Caton with Littledale Parish Council

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on

Tuesday 14th February 2023 at 7pm at the Victoria Institute, Caton.

**Present**: Cllr Heywood (chair), Cllr Powell, Cllr Walmsley (vice-chair) Cllr Elvis, Cllr Gibbons, Cllr Carter, Cllr Kynch, Cllr Boland and Cllr Wright.

Gill Mason – clerk.

Ten members of the public.

*Cllr Kynch attended the meeting 7.06pm*

**Open Forum**

The representatives of the bowling club updated the parish council on the notice of termination they have received from Trust Inns. The notice was received by an email attachment on the 21st January but not on headed paper. The club have to vacate the premises and hand back the key by the 28th February. An online petition has collected 600 signatories against the termination notice. The club were advised to contact the bowling association for legal advice and support.

**12/23 To receive apologies for absence.**

None.

**13/23 To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th January 2023.**

It was resolved that the minutes be approved and signed by the chair.

Proposed by Cllr Elvis.

Seconded by Cllr Wright.

**14/23 To receive declarations of interests and dispensations.**

Cllr Gibbons declared an interest in any item regarding the Victoria Institute as a trustee.

Cllr Walmsley declared an interest in any item regarding Caton St Paul’s School.

Cllr Wright declared an interest in any item regarding Caton Primary School.

Cllr Kynch declared an interest in any item regarding the Fell View Playpark as a member of the CLPPAG.

**15/23 To consider planning application and matters.**

22/01587/FUL Proposal : Demolition of existing steel / block agricultural buildings and conversion of

existing barn into one dwelling with associated access.

Site Address : Escowbeck Farm, Quernmore Road, Caton, Lancaster, Lancashire.

The parish council would like environmental energy resources, such as solar panels, to be considered and implemented in the barn conversion.

**16/23 Accounts and finance.**

**Payments**

**Standing orders**

Victoria Institute, administration grant (S/O) £800.00

Bridgette Theunissen-Hughes zipwire lockup (S/O) £50.00

**Cheques**

Gill Mason, clerk’s wages and expenses £737.72

Victoria Institute room hire £20.50

Victoria Institute room hire £29.25

NPower electric invoice - Hornby Road £5.67

Made in Wray - signage maintenance £400.00

Lancaster City Council grass cutting 2022 £1427.58

**Receipts**

Lancashire County Council grant payment £30,000.00

It was resolved that the payments be made.

Proposed by Cllr Elvis.

Seconded by Cllr Gibbons.

**17/23 To consider any highways and/or footpath matters.**

The LED bulbs in the illuminated bollards on the Millennium Path need replacing.

The footpaths and styles in the village will be reviewed to see if any clearing of hedges, repairs and/or maintenance is needed. The clerk will ask PROW what alternatives there are if the styles need replacing and the site isn’t appropriate for a kissing gate.

**18/23 To consider any parish management & maintenance matters and receive the village contractor update.**

The clerk will contact Pennine Playgrounds to quote on the repairs for the playground inline with the Lancaster City Council inspection report.

**19/23 To consider the maintenance of the Oak Tree and Fish Stones.**

It was resolved that the dead tree be removed for safety purposes and transported to Caton Primary School, after permission is granted, up to a budget of £600.00. The tree will then be inspected to see which pieces can be preserved.

Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.

Seconded by Cllr Heywood.

**20/23 To consider the update on the Caton Greenway and the co-option of Georgina Peacock onto the Caton Greenway Working Group.**

The current estimate for the project is £48,000. Funding of £30,000 has been received from LEF with indications that a further £10,000 may be available. The parish council has budgeted £1,000 and Lancashire County Council have granted funding of £15,000 for the project and lodged a further £15,000 for use on Greenway works and activities (beyond routine maintenance responsibilities)which will help the initial project cash flow. Cllr Powell will ask Tim Blythe (Lancashire County Council Countryside Service Manager) for an agreement for the additional lodged £15,000 and whether the funds are to be repaid or the surplus retained by the parish council after completion.

It was resolved that the parish council co-opt Georgina Peacock on to the Greenway Project Working Group.

Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.

Seconded by Cllr Wright.

(8 in favour:1 abstention)

*Cllr Kynch left the meeting at 8.47pm*

**21/23 To consider the bowling green closure and Facebook engagement.**

The parish council have advised the bowling club to seek legal advice and will let the representatives know if any planning applications are received.

The parish council will link the agenda and minutes from the website on to the Caton Village Facebook page. The parish council will not create an individual Facebook page at this time.

**22/23 To consider the details and organisation of marking the Coronation of King Charles III in Caton-with-Littledale.**

The Victoria Institute will allow the celebrations to be held with no charge, but the room rate for the organisational meetings will be invoiced. The event, which will include a Jacob’s Join, will also be a celebration of the volunteers and carers in the village.

**23/23 To consider the details of the parish council presence at Caton Gala on the 20th of May 2023.**

It was resolved that the parish council attend the gala on the 20th May 2023.

Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.

Seconded by Cllr Boland.

**24/23 To consider the neighbourhood plan briefing document for residents.**

Cllr Walmsley informed the parish council that the referendum could take place at the same time as the elections in May. It was resolved that the neighbourhood plan briefing document for residents be published in the Link in April.

Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.

Seconded by Cllr Powell.

**25/23 To consider the authorisation of Cllr Walmsley attending the emergency planning training on the 29th March.**

It was resolved that Cllr Walmsley attend the zoom training at a cost of £40.00.

Proposed by Cllr Wright.

Seconded by Cllr Heywood.

**26/23 To consider the transfer of funds for Cooperative bank to Unity bank.**

The clerk will prepare the amounts to be transferred for the next meeting.

The clerk was asked to update the financial regulations and circulate the draft to all councillors.

**27/23 Reports and correspondence (information only).**

North West Stages Rally email – noted.

The editor of The Link standing down – noted.

**28/23 Date and time of the next parish council meeting.**

Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.04pm.

**Signed …………………………………………… Date………………......**