

BROMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Committee Room, Blencogo Village Hall on Thursday 28th September, 2023.

Councillors Present: I. Brough, R. Davison, S. Lunken, M. Underwood and C. Wilson.

Also Present: K. Thurlow, Cumberland Councillor, J. Rae (Clerk) and one member of the public.

Cllr M. Underwood in the Chair

664/23 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. P. Batch, G. Fellows and J. Lee. The reasons for absence were noted and accepted.

665/23 Chairman's announcements

None

666/23 Declarations of interest

None.

667/23 Requests for dispensations

None.

668/23 Minutes Meeting 27 July 2023

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2023 be signed as a correct record.

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public the opportunity to ask questions or raise any matters of interest.

669/23 Public Participation

One member of the public was in attendance and raised the issue of the increasing incidents of dog fouling in Blencogo. It was suggested that renewed or additional signage be erected to deter dog fouling. It was agreed to include this matter on the agenda for the next meeting. A notice would be included in the parish magazine reminding residents that it is an offence not to clean up after a dog. Cllr. Thurlow agreed to enquire whether any leaflets are available from Cumberland Council to carry out a door drop in the parish.

The member of the public left the meeting at 7.41pm

A resident in Blencogo had raised the issue of an overgrown hedge. This was discussed under Highways.

The meeting was re-convened.

670/23 Reports from Outside Bodies

Cumberland Council – Cllr Thurlow reported that the Fells and Solway Community Panel will be holding a workshop in Wigton Market Hall on Wednesday 11th October from 3 pm – 5 pm for representatives of Town and Parish Councils from the Aspatria, Dalston and Burgh, Solway Coast, Thursby and Wigton wards. At the workshop you will find out more about Community Panels, Community Networks and Investments, and have the opportunity to have your say on the panel's three draft priorities which will help decide what issues to prioritise in their neighbourhood investment plan. There will also be a chance to talk to panel members and officers.

Cllr Thurlow also reported that the main street in Aspatria will be closed for 5 weeks from the 9th October.

Village Hall Committee – The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee had sent a written report:

“2023 has so far been reasonably successful for the Hall. We have secured new users in the form of 1st Wigton Baden-Powell Scout group who use the hall on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the autumn and winter bringing in a reasonable boost to our annual income. We have also had the Art club re-start on Monday afternoons which not only brings in some more income but more importantly provides another community event to help support people in the parish. On top of that the Dundraw WI book club have expressed an interest in hiring the committee room on a regular basis and so that should help to provide another small boost to our regular income.

Ad Hoc income continues to remain as expected with birthday party hire and hire by church groups, young farmers, the NHS and some small businesses all providing very welcome injections of cash albeit at a very small level.

Fundraising events have been hit and miss with the annual Produce Show making a very successful return with over 200 entries from over 50 entrants but making very little profit. Harry's quiz back in February was well attended and raised over £300 and Ladies night in March was another success (although not as profitable as the first ladies night in 22) raising around £1000. The 80's pub night in April was poorly attended mainly due to a lack of advertisement and made no profit. The Coronation tea party was reasonably well attended but raised no money for the hall as it was a community event. The Summer carnival/fayre was disappointing with a much lower turnout than previous years and raised very little. The Next big fundraiser is our Bingo event in October and we are hoping that the current popularity for novelty bingo will help ensure that this is a big success and that we raise a good amount of money.

The Hall is looking much better thanks to a big effort by a handful of committee members on the 16th September which has seen a lot of work go into improving the outside appearance of the hall and start on the big job of repairing and repainting the exterior woodwork.

The Hall is in need of some work and repairs most notably the re-plastering of the front porch which has been quoted at £3500 + VAT and the replacement of the main lighting rig with LED lights at a cost of £4700 + VAT. Unfortunately, with the Lease up for renewal in January 2025 we are ineligible for grants. The Hall is currently approaching local businesses to ask for donations”.

