**Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council**

**Clerk to the Council: Jane Coltman**

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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**

**Held on 16th January 2024 at 6.30pm in The Gather, Ennerdale Bridge**

**Present:** Cllr J Thursz (Chair), Cllr S Guise (SG), Cllr R Maxwell (RM), Cllr R Outhwaite (RO), Cllr S Parker (SP), Cllr N Rowson (NR), Cllr P Rowson (PR), Cllr B Wright (BW). Cumberland Councillor L Jones-Bulman (LJB)

**Clerk:** J Coltman (JC)

**Members of the public:** 6

Meeting commenced at 6.31pm

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| **Minute Number** | **Item** | **Action** |
| 983/01/24 | **To Receive Apologies**  Rachael Oakley from Wild Ennerdale was unable to attend |  |
| 984/01/24 | **Declarations of Interest**  None |  |
| 985/01/24 | **To Approve Minutes**  **Resolved** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 07/11/23**.** Proposed Chair, seconded RM. Votes in favour Chair, SG, RM, RO, SP, BW. Votes against NR, PR. | JC |
| 986/01/24 | **Exclusion of Press and Public**  Agenda items 13, 15, 16, 23 & 24 contained personal information or may involve legal matters, so the Chair proposed the public be excluded for those items. **Resolved** to exclude press and public for items 13, 15, 16, 23 & 24. |  |
| 987/01/24 | The Chair changed the order of the agenda to hear items 19 and 20 first. Comments were invited from the public about these two agenda items.   * A member of the public commented about a matter not included in these agenda items. |  |
| 988/01/24 | **To agree the final budget for 2024-25**  **Resolved** To approve the draft budget with the following amendments   * Donations and Grant budget £1000 * Events – the budget be retained but not specified for a particular event. * Parish Plan. To confirm that this would involve consultation & engagement events. | JC |
| 989/01/24 | **To Agree the Precept Request for 2024-25**  **Resolved** to request a precept of £12,210, which is a decrease of £698 on last year, or 5.4% | JC |
| 990/01/24 | **Reports from Wild Ennerdale**  Apologies had been received. |  |
| 991/01/24 | **Report from Cumberland Councillor**  Apologies were received by email during the meeting. |  |
| 992/01/24 | **Clerk’s Updates**   * **Grant Requests** Had been covered during the budget. * **Fraud Prevention** was being organised by SP * **Emergency Plan** was being organised by SG * **D-Day Events** Had been covered during the budget. * **Coast to Coast Trail** Details of a potential diversion had been received and circulated. Councillors should send comments to the Clerk by 27th January to be passed on. * **Elterwater Quarry.** A member of the public had made the Council aware of a planning application. The Council was not a consultee, but councillors could respond individually with their personal views. * **Wild Ennerdale Meeting.** The species introduction officer had offered a number of dates for a meeting. Councillors to let the Clerk know which they preferred. * **Temporary Planning Consent Expiry.** The planning enforcement officer advised that a letter was being sent, giving 28 days’ notice. The Clerk understood that this had now been received by the resident. * **Blocked Culverts** had been reported and assigned to a highways team. * **Hedge Cutting** had been covered during the budget. * **Training** The second half of the training had been arranged. Anybody who had missed either part and wanted to catch up should let the Clerk know and they would book the session for them. SP asked if there were slides available. The Clerk would chase. * **Street Lights.** The Clerk had received a map of the lights and check with BW which ones needed updating. | ALL  ALL  ALL  JC  JC/BW |
| 993/01/24 | **Councillor Updates**  **Wild Ennerdale**  SG said that they had discussed the community led plan and benches being installed in the Jubilee Trail. 23751 people had been counted passing the sensor in the last 12 months.  **Emergency Plan** There were a number of people now involved in helping to put the plan together. They would look at getting a meeting room downstairs.  **Regen** No updates  **SID** BW would send details of the preferred model to the Clerk for an official quote and order. | SG  BW/JC |
