

Minutes of the Meeting of Crosthwaite and Lyth Parish Council held on 11 December 2012

Present: Mary Harkness(Chairman), Matthew Dobson, Bruce Worsley, Chris Smith, Jim Bownass, Paula Cross, Martin Casson.

In Attendance: Cllr Jim Bland (CCC), Cllr John Holmes (SLDC), Kim Kearney(Clerk), members of the Snooker club.

Action

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 NOVEMBER 2012

These were approved.

3 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

5 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed Martin Casson back.

She thanked Jim Bownass for cutting back the undergrowth as requested by a parishioner.

The Chairman reported on a recent meeting with Cumbria County Council regarding the 541 bus service. CCC is proposing to replace this service with a fully funded community bus, driven by parish volunteers. The feedback from users suggests that the service is valued as a social event and people would be prepared to pay the 25 pence per mile (as there would be no concessionary fares). However, Rural Wheels offers a pre-booked door-to-door service for 35 pence per mile and so there other options. This will be debated by the parish council at the February meeting after another meeting with CCC.

6 OPEN SESSION

Representatives from the Snooker club were present to hear the debate on the way forward for the parish room.

Cartmel Fell parish council has approached the clerk to ask Crosthwaite & Lyth for their support in the matter of the Garden Larch business on Cartmel Fell. Although not in this parish, some residents are affected by the activities undertaken. The owner of the land has requested an inquiry into the recent appeal hearing. The parish council agreed that a copy of the original letter to LDNP should be sent to the Planning Inspector in Bristol.

Clerk

7 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

8 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

SLDC will be running the electricity scheme again shortly. There will be another online auction at the end of February. More details will follow.

9 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

The parish council agreed that the clerk should make the changes to the model Standing Orders provided by NALC and these would be approved by the parish council at the February meeting. If any member has particular changes, they should be emailed to the clerk by the end of December.

Clerk

10 GRITTING

The AGM of SWVMA was held recently. The association is considering requests from other parishes to join the gritting scheme. John Holmes confirmed if this was approved that there would be no cross-subsidising of parishes and the actual gritting would not be compromised through taking on a larger area.

Martin Casson confirmed that he is the representative for this parish who will contact John Holmes if our roads require gritting. He is dependent on others advising him of local conditions .

11 HIGHWAYS

The issue had been raised by people in the parish about severe flooding on several roads in the parish, including Starnthwaite, Crosthwaite school, along the A590, and on the Ulverston road. The icy conditions had then made these roads very dangerous. Some of the problems are caused by blocked gullies which are dealt with by the county council, but other areas require actions to sort out field drains on land not owned by the county council. The parish council debated whether it had the funds to deal with the worst areas (assuming the landowner was in agreement). They decided against it as it is not their area of responsibility and they have a limited budget that is likely to be consumed elsewhere next year. Jim Bland undertook to sort out the problem at Crosthwaite school as this is the main route through the village.

12 LAP 20s PLENTY QUESTIONAIRE

Jim Bownass offered to complete this on behalf of the parish council.

Jim
Bownass

13 PARISH ROOM

Following a debate on the way forward for the use of the room by the Snooker club, the following was agreed by the parish council:

- The Snooker club should pay for the electricity from April 2013 as they are main users of the room. The clerk will forward the quarterly bills to the Snooker club for reimbursement.
- Electricity consumption may be reduced if the roof were insulated. The clerk to investigate availability of grants towards this.
- The parish council will be responsible for all maintenance of the room. John Holmes has agreed to inspect the room to advise on necessary repairs.
- The parish council will be responsible for all internal and external decoration
- The parish council will continue to insure the building and contents of the parish room.
- The Snooker club does not require that the ceiling heaters are replaced. Some fuses in the new consumer unit are tripping due to the initial surge when the heaters are switched on. The clerk will check with the contractor as to what may be done about this.
- It was proposed that the rent for the parish room from April 2013 should be £20 per week. The vote was 5 for, 1 against and 1 abstained, so this was agreed.

Clerk

John
Holmes

Clerk

The clerk will write to the Snooker club detailing the above for them to consult with their members. If they agree to these terms, a lease will be drawn up.

Clerk

14 PARISH PLAN UPDATES

14.1 Crime & Disorder

The November report from the PCSO was noted.

15 FINANCE

15.1 Income & Expenditure 2012/13

The following accounts were authorised for payment and the receipts noted:

Item	Expenditure £	Income £
Clerk's salary 6 mnths to Feb 2013	1000	
Employers NIC	51.89	
Membership SLCC	100	
NSIB Dividend 5/11		9.83
NSIB Dividend 5/10		9.51

15.2 Review of Clerk's Salary

The parish council agreed to award the clerk £200 pa as an allowance to cover use of a home office. The salary would be reduced to £1,850 per annum. These changes are effective from February 2013.

15.3 Bank Reconciliation

The parish council approved the latest bank reconciliations.

15.4 2013 Budget

The parish council reviewed the draft budget and agreed the following changes:

- Assuming that the Snooker club accept the proposals, the Parish Room Hire & Electricity figures will be adjusted to reflect this.
- The payment to CCC towards the 541 bus will be removed as the bus service is being withdrawn.
- The amount budgeted for Maintenance and Repairs will be increased to £5,000 to cover essential work on the parish room
- The amount for Clerks Salary will be amended to reflect the agreement in 15.2 above.

The clerk will document all the budget assumptions and present a revised budget at the February meeting when the precept will be agreed.

Clerk

16 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

The following correspondence was noted by the parish council:

- Public Budget Consultation from CCC
- SLDC Budget Consultation
- CCC Parishes Newsletter
- Marie Curie Cancer Care request for support

It was agreed that before replying to the letter from Cumbria In Bloom, the clerk would ask for volunteers. Paula Cross would ask Crosthwaite School if they would like to be involved.

Clerk
Paula
Cross

It was agreed in response to the email from CCC on grit bins, the clerk would let people know how to request that CCC refill the bins. It was also decided that the clerk should request more grit bins from CCC.

Clerk

17 PARISH COUNCIL SURGERY

Bruce Worsley attended the Surgery in December.

Paula

Paula Cross will attend the surgery on 9 January.

Cross

18 COMMUNICATIONS

The clerk was asked to communicate the following:

Clerk

- Decision on use of Parish Room by Snooker club from April 2013
- Gritting bins
- Call for volunteers for Cumbria In Bloom
- Actions on flooded roads
- Volunteer drivers for community bus

19 MEETINGS

The date of the next parish council meeting is 7 February 2013 in the Memorial Hall.

Clerk

Kim Kearney
17 December 2012