

# GOSFORTH . PARISH . COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Gosforth Parish Council held on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm in the Supper Room of Gosforth Public Hall.

Present: Cllrs C Walton (In the Chair); D Ancell; D Gray; D Hobson; A Jacob; P Turner

Apologies: Cllrs T Norman (Chair); G Hutson; G Parker; M McKinley; I Rae  
Also present: J Murray (Clerk)

## **119/16      Declarations of Interest**

None received.

## **120/16      Minutes**

**Resolved** – that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2016 be approved and signed as a correct record.

The clerk confirmed she had been in touch with Cumbria County Council with respect to the dropped kerb.

## **121/16      Planning Matters**

The Council considered the revised plans for the Wheatsheaf. This would see conversion into two dwellings and a café, and would see an extension to the rear removed to accommodate parking and turning.

At the request of the Chair, the Clerk had enquired and had confirmed that, were there to be any future plans to convert the café into a dwelling, that this would need to be the subject of planning permission.

The Parish Council felt that some previous concerns had been addressed under the new plans. However, they did feel that for environmental health grounds, and in respect of customer expectations for a new café, that provision should be made for a customer toilet.

**Resolved** –that the planning application be supported subject to the provision of a customer toilet.

## **122/16      Electricity Sub-station: Gosforth Playing Field**

The Parish Council had been asked to look at proposals for an electricity sub-station on Gosforth Playing Field. In considering the plans, given that the proposal would interrupt the path of the proposed cycle way, it was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair meet with Electricity North West to discuss the proposal.

Every opportunity should be taken to lever funding or in-kind contributions for the cycle path and the playing field.

**123/16**

### **Village Car Parking**

The issue of parking had been raised at the previous meeting. While appreciating that inconsiderate parking could cause concern for Bradbury House residents, it was also felt that any formal, targeted action would only cause the parking issues to be displaced elsewhere.

It was noted that there had been a recent occasion when a resident using a zimmer frame had been forced onto the road as vehicles had parked on the pavement. It was known that the nursery had written to parents to ask them to park considerately and it was suggested that a 'polite' notice could be left on offending vehicles by Bradbury House. Cllr Hobson volunteered to speak to Bradbury House to explain the approach.

It was agreed that no further action would be taken by the Parish Council at this time.

**124/16**

### **Public Participation**

The speed of traffic through the village was raised as an issue. There had been electronic monitoring recently, which had showed little in the way of excess speeding, and unless there was evidence of persistent and sustained speeding, there was little more to be done currently.

The issue of parking was also raised again, however, it was noted that parked cars did slow the traffic down. A lack of enforcement contributed to the concerns about parking.

The issue of the new street lighting was raised. There was a mixed response, with some feeling that it was very dark in localised patches. There was a damaged light opposite Ellerslie Terrace and Cllr Hobson agreed to report it.

Members of the public were thanked for their assistance in distributing Tethera.

**125/16**

### **Meetings**

Cllr Turner had attended the 3-tier meeting. He was felt that there was little of note to report.

The Vice Chair and the Chair of the Public Hall had met with the local community officer. Lots of good ideas had been discussed, which now needed to be worked up into a practical plan for funding bids.

The Council was reminded that the AGM for the Public Hall was the following evening.

**126/16**      **National Grid Consultation**

Cllr Tuner and Cllr Norman had attended the parish council consultation event. Studying the proposals, there was only a small corner of the Parish which would be affected, and the Council was supportive of the proposals.

The main concern of the Council would be the management of the build traffic approaching on the B5344 and any assistance that the national grid could provide in the amelioration of the road or in contributing to the cycleway would be most welcome.

It was agreed that the Clerk would draft a consultation response for consideration. The closing date was early January.

**127/16**      **Financial Reports**

The bank reconciliation was noted, signed and payments approved. An update of cost with respect to the legal fees of the gravel pit was provided, putting the Parish Council cost at approximately £400 and the tenant between £150-200.

**128/16**      **Correspondence**

The Council noted the response from Sellafeld Ltd to reservations about the change of procedures at Calder Gate and Cllr Ancell undertook to inform local businesses of the contact at Sellafeld for further support.

**129/16**      **Questions from Councillors**

It was asked whether the Parish Council should have a facebook page. The experience from elsewhere had shown some negative experiences and it was felt that existing channels could be used.

It was asked whether the flag could be raised on remembrance Sunday. The Council was informed that the rope was defective and it was agreed that a new rope could be purchased at a reasonable cost.

**130/16**      **In Camera**

The Clerk sought guidance from the Parish Council in respect of negotiations with a third party.

**The meeting closed at 2055h**