

GREAT CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL [141-Mar] GM

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

The **GENERAL MEETING** of the Great Clifton Parish Council was held on Thursday 21st March 2024 at 7:00pm in the Great Clifton Village Hall.

Attendees: Cllr Paul Arts, Cllr Jonathan Coles, Cllr Malcolm Fee (Chair), Cllr Peter Gaston, Cllr Jo Kirkbride, Cllr Robert McKenzie, Cllr Alyson Smith, Angela Meek, clerk.

MINUTES [141-MAR]

1. **The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.** Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Fryer. There was no disclosure of pecuniary interests and no resignations or co-options to note.
2. **Minutes of the General Meeting held on 18 January 2024** were discussed and all agreed that they were of a true record and the Chair signed.
 - Matters arising from the minutes were the hedges leading into the village and down to Greengarth having not had their winter cut and this is causing a blind spot exiting Bowflatts and Greengarth. It was said that it would only get worse with the spring and summer months growths – it will have a high potential for an accident if the hedge is not cut back – [A] Clerk to resubmit to highways and to report back to Cllr Fryer.
 - Camerton Lonning's Road surface has disintegrated even more with the heavy lorries going down to the waterworks – this was reported at the January meeting to Cllr Fryer and to highways – to date the road remains in the same state – [A] Clerk to resubmit to highways and to report back to Cllr Fryer.
3. There were no members of the public in attendance at the meeting.
4. **Planning Applications**
 - Planning Decision Granted for: HOU/2024/0001 - Applicant: Mr & Mrs D King, Two storey side extension, 8 Gatehead, Great Clifton, Workington CA14 1TN
5. **Financial Matters presented by the Clerk.**
 - Bank Statement No. 325 and dated 31 January 2024 – start balance £19,189.06. money in £0, money out £1,269.88, end balance £17,919.18.
 - Bank Statement No. 326 and dated 29 February 2024 – start balance £17,919.18 money in £0, money out £556.39, end balance £17,362.79.
 - Schedule of Payments/Receipts –[807] £312.00 Expenses. [808] £120.00 Fitting of new Bench, cheques were signed.
 - The Chair signed a letter to the Cumberland BS to raise the Clerks salary from June 2024.
 - Overview of accounts for inspection – all agreed they were of a true record – [A] clerk to forward close of accounts to the Internal Auditor.
6. **Projects, Grant Applications**
 - **Children's Pump Track** – Cumberland Council has agreed to take on this project and oversee it via their project management team. The Parish council will still need to raise the funds, but Cumberland Council has sufficient funds to

address the VAT issue. Paul is in contact with various council staff and looking at any available grant funding.

- **The Harry Gill Project** – Cllrs Kirkbride and Smith reported that the weather has postponed the start of the project - Cllr Smith will seek permission from the landowner to use the area for the project. They are now looking to clear the area of the old brambles and reduce the new shoots to an acceptable level – Cllrs Arts, McKenzie volunteered their services in the clearing of the area.
- **Bus Shelter Refurbishments** – the cost of each bus shelter refurbishment has been loosely quoted as around £1,500 per bus shelter – it was suggested that due to the cost of the refurbishment to have two bus shelters refurbished this year and two the following year. Cllr McKenzie informed that the builder he had in mind to ask has since moved away. [A] Clerk to contact Maple Leaf for a more accurate written quote.
- **Seven benches requiring rub down and painting** – Cllr McKenzie has completed an inspection and he informed that the bench down Camerton Lane was beyond repair, but the others can be rubbed down and painted [A] Cllr McKenzie to get a quote.
- **Fly tipping around the village** – a sofa has been reported being fly-tipped in the field behind the Village Hall, it is on the farmer's land. Also reported was fly-tipping at Riverside down the embankment towards the river – [A] Cllr Gaston to speak to Home Group.
- **The new Bench** purchased last year has now been fixed into place in the children's play park.

7. Parish Matters:

- **Rose Villa** – Kerry visited the site in January to ascertain if the landowner had taken any action following her last correspondence as she had been unsuccessful in obtaining any further information from him. She noted he has planted trees to the front boundary in an attempt to screen the site and she will review again in the near future to see how these are establishing.
- **Triple TTT Ltd** – has contacted the council to inform them that they will be no longer taking cheque payments, they are now cash only – the parish council do not work with cash and the cheques are a two-signatory payment. the company is mid-way through a contract and therefore cannot change a payment method already in place. The clerk will wait until the invoice comes in to confront the company.
- **Metal Detecting** - Permission Letter signed and returned for our records.
- **The council** was informed of a trail running club has used Great Clifton as a starting point, they cleared up their rubbish but said that the amount of rubbish around the village was immense, a Councillor commented that it was not what they wanted visitors to portray of the village.
- **Cllr McKenzie** has reported several drains being damaged on Station Road, commonly known as Camerton Lonning which have now been fixed – also reported is a broken drain cover which a concrete slab is covering it as a temporary measure.
- **The road surface** just outside Rose Villa on the Pow has sunk-in again and requires attention - [A] Clerk to report to Highways.

- **Flooding at the bottom of Middlegate** towards the Pow by Rose Villa is a common event in rainfall [A] Clerk to contact Highways with photo provided by Cllr Gaston.
- PCSO Rachel Pape is the new assignee to Great Clifton as Luke has now moved on.
- **Monkey tree** purchased by a resident to replace the tree lost at Rose Villa, a possible place to site the tree was said to be on the clearing at Greengarth [A] Cllr Gaston to request permission from Home Group. Second area was on Derwent School's Turning Point.

8. Village Hall – Report by Cllr McKenzie

- There are a number of bands using the hall for practice –the PRS forms came in and have been completed and sent off. Contacted to see what constituted PRS and was informed that any children's parties, anniversaries, or family gatherings are not included - we only need to declare the dance groups.
- The youth groups have been causing some damage, so I have had to put yale locks on the stage doors to stop them going into the side rooms – they still managed to break off one of the yale locks – they have also damaged the wall panel between the boiler room and the emergency door.
- We held a committee meeting and signed up a new Treasurer, John Ward from the committee agreed to be Treasurer.
- We are in the process of getting quotes for the repaint of the west facing end wall and the main door tower.
- Two lights are not working in the main hall and will require the use of scaffolding to fix them.
- The Allotment committee used the hall to collect the years rents.

9. Allotments – rents have been collected and vacant plots have been let.

10. Agenda items for May Meeting

Some of the above and councillors are asked to forward items to the clerk by 15 April 2024.

11. Dates of meeting for the year ahead are:

16 May 2024, AGM & GM - 18 July 2024, GM - 19 September 2024, GM –
21 November 2024, GM - 16 January 2025, GM - 20 March 2025, GM.

Meeting closed at: 20:15