars and vans on site which makes the village looked unkept, a real eyesore to villagers. Mr West assured the meeting that he would tidy the land and remove some of the cars and vans from the site, and to put a fence at the sites boundary so as when passing, no one will see in. Regarding the Monkey Money Tree on his property councillors informed him of a TPO on the tree and should not be touched. Mr West promised to have the site cleared by end of September 2022.

Planning Application FUL/2020/0047 Derwent Forest Development Consortium Ltd, Visitor centre with associated gatehouse, parking and infrastructure. The parish council had no objections to this application.

June

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee event was a success, although well attended there could have been more villagers present, the children however, had a great time being on stage with the singer allowing for a bit of karaoke.

July

The Clerk received resignations from Martin Andradez and Katrina Wedgewood resigning from the Council due to moving away from the area.

FUL/2020/0047 Visitor Centre - ABC grant planning permission for this application subject to compliances.

The annual play inspection scheduled for May was delayed until July and there were issues highlighted with some of the equipment. A cradle seat was ordered.

September

Mary Bradley attended the PC meeting to provide an update from Allerdale GDF Community Partnership – with an annual one million pounds of grant funding available for parishes within the search areas we chose three projects to apply for grant funding - Cllr McKenzie will take the lead in applying for Solar Panels for the Village Hall. Cllr Arts will take the lead in applying for a Pump Track to engage the older children keeping them of the street and out of trouble. The clerk will take the lead in applying for grant funding for new playground equipment as the current equipment is over 20 years old and starting to show signs of wear and tear.

We shared a minute's silence and acknowledged a great sadness and mourning following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II, such a short time after her Platinum Jubilee.

Planning Applications - FUL/2021/0296 amended scheme to approved application VAR/2020/0029 for the proposed development of 19 houses land to the north of, William Street, Great Clifton, CA14 1UH amended drawings received 12.8.22.

HOU/2022/0162 applicant - two storey side extension 30 Mabel Wood Close, Great Clifton, Workington, CA14 1BF

WTPO/2022 /0011 Decision to grant application – the council had no objections to any of the above.

October

HOU/2022/0162, Two storey side extension, no objections received.

OUT/2022/0004: Outline planning permission with all matters reserved for new dwellings, Abbott Wood, Great Clifton, objections were given the first time this application was put forward, councillors to noted that the same objections still apply.

Cllr McKenzie stepped back from the Allotment Committee.

November

The clerk received a resignation email from Paul Scott due to family issues.

Cllr Owens and I laid Poppy Wreaths at the Chapel and St Luke's Church on behalf of the Parish Council for Remembrance Sunday 13th November.

With no response from Mr West on the state of Rose Villa an email was sent to the Planning Department, the MP, and the Leader of the Council and responses were received to say that the issue is being investigated. To date we have not heard anything more.

Play equipment – A Meek informed all that the grant application form is now complete, a business plan is being assembled using a prepared report. And it is hopeful that the application be submitted by December.

December

Councillors discussed the continuation of the Christmas party as the costs involved for just a small minority of children was not prudent spending with fewer than 35 children attending.

70 children were catered for, and the total cost was £465.68.

Ref:- APA-2022/23

Signed.......... (Chairman)

The clerk's hours were reviewed, and it was agreed to raise from 4hrs to 6hrs per week totalling 24hrs per month.

A Meek submitted the Grant Application for the play equipment in readiness for the grants reopening in January 2023.

It was agreed to trial bi-monthly meetings for a 12-month period.

January

With rising costs, it was agreed to marginally raise the Precept for 2023/24 from £10,000 to £13,000, this is in line with inflation.

February

Consultation on planning application reference: WTPO/2023/0003 to fell a diseased tree at the Market Cross Inn, 7 Hunter Bank – Councillors had no objections.

We were pleased to be informed that the grant application for new play equipment for the park had been successful, the clerk and I received an invitation to attend an open day for successful applicants and to receive a certificate, which we attended. Wicksteed has been informed and the order is in, it is hoped that the playground will be reopened in May 2023.

March

Two long standing Councillor Members Noreen Walker and Irene Owens both gave their resignations due to ill health and other commitments, the council thanks them both for their years of service to the Council and wish them well in all they do.

We concluded that we would not plan an event for King Charles III coronation as events were being carried out by town and borough councils.

And lastly, as we approached 1 April 2023 (vesting day) we said goodbye to Allerdale Borough Council and welcomed the new Cumberland Council.

5. No members of the public were present.
6. Election of Chair - Councillor Gaston proposed Councillor Fee as Chair, Councillor Kirkbride seconded, all agreed. Councillor Fee accepted and signed the declaration of acceptance to Office form.
7. Election of Vice Chair - Councillor McKenzie proposed Councillor Kirkbride as Vice Chair, Councillor Gaston seconded, all agreed. Councillor Kirkbride accepted and signed the declaration of acceptance to Office form.

The meeting closed at: 7:15

11 May 2023

Angela Meek (Clerk)