| 994/01/24 | **Public Participation**   * **SID** A member of the public asked if it would be a “smiley” SID, BW confirmed that it would. * **Budget** A member of the public asked a question about the budget. The Chair stated that this had already been decided and they should put their question in writing to the Clerk. * **Minutes.** A member of the public stated that they did not agree with the minutes. * **Public Right of Way.** A member of the public asked where the proposed change was. RO said that it was a section of the Coast to Coast path. Details were available on the National Park website. |  |
| 995/01/24 | **Report of Decision taken under Delegated Authority**  **7/2023/4078** The report of the Clerk’s decision to offer no further comment to the planning inspectorate was received and noted.  **7/2023/4068** The report of the Clerk’s decision to respond that the Council’s position remained unchanged and there were no further comments to add was received and noted. |  |
| 996/01/24 | **Planning**  **Decisions noted:**  7/2023/4056 – Mast at Cat Crag - Refused  A member of the public had sent thanks to the Council for submitting an objection to this application. |  |
| 997/01/24 | **Hedgecutting**  The Clerk had issued 8 invitations to tender but no acceptable bid had been received. Therefore they had contacted the outreach team from Haverigg who may be able to do the work without charge. | JC |
| 998/01/24 | **Draft Biodiversity Policy**  The policy had been sourced as discussed at the last meeting. The policy included a requirement to carry out an audit/survey. Decision deferred and amendments to be suggested to the Clerk for discussion again at the next meeting. | ALL |
| 999/01/24 | **Payments for Approval**  **Resolved** To approve the payments.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | The Gather | Room Hire | £ 90.00 | 000694 | | CALC | Training | £ 120.00 | 000695 | | Cumberland Council | Election Costs | £ 1,197.23 | 000696 | | TEEC | Website Hosting | £ 194.39 | 000697 | | J Coltman | Wages | £ 733.50 | 000698 | | HMRC | PAYE | £ 183.40 | 000699 | | J Coltman | Expenses | £ 39.45 | 000700 | |  |
| 1000/01/24 | **Finance Report**  The Clerk presented the statement of the cash position which showed a book balance of £17,780.58. **Resolved** to accept the finance report. |  |
| 1001/01/24 | **Councillor Matters**   * **Flooding** RO said that there was an area of constant flooding, SG said that was also a run-off near Tom Butt Cottages. Cllrs were asked to provide the Clerk with accurate locations so that they could be reported. * **Fraud Prevention** SP and BW were organising the session in the Gather with Cumbria Police. | ALL/JC  SP/BW |
| 1002/01/24 | **Date of next meeting**  Confirmed as March 19th 2024 |  |
|  | Press and public left the room and the Council entered a closed session. |  |
| 1003/01/24 | **Complaints Committee**  **Resolved** To dissolve the complaints committee. Complaints will now be dealt with by the full Council. All councillors submit any evidence to the Clerk. The Clerk, to prepare any reports to present to the Council in consultation with the vice-chair, or an alternative member where appropriate. Clerk to adjust the complaints procedure to reflect this and to present at the next meeting. | JC |
| 1004/01/24 | **Agenda items 15 & 16 were heard together.**  **Unacceptable/Vexatious Behaviour Policy**  **Resolved** to adopt the policies. The Clerk to personalise the policies to the Council. Where behaviour or correspondence is considered potentially vexatious or unacceptable, this will first be decided jointly by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk, but their initial ruling will be put before the Council at the next meeting for a final decision. | JC |
| 1005/01/24 | **Staffing Committee**  The sub-committee had met and a grievance was being investigated.  The Clerk’s appraisal had been started but not completed. |  |
| 1006/01/24 | **Complaints**  Four complaints were discussed and the Complaints Committee submitted draft responses to the Council for approval. Minor amendments to some wording were agreed. **Resolved** all responses as amended were agreed unanimously. **Resolved.** Council committed to adopting a document retention and destruction policy. | SP/JC  JC |

Meeting closed at 8.43pm

Chairman’s signature…………………………………………………………..

Date…………………………………………………………………………….