A list of projects requiring funding were appended to the report and will be considered at the parish council's next meeting. In the meantime, it was agreed to grant the annual payment of £2100 for the previous financial year.

671/23 Financial Statement

The financial statement as at 31st August, 2023 had been circulated with the agenda and was noted by members. Balance at 31st August £8,372.63.

672/23 Payments and Receipts

Income Received

Rent of Parish Land, Crookdake £5.00

27.9.23 – Second instalment Parish Precept £3,000.00

The following accounts were authorised for payment:

Clerk's account Quarter 2 – 1.7.23 – 30.9.23	£ 389.90
HMRC PAYE Quarter 2	£ 97.60
Grant to Village Hall Committee	£2100.00

673/23 Planning Matters

(a) Applications Received:

FUL/2023/0187 – High Aketon, CA7 0BP
Proposed roof over existing yard/livestock gathering area No objections

(b) Decisions:

FUL/2023/0136 – High Croft, Blencogo, CA7 0BZ
Formation of new access for small tractor to enter allotment area GRANTED

674/23 Correspondence

The following correspondence received was noted:

Traffic Regulation Order Consultation – Various roads, Aspatria, Silloth, Wigton and surrounding areas.

CALC - Cumbria in Bloom Newsletter

CALC - County of Cumbria & D-Day 80 - 6th June 2024

Cumberland Council – Latest News

CALC - Draft Minutes of Allerdale DA AGM, 26/07/2023

CALC News May and June

CALC - Letter regarding Special General Meeting 22 July 2023

CALC - The National Lottery Community Fund- The UK Fund

ACT - Update July 2023

CALC - Notice of Allerdale District Association Annual General Meeting 26 July 2023

CCRG: Cumbria LRF Winter Workshop - Natural Hazards and Essential Services

CALC - Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2, (HUG2)

CALC - Cumberland Community Panels open for business

CALC - Annual General Meeting 30th September 10.00am

CALC - Notes of the CALC Special General Meeting held on 22nd July 2023

CALC - Training & Development Programme - September - December 2023

CALC - Steve Parkinson training - September - December 2023

CALC - Community Engagement & Community Plan Training

OPCC/CALC - Fire and Rescue Plan public survey

CALC - Government funding launching this Autumn, to boost local growth and energy security.

NALC Legal Update – August 2023

DLUHC Consultation on Local Plans

CALC - Place Shaping and Service Delivery- A Questionnaire for Town & Parish Councils

Cumberland Council - Planned Road Closure - C2046 Blencogo

675/23 Highway Matters

The following matters were raised and will be reported to Highways at Cumberland Council:

Overgrown hedge which is potentially a road safety hazard in Blencogo.

The lid on the grit bin at the bottom of Sandyhill, Langrigg is broken.

Drain at the crossroads at Langrigg Bank previously reported has not been attended to.

It was raised that there are no village signs at Langrigg

676/23 Items for Discussion:

- Community Garden, Bromfield - Cllr Brough reported that he and Cllr Lee together with five members of the community had cleared most of the area for the garden. Further work to trim the trees is still required. Cllr Brough reported that it had been confirmed the area does belong to the Church.
- Other projects - No progress to report regarding the suggestion to have an updated photo montage in the village hall. It was reported that the Village Hall Committee are considering a similar idea.
- Vacancies - It was agreed to continue to advertise the vacancies.
- Cast Iron Fingerposts - It was noted that there may be funding available from Cumberland Council for the restoration of the original cast iron fingerposts. One post in the Parish still needs restored.
- Bromfield Defib - Resolved to cover the cost of the replacement pads for the defibrillator at Bromfield.

677/23 Items for the Next Agenda

Dog Fouling
Village Hall Projects
Vacancies
Budget for 2024/25

678/23 Date and time of the Next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm in the Committee Room, Village Hall, Blencogo on Thursday 30th November, 2023.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.44 pm