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**MILLOM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT THWAITES
VILLAGE HALL, THE GREEN ON 2 SEPTEMBER 2024
COMMENCING AT 06.30PM**

PRESENT: Cllr C Carrington (Chair), Cllr I Lockwood, Cllr D Savage, Cllr M Kitchingman, Cllr M Bates, Cllr B Wright and Cllr Calsy
Lesley Cooper Clerk

3 representatives of Electricity Northwest

- 57/24** Representatives of ENW gave an overview of the electricity supply to Millom without Parish. Supply to the area comes via 2 circuits Kirby Moor via land and Askam via underwater cable in the Duddon. The majority of failures originate outside the boundaries of the Parish and can be attributed /wildlife, Companies, Third Parties and Weather and the Environment. The largest being trees either coming into contact or falling on lines. An explanation was given of the systems in place to reduce the amount of time the electrical supply was off to customers. ENW are currently undertaking a programme of tree cutting/pruning to reduce these instances but need the co-operation and permission of landowners to undertake these works. Other strategies are inspection all wooden poles and a programme of replacement. Longer term strategy is to replace some overhead cabling with new more efficient cables. Maintaining and checking pylons and replacing parts of their structure where required.

It was agreed that a short information piece would be provided by ENW to be circulated in Out and About.

Cllr Carrington thanked them for taking the time to attend and providing useful information,

58/24 Apologies for absence

Cllr V Pogrel (Holiday) Cllr A Nugent (Personal) - accepted

59/24 Exclusion of Press and Public

None

60/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

61/24 MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 June 2024

The following change was made to minute no 33/24 with the addition of this statement.

"The Council moved to thank Cllr Murray for her service to the residents of this parish. A dedication that has always reflected her personal commitment to local residents and in making a difference to people's lives. In her role as a councillor Cllr Murray has always been there to both support the community and particularly through Covid 19 by making a huge contribution in helping residents despite personal risk to herself. The Parish Council recognizes this service and offers their best wishes and those of the residents of MWPC.

The minutes were signed by the Chair when this change was approved.

Proposed by Cllr Calsy, Seconded by Cllr Wright

62/24 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1 July 2024

The minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chair
Proposer Cllr Calsy, Seconded by Cllr Lockwood

63/24 Minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting held on 15 July 2024

The minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chair
Proposer Cllr Calsy, Seconded Cllr Lockwood

64/24 Police Liaison Report

Circulated

65/24 Progress Report

CC

65/24.1 Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that a telephone call had been received from an Ulverston Company wishing to donate a defibrillator to the community. Suggestions of possible locations were Thwaites school and the station. Cllr Calsy to contact Network Rail, Cllr Savage to contact the school.

66/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

67/24 Unitary Councillor Report

No report

68/24 APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT:

68/24.1 To examine applications for development and submit observations to the Planning Authority

None

68/24.2 To ratify the observations submitted by the Clerk under devolved powers since last meeting.

7/2024/4050 Broadgate, Thwaites

Refurbishment to existing Georgian dwelling, new extension to the back of the property, repairs to the outbuildings, new septic tank, new borehole water supply, and solar array

Supported

7/2024/4051 at Broadgate, Thwaites

Full planning and Listed Building Consent for refurbishment to existing Georgian dwelling, new extension to the back of the property, repairs to the outbuildings, new septic tank, new borehole water supply, and solar array

Supported

68/24.3 To note the decisions of the statutory planning authority with regards to recent applications

None

69/24 FINANCIAL RECORDS

69/24.1 The following payments were approved:

L Cooper	Clerks salary and expenses	£611.74
HMRC	PAYE	£131.80
Moore	External Audit Fee	£252.00

The following invoices were paid under Paid Financial Standing Orders

Thwaites VH	Room hire cycle event	£ 84.00
Crosby Shack cakes	cycle event	£100.00

Payments approved Proposed Cllr Calsy, Seconded Cllr Bates

69/24.2 To note the receipt of payments.

