

GOSFORTH . PARISH . COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Gosforth Parish Council held on Wednesday, 14 September 2016 at 7.30pm in the Supper Room of Gosforth Public Hall.

Present: Cllr T Norman (Chair); Cllr C Walton; Cllr D Gray; Cllr A Jacob; Cllr M McKinley; Cllr I Rae; Cllr P Turner

Apologies: Cllr D Ancell; Cllr D Hobson; Cllr G Parker; Cllr G Hutson

98/16 Declarations of Interest

None received.

99/16 Minutes

Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2016 be approved and signed as a correct record.

100/16 Gravel Pit

The Clerk provided an update. There was no longer interest in using the area as a store owing to the legal situation in which the land was held. However, investigations had thrown up that the lease on the gravel pit had expired.

Agreement was reached that the lease should be extended with a 6-month notice period either side, at the same rent, but with an additional clause to permit sub-contracting with a proportionate increase in rent. Costs for the extension of the lease should be shared 50/50 with the tenant.

Further to earlier discussion, it was also advised by the Clerk that the gravel pit should not yet be added to the risk register until all legal issues were resolved and property rights secure.

Resolved – that the lease be extended subject to the above terms and conditions.

101/16 Planning

The response to the retrospective planning application for the Lion and Lamb had been sent following consultation with the Parish Council and no objections to the exterior works.

Approvals had been received from LDNPA in respect of 56 Meadowfield, Low Boonwood Farm; Peagill Cottage and 1 Boonwood Lane.

102/16 Library Update

A meeting had been held recently and the library seemed to working well and had not had to close a session. The volunteers were on the lookout to swell their numbers and a notice had been put up.

Lending was being tracked and rising steadily with 120 books in June, 172 in July and 232 in August. A sideline had developed with other second hand books. There was due to be a stock change in September.

Plans included a MacMillan Coffee morning and talks by local authors/reading group. They now had access to the central noticeboard to publicise their events. There had been a suggestion of flyers to be put out with Tethera.

The Chair thanked Cllr Walton for his work on the library project and wondered if there was help to be offered? Cllr Walton felt that his biggest concern was to maintain funding for the following year. Capital funding seemed very much easier to obtain than revenue funding.

The Clerk noted that she had been in contact with Gemini with respect to a phone line at a cost £99 for the connection, £11.50 for the line and 1 per minute for calls. However, it was proving very difficult to read the terms and conditions for the connection and she would only put in the order when this had been resolved.

103/16 Update on Car Park

The Legionella Risk Assessment had been received a few hours before the meeting. While checks were taking place, the recommendations included documenting the checks and record-keeping. It was also felt that there should be temperature checks if there is a hot spell.

The Clerk was requested to speak to the report author to verify the level of competency required and to draw up tables for record-keeping.

It was suggested that a meeting of the car park committee on site be organised in advance of budget discussions for next year.

104/16 Play Equipment

The inspection report had been circulated and findings were low or very low risk. The Clerk had requested costings to repair those items where it might extend the longevity of the play item. The cost was £348.60 + VAT and it was agreed that this work should be carried out from contingency and a rolling programme of repair added into the budget for following years.

Resolved – that the cost of repairs at £348.60 + VAT should be approved.

105/16 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

106/16 Meetings

Cllr Walton had attended the Mid-Copeland group, where discussion had included the National Grid, anticipated changes at the surgery, expectations of movement on the cycleway and progress on the Abbeyfield development at Bradbury House.

Cllr Walton had attended the Sellafield Liaison meeting on the day of the Panorama programme and as most of what the programme was going to say was known, there were no great concerns.

Cllr Norman had attended the joint Parishes meeting with respect to the National Grid as they felt that views were not being properly represented at every level of local Council. There were issues about power supply between Millom and Holmrook to be resolved together with Electricity NW. Consultation had been extended to the New Year, although it was thought that this had changed again.

Cllr Gray had attended a meeting of the western transport corridor which he felt had been disappointing as the revenue funding to do what they wanted had not been forthcoming.

The next 3-tier meeting would be held on 20th October 2016 at 6.30 pm in the Methodist Church Hall in Seascale. Cllr Norman would attend and Cllr Jacob thought that he would be attending.

The next CRUG meeting was to take place on 8th October 2016 at 1345h and Cllr Turner would try to attend.

107/16 Participation in Joint Parishes Committee on National Grid Proposal

It was felt that it was a good idea to be involved in the Committee and great strength to working together.

Resolved –that the terms of reference be approved and that Cllr Norman attend meetings as a representative of the Council.

108/16 Financial Reports

The Bank reconciliation was received and noted, and signed by the Chairman, and the forthcoming payments were approved.

The Clerk updated the Council on the intermediate audit. She had received notification that the accounts would be qualified this year as there was no evidence that the risk register had been considered in year (but less than two weeks later owing to the change-over of clerks).

The only repercussion was that the Council would not be able to apply for Quality Council status.

It was noted that a finance meeting was due to be convened shortly for early budget discussions.

109/16 Correspondence

The police report had been received and the Clerk had sought verification from the police that they maintained a log of accidents on the A595.

There was no interest from the Parish Council in buying the phone box at Wellington. It was noted for discussion by the car park committee that the Phone Box in Gosforth car park was dirty inside and out.

The Lake District Infrastructure Survey was discussed and the response agreed.

A housing needs consultation would be circulated shortly.

110/16 Questions/Issues from Councillors

Cllr Gray noted that he gets regular reports on progress with respect to the cycleway and that negotiations will always take time.

It was agreed that Cllr Walton would prepare the next article for Tethera.

It was asked whether enquiries could be made with respect to dropping down kerbs for disabled access.

The Clerk agreed to carry out the playground inspection on 24 September.

There were complaints about signage appearing on road signs and in particular, at the crossroads on the A595.

It was asked whether the Clerk could write to Sellafield/NDA with respect to the Calder Gate opening times.

Cllr Jacob agreed to report a lamp out of order on Gosforth Road near Ellerslie Terrace.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Actions:

Gravel Pit lease to be extended	Clerk
Record-keeping to be drawn up (Legionella Risk Assessment)	Clerk
Verification of terminology (Legionella risk Assessment)	Clerk
Car Park committee to meet	Clerk
Play equipment to be repaired	Clerk
Finance Committee to meet	Clerk
Write to NDA/Sellafield re Calder gate opening hours	Clerk
Contact CCC re drop down kerbs	Clerk
Report Light	Cllr Jacob
Tethera article	Cllr Walton