

Minutes of a meeting of Crook and Winster Parish Council held by ZOOM on Tuesday 8th September 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present were Councillors Richard Metcalfe (Chairman), Alan Atkinson, John Leigh, Mike Poynter, Patrick Sefton and George Taylor, County Councillor Jim Bland, District Councillor Pat Bell, one member of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price.

**20/16 Public participation:** None.

**20/17 Requests for Dispensations:** None.

**20/18 Declarations of Interest:**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters on the agenda.

**20/19 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2020, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**20/20 Highway matters:**

The Chairman reported on his recent inspection of the roads in the parish. The B5284 had recently been re-surfaced although there were still a few rough places. The drain at Ellerbeck had finally been repaired. The following additional problems were noted and will be passed on to Councillor Bland:

- a. Potholes on the Knipe Tarn to Winster road, over the Stile, on Lindeth Lane to the golf course, on the road to Bulman Strands and on the road from the Brown Horse to Winster Church.
- b. The situation on Chapel Lane has improved but there is still water running down the road.
- c. Councillor Hodgson suggested that CCC might be able to supply a copy of the parish map to assist with highways problems, but as so many staff are working from home at present, this would be unlikely.

**20/21 Improvements to St Catherine's Churchyard:**

The planned work had been completed today and the thanks of the Council were record to Councillor Atkinson, for leading on this. A couple of items are to be paid for, which will be passed to the PCC. The Clerk agreed to write to Chris Ellwood, thanking him for the use of his equipment.

**20/22 Accessibility Regulations:**

The Clerk reported that the Council's website is compliant with the Accessibility Regulations, which come into force on 22nd September 2020, and the site has been improved considerably at a total cost of £180, and not the four figure sums that were being quoted earlier in the year.

## **20/23 Rural Strategy:**

Councillor Leigh said he receives regular updates on this matter as the Council has registered for these. There had been nothing of particular significance to this Council as yet but he will keep us informed of any future developments.

## **20/24 Finance:**

- a. The cash and budget statements were noted and all payments listed on the cash statements were retrospectively approved.
- b. The Annual Pay Award for the Clerk, as recommended by NALC/SLCC was agreed - a 2.75% increase backdated to 1st April 2020.
- c. The 'home working' allowance paid to the Clerk was agreed at £6 weekly (HMRC has increased the tax-free amount from £4 weekly to £6 weekly - the first increase for many years) backdated to 1st April 2020).
- d. It was resolved to share the cost of the ZOOM licence (valid until May 2021) with Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council (total ex-VAT cost was £78.40, Crook and Winster Parish Council's share is £4.70).
- e. It was resolved to contribute £100 towards the Two Valleys 'Christmas Sleigh'. Although the event will not be taking place this year, money is required for maintenance of the sleigh and preparations for next year.
- f. It was resolved to pay £141.30 (or such other sum as the Council calculates is due) to the Westmorland Village Maintenance Association. The Clerk will check with Councillor John Holmes.

## **20/25 Reports:**

Councillor Bland said the road from Crook and Staveley had also been re-surfaced. He agreed to follow up the highways reports from the Chairman but he said things were difficult at present with so many officers working from home.

Councillor Bell confirmed that things are only slowly beginning to return to anything approaching 'normal' and that there was much home working at SLDC still.

Councillor Hodgson said that the new SLDC 'My Account' was proving successful in resolving issues in the parishes and there has been good feedback. There is a three-day 'turnaround' and residents are encouraged to use it.

## **20/26 Planning:**

- a. *The following application was considered:*

7/2020/5494 Windermere Golf Club, Cleabarrow, Windermere. Temporary three-year change of use to car storage.

Refusal is recommended. The Council believes this is an inappropriate place to store vehicles. The Clerk will check the Council's response when this was last applied for (and refused) about three years ago.

- b. *The following decisions, notified to the Council by the Planning Authority, were noted:*

7/2020/5142 Wain Gap, Crook. Rebuilding of existing garden store within the existing footprint to create extension to the kitchen. Replacement of the existing garage. Granted.

7/2020/5427 Gilpin Mill, Crook. Siting of shepherd's hut for holiday accommodation. Not yet decided (this Council did not object)

7/2020/5437 The Old Post Office, Winster. Water pressure reduction measures and alterations. Not yet decided (this Council did not object).

7/2020/5388 The Barn at Bryan Houses Farm, Winster. Independent residential dwelling. Not yet decided. The Clerk agreed to ask why this was sent 'for information only' and not for comment.

7/2020/5355 Whinpot, Crook Lot, Crook. Mixed use of land for agriculture, siting of residential caravan and ancillary caravan. Not yet decided (this has since been granted). The Clerk agreed to ask LDNPA if the ten years back-Council Tax for two caravans has been/is to be paid.

7/2020/5170 Brown Horse Inn, Winster. Proposed play area. Granted.

7/2020/5172 Thorneyfield Crook. Approval of details reserved by condition 4 on listed building consent 7/2017/5527. Granted.

**20/27 Date of the next meeting:**

***Tuesday 10th November 2020 by ZOOM at 7.30pm.***

*The meeting closed at 8.20pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*