HMRC	VAT return	£5496.61
Garage licence		£ 75.00
Garage Licence		£ 75.00
ENW	donation	£ 30.00

Resolved Proposed by Cllr Savage, Seconded by Cllr Calsy that this donation be forwarded onto Millom Foodbank

69/24.3 To receive and note the bank reconciliation statement dated 31 July 2024

Checked and signed by Cllr Kitchingman

69/24.4 To consider the Budget Comparison Report as at 31 August 2024 and determine action need to address deviations from the budget.

None required. The Clerk reminded councillors that a draft budget will be presented to the October meeting for discussion and will send a copy of the current budget to date as a guide.

69/24.5 To receive and approve the External Auditors report for the financial year 2023/24

Accepted

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69/24.6 To appoint a bank signatory

Resolved that Cllr Calsy would be a bank signatory Proposed Cllr Savage, Seconded Cllr Lockwood

69/24.7 To approve the Clerk to be a bank signatory – for emergency use only

Resolved Proposed by Cllr Calsy, Seconded by Cllr Savage that the Clerk would only sign cheques in the following circumstances:

Where no other bank signatory was readily available to counter sign a cheque for an urgent payment.

The Clerk would only ever be the secondary signature.

The circumstances requiring this action would be reported to the Chair at the time and the following next full council meeting.

70/24 PARISH MATTERS

70/24.1 Community Plan

a) Audit of Assets

Cllr Kitchingman reported that the Asset register was now up to date. The location of the Community board at The Hill still to be decided. 6 benches had been identified for replacement. Clerk to seek cost from a contractor for installing benches.

b) Review of Community Plan – date for consultation with The Hill residents

Suggested date Saturday 2 November 2024 prior to their Open House event. Cllr Carrington to liaise with The Hill Village Hall Secretary

c) Empty Houses

1 empty house at The Green sold and under refurbishment. Clerk to contact Cllr Pratt to determine who the Empty Houses Officer is for Cumberland.

70/24.2 Parish Projects

i) Active Transport

Cllr Calsy reported that a meeting had been held with the ex-MP and the new MP, LNP/Cumberland Council. Community group to be formed to take this forward.

ii) Pinnel Hole

3no A3 signs to be purchased to be fitted to fencing. Cllr Carrington to provide wording. Clerk to contact a contractor for estimated costs to repair the car park, alternative options and costs.

iii) Council Laptop

Clerk presented a number of options.

RESOLVED to purchase a Lenovo idea pad slim 3 Proposed Cllr Calsy, Seconded Cllr Kitchingman

Clerk to further research cost of suitable software

70/24.3 Policies, Procedures and Consultations

a) Email addresses and future of website –Cllr Carrington agreed to review quotations of complete packages and report to October meeting.

Cllr Savage will only put approved signed minutes on website. Draft minutes to continue to be placed on notice boards.

b) New Financial Regulations

Deferred to October meeting

70/24.4 Sub Group Reports

a) Environment Group

Cllr Calsy reported that Himalayan Balsam plants had been pulled up at various locations around the parish. Litter picking day 20 September 2024.

Cllr Savage reported that the Prison has volunteered to help.

Thwaites School are waiting for their weather station to be installed.

71/24 To reports from representatives on outside bodies

a) South Copeland Community Partnership – GDF

Cllr Carrington reported that CALC had nominated a person for the group and this had been rejected (conflict of interest). A joint draft letter from MWO and

Whicham PC to CALC and also to NWS was presented expressing concerns at the lack of consultation of this process.

Cllr Carrington to contact Mayor of Millom TC.

72/24 Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received that has not been previously circulated:

- None

73/24 COUNCILLOR MATTERS

- Cllr Bates reported that new boards had been produced for the Rock Park, there were concerns re colour contrasts for those with visibility disabilities.
- Cllr Bates confirmed the date of the meeting with Lowther Estates was 17 September at 12.30pm Cllrs Savage, Nugent and Lockwood to also attend.
- Cllr Kitchingman gave his apologies for the October Meeting
- Cllr Savage gave his apologies for the October meeting

74/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 7 October 2024 Thwaites Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 2136hrs

Signed 

Date 7/10/24