**Askham and Helton Parish Council**

**Meeting:** Parish Council Meeting **Date:** Tuesday, 31st January 2023

**Venue:** Askham and District Community Centre

**Present:** Laura Harker (LH), Malcolm Holt (MH), Mary Westgarth (MW)), John Banks (JB), Chris Whittaker (CW), Sophie Riches (SR)

**Apologies:** Gary Calland (GC)

**In Attendance:** Sandie Watson (Clerk/RFO), Neil Hughes (NH)

**Members of Public:** 1

**Minutes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Key Points/decisions** | **Action** |
| 161.1  Apologies | GC – Work Commitments  Resolved that the apologies be accepted and the reasons recorded. |  |
| 162.2  Declarations of Interest | 1. Register of Members Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their Register of Interests.  2. Personal/Prejudicial Interests. None received.  3. Dispensation Requests. None received. | **ALL** |
| 163.3  Minutes | Resolved that the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting on 29th November 2022 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman. |  |
| 164.4  Outcomes of Actions of last meeting | **Item 8 was discussed prior to item 4 at the discretion of the Chair, LH.**  **Bus Shelter**: To be completed in the spring. MH to report back at the next meeting.  **Traffic Calming** – **Eden Speed Review** – this has been approved. Thanks has been sent to the parishioner for their contribution towards the review.  **Kendal Calling Traffic** **Congestion** – CCC Traffic Management Team have investigated the disruption and reported there had been several issues which exacerbated traffic congestion. Accidents, rail strikes and problems with parking management issues on site. The organisers are looking into improvements for future years. SW to put on agenda for March meeting and check for updates from CCC. SW to circulate any updates to Councillors and NH when received.  **Askham Bridge** repairs have been completed and site has been tidied up. Covers have been left on to protect the repairs and should be removed in April/May.  **Whitbysteds Hedge** – a request has been made to Lowther Estates to cut the hedge. | **MH**  **SW** |
| 165.5  Public Participation/  Open Session | **Coronation Event.** The Council was informed that an informal bring your own tea on Sunday 7th May in the afternoon to the Village Green has been organised by the Community Hall Committee. Tea and coffee will be available from the Community Centre.  **Sink Holes** appearing in the Village Green. It was reported that holes have appeared in the Village Green. SW to inform Lowther Estates. | **SW** |
| 166.6  External Meetings | Cllr Hughes commented on the road closure in the village and if there are any problems to contact him.  Street Lighting – NH has asked Westmorland and Furness Council if they will be taking over the responsibility for the existing footway lighting. He will notify us of their response. | **NH** |
| 167.7  Bench on Village Green | The bench on the village green is damaged. MH will investigate to see if it can be repaired and report back to the Council. The Council have received a request to place a memorial bench on the Village Green. CW offered to research the options and notify the Council. | **MH**  **CW** |
| 168.8  Street Lighting | This item was discussed before item 4 at the discretion of the Chair, LH. A complaint was received regarding a street light that has been removed from their property by Eden District Council following a report of it not working. The resident requested the Council to replace the light. During the discussion it was stated that as the light was the responsibility of Eden District Council and the Parish Council had not taken responsibility for any street lights within the parish through devolution of services, the street light could not be replaced. | **SW** |
| 169.9  Grass Cutting | Following review of proposals and discussion, the Council resolved to award a three year contract to a local contractor. | **SW** |
| 170.10  Grass Strimmer | The Council reviewed the quotations for a strimmer and resolved not to proceed with the purchase. |  |
| 171.11  Notification of External Auditor | The Council acknowledged the notification of the External Auditor. No further action required. |  |
| 172.12  Parish Defibrillator | The Council considered the request to replace the expired battery in the village defibrillator. Resolved to purchase for £240.00. Clerk to purchase. | **SW** |
| 173.13  Planning Applications | **Applications:**  **7/2022/3160 Chapel View, Helton, Penrith, CA10 2QA**  Demolish and replacing the existing Sunroom. **Ratified no objection.**  **22/0984 Old Dutch Barn, Tirril, Penrith CA10 2LG**  Change of use of agricultural land to residential, the erection of a lean-to greenhouse, the formation of a pond and the siting of a ground-mounted solar array. **Ratified no objection.**  **7/2022/3164 Old Dutch Barn, Tirril, Penrith CA10 2LG**  Change of use of agricultural land to residential, the erection of a lean-to greenhouse, the formation of a pond and the siting of a ground-mounted solar array. **Ratified no objection.**  **Decisions:**    **T/2022/0158 Scar View, Askham, Penrith CA10 2PG**  Walnut Tree Crown reduction by up to 3m. **No objections**. | **SW** |
| 174.14  Website Administration | Following investigation, it appears JB has the only access to the website. JB will try to reset password and set up additional users. | **JB** |
| 175.15  Financial Report | Resolved: The Clerk circulated the budget and bank reconciliation. Closing balance on 30 December 2022 is £4,215.75.  The Council reviewed and accepted the transactions and budget 2022/23 updates. |  |
| 176.16  Payments of Account | Resolved. The Council approved for payment:  Clerk’s wages/expenses £562.96, HP Inks £6.66, CPSL £28.80. | **SW** |
| 177.17  Budget 2023/24 | The Clerk circulated the draft budget to the council prior to the meeting. Following discussion, the Council approved the draft budget for 2023/24. | **SW** |
| 178.18  Precept 2023/24 | Following discussion, the Council resolved to request a Precept of £9,500.00 for 2023.24. | **SW** |
| 179.19  Correspondence | LGR updates and CALC newsletters circulated. Ongoing.  Westmorland and Furness Council Tax Consultation. Councillors to respond to the Clerk. Clerk to respond to WFC.  Scaffolding at Swimming Pool notification acknowledged.  The Noticeboard in Helton needs minor repairs. MH volunteered to investigate. | **SW**  **MH** |
| 180.20  Items for agenda and dates of next meetings | Parish Council Meetings:  Tuesday, 28th March 2023 7.00pm  Kendal Calling, Bench on Village Green, King’s Coronation, Mower Service  Thursday, 11th May 2023 7.00pm  Tuesday, 25th July 2023 7.00pm  Tuesday, 26th September 2023 7.00pm  Tuesday, 28th November 2023 7.00pm  All meetings held at 7.00pm at Askham and District Community Centre. | **SW** |

**Meeting closed 21.00pm**