

GOSFORTH . PARISH . COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Gosforth Parish Council held on 8th March 2017
at 7.30pm in the Supper Room of Gosforth Public Hall

Present: Cllr T Norman (Chair); Cllr C Walton; Cllr A Jacob; Cllr M McKinley; Cllr P Turner; Cllr G Hutson

Apologies: Cllr D Ancell; Cllr D Gray; Cllr I Rae; Cllr D Hobson; Cllr G Parker

26/17 **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

27/17 **Minutes**

Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.

It was noted by the Clerk that the request made for two additional dog bins had been refused, there having been a visit to Gosforth and the verdict of the neighbourhood team had been that the village was comparatively very clean. Were the Parish Council to consider such a move, there would be a capital cost of approximately £400 for a litter bin (also for dogs) and a dog bin, and the cost of emptying was over £2.00 per empty (the litter bins requiring less emptying than a dog bin).

The Parish Council felt that it would be best to keep the situation under review, but requested further investigation into more signs on that route (action since to note: Copeland Borough Council has installed new signs on the way out of the village and will re-paint the blue signs).

Cllr Walton reported that the request to the Police and Crime Commissioners Fund for money for the Public Hall doors was not looking hopeful. It was suggested that an approach be made to the Lake District National Park Authority.

27/17 **Planning Matters**

40 Denton Park – a single storey rear extension was supported by the Parish Council.

Parknook – there was no objection by the Parish Council

It was noted that the refusal of planning permission for the Westlakes Hotel was being appealed. The Council felt that they had no change to make to their original comments.

The following decisions were noted:

Bankfield – single storey rear extension and window – approved.
Wheatsheaf – 2 dwellings and café – approved.
1 Ellerslie Terrace – conversion of workshop to dwelling – refused.
Adjacent Hill Crest – outline planning for 3 dwellings – refused.

28/17 **Public Participation**

None received.

29/17 **Meetings**

It was noted that Cllr Ancell had attended a meeting at the school regarding the 40% of children locally who received their first choice of secondary school (in comparison with 93% in Cumbria).

The Parish Council fully supported any action taken by parents and requested that the Clerk send a letter of support to the parents, at the appropriate moment, follow up with a meeting with the CCC leader, the Mayor and the MP with respect to this, and other instances, where the rural communities to the south of Sellafield were being treated less equitably. This would probably be after the election.

30/17 **Financial Matters**

The bank reconciliation to 28 February 2017 was received and payments approved.

With respect to grass cutting, it was noted that there had been a £50 rise in cost, but that this was £2,388 and the Parish Council approved the service for a further year.

The Clerk brought to the Council's attention that, although she had her own occupational pension scheme and that the amount paid to the clerk meant that the Council did not need to offer a pension, nevertheless, the Council still needed to register and this was an unforeseen expense, which was noted.

31/17 **Telephone Box**

The Council being informed that there would be a defibrillator installed at the village shop, the Council could not see any other use for the telephone box by the Parish Council.

The cost of refurbishment (according to BT) would be in the region of £700-800 and for any other use, the Box would need to be earthed. It was felt that there may be a business opportunity for someone locally and asked that word be spread.

32/17 **Correspondence**

The police were seeking to set up a group focusing on the A595 and the Parish Council was fully supportive and requested that the Clerk continue to be the main point of contact.

The police reports were received and noted. It was noted that the Playing Field committee would be in touch with parents in respect of vandalism to the sports' pavilion.

The LDNPA vacancy was noted.

33/17 **Councillors' questions**

It was asked whether anyone had knowledge of Morgan Sindall preventing vans from 'lunching' in Gosforth and Seascale. The Chairman undertook to contact Morgan Sindall and ask what the position was.

34/17 **Items in Camera**

None received.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.