

STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Monday 22nd May 2023

at 7.00pm in Stainton Institute

Present: Chair Julie Knowles; Vice Chair John Stott; Cllrs. Geoff Wilson and Ryan Whipp; the Clerk and four members of the public

40.23 APOLOGIES: Cllr. Hilary Waterhouse (reasons received and accepted) and Westmorland and Furness Cllrs. Jonathan Brook and Doug Rathbone

Cllr. Stott (Vice-Chair) chaired the meeting until the Chair was elected

41.23 ELECTION OF CHAIR: Cllr. Stott proposed and Cllr. Wilson seconded Cllr. Knowles to be the Chair for 2023/24. There were no other nominations and the proposal was carried unanimously. A Declaration of Acceptance of Office form for 2023/24 was signed by Cllr. Knowles and witnessed by the Clerk. Cllr. Knowles stated that she was only able to carry on as Chair with the continued support of her husband, the Clerk and the other councillors

42.23 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR: Cllr. Knowles proposed and Cllr. Whipp seconded Cllr. Stott to be the Vice-Chair for 2023/24. There were no other nominations and the proposal was carried unanimously. A Declaration of Acceptance of Office form for 2023/24 was signed by Cllr. Stott and witnessed by the Clerk

43.23 MINUTES: **Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2023 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

44.23 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION: None

45.23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

46.23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Cllr. Wilson said that parishioners had asked him to raise anti-social behaviour at the Canal Head and car horns being used loudly through the village. These matters had been raised with the Police and appeared to have abated. A parishioner reported that the tarmac on the Packhorse Bridge was breaking up due to its increased use with the ford being impassable

47.23 REPORTS:

a) Cumbria Police: There was no report but the Cllrs. noted receipt of the South Lakes Focus newsletter (emailed to Cllrs. 5/5/23)

b) Westmorland and Furness Councillors: There was no report but it was noted that the work on the ford was scheduled to be done in the summer months

48.23 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS:

a) New potholes were to be reported on HIAMS and it was noted that those on Shyreakes Lane had been reported again

b) The Chair reported that the Countryside Access contractor was to meet Cllr. Stott regarding the signposts which were missing or needed repair

c) The Clerk reported that he had no further news on the outstanding work on the beckside walls

d) The Chair stated that she had noticed stones placed on a highway verge in what to her was a new location and reiterated comments in previous meetings that, if they caused damage to a vehicle or personal injuries, the person(s) placing them there could be legally liable. She understood the reasoning behind the placing of the stones but had to draw attention to the legal position

e) A parishioner expressed thanks to the Chair and her husband for all the work they had done by the ford

49.23 TREES & WOODS: It was reported that the new trees were growing well

50.23 LITTER PICK: It was noted that there had been a good turnout on 1st April 2023. The Council expressed its thanks to Cllr. Wilson for organising the equipment and the collection of the rubbish bags

51.23 CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III: It was noted that the plans had been cancelled due to insufficient responses

52.23 PLANNING:

a) It was noted that the following planning applications had been **submitted** to SLDC and circulated to the members of the Council since the last meeting:

SL/2023/0368 Willowsway Country Estate, Willowsway Stud, Stainton

Retention of lodge used to provide staff and/or guest accommodation (retrospective)

SL/2023/0370 Disused Lancaster Canal from Sellet Hall Bridge to a point about 55m short of where its line would intersect with the A590 Embankment

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate (Proposed) to re-line and instal a retaining structure (eg sheet piles). The canal will then be re-watered and connected to the existing restored section towards Stainton. It will then be accessible by small leisure craft, running along the short length of canal from Millness

The Council made **no comments** on these applications but asked that the canal footpath remain open and were concerned as to the timespan of the works

b) It was noted that no planning applications had been **approved** by SLDC since the last meeting

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53.23 FINANCE:

- a) **The following receipts between meetings were noted:**
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| HMRC – VAT refund to 31 st March 2023 | £483.90 |
| Westmorland & Furness Council – Parish precept 2023-24 | £5,545.19 |
| Westmorland & Furness Council – Parish grant 2023-24 | £64.81 |
- b) **The following payments were approved:**
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| M R Richardson – Clerk’s April and May salary £600.80 less PAYE £120.00 | |
| plus expenses £53.35 (broadband/telephone/use of home as office/photocopies/ postage), | |
| computer service contract £39.67 and motor expenses £21.60 (48 miles @ 45p) | £595.42 |
| HMRC – PAYE re M R Richardson | £120.00 |
| CALC – Annual subscription | £159.04 |
| Zurich Municipal – Annual insurance to 31 st May 2024 | £305.66 |
- c) The Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2023 was received and approved
- d) The annual internal audit report for the year ended 31st March 2023 was received and noted. It was agreed to pay the fee of £75.00
- e) The Certificate of Exemption from a limited assurance review for 2022/23 was completed and signed
- f) The Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 (Section 1 of the Annual Return) was approved and signed
- g) The Accounting Statements 2022/23 (Section 2 of the Annual Return) were approved and signed
- h) The dates of the period for the exercise of public rights were confirmed as 12th June to 21st July 2023
- i) The sums insured under the insurance policy were reviewed and confirmed
- j) The Risk Management schedule 2023/24 was reviewed, approved and signed
- k) The Clerk reported that the reconciled bank balance at 30th April 2023 was £12,463.82. The Chair was authorised to counter-sign the bank statement

54.23 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: The existing Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Complaints Procedure, Press / Media Policy, Code of Conduct and the procedure for handling requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 were noted and confirmed

55.23 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE: A representative was appointed as follows for the following outside body:
District Association – Cllr. Whipp

56.23 CONSULTATION & FUNDING REQUESTS: None

57.23 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

a) **Towpath / Canal update:** Cllr. Wilson reported that the Canal & River Trust have told him that the footpath that runs under the aqueduct will be done by the end of July

58.23 CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence received and not included as an item on this agenda was noted:

- i. Further climate change information and updates
- ii. South Lakes Area Support – Mobile emergency alerts (emailed to Cllrs.29/3/23)
- iii. CALC – DLUHC consultation on infrastructure levy (emailed to Cllrs.30/3/23)
- iv. CALC – Green Space 2 Grow support pack (updated 21/4/23) (emailed to Cllrs.21/4/23)
- v. CALC – Agenda & attachments for Special General Meeting to approve draft Memorandum of Articles of Association for a private limited company limited by guarantee (emailed to Cllrs.27/4/23)
- vi. CALC – Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner’s support services survey (emailed to Cllrs.5/5/23)

59.23 COUNCILLORS’ ISSUES TO BE RAISED AT NEXT MEETING (No discussions must take place on these matters but will be placed on the next Agenda): None

60.23 TO NOTE ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (No discussions or action permitted): None

61.23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 24th July 2023 in Stainton Institute at 7.00 pm

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

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