

GOSFORTH . PARISH . COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Gosforth Parish Council held at 8.00 pm on Wednesday, 10th May 2017 in the Supper Room of the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs T Norman (Chair); Cllr C Walton (Vice Chair); Cllr D Gray; Cllr G Hutson; Cllr A Jacob; Cllr I Rae; Cllr P Turner, Cllr D Hobson;

Apologies: Cllr M McKinley; Cllr D Ancell

Also Present: J Murray (Clerk), R McCully

43/17 Election of Chairman

Resolved – that Cllr Tyson Norman be elected as Chair.
(Cllr G Hutson proposed; Cllr D Hobson seconded).

44/17 Chairman's Acceptance of Office

Cllr T Norman signed the acceptance of office.

45/17 Election of Vice Chairman

Resolved – that Cllr C Walton be elected as Vice Chair.
(Cllr D Hobson proposed, Cllr G Hutson seconded).

46/17 Resignation

The Chairman noted the resignation received from Cllr G Parker. The Clerk confirmed that Copeland Borough Council had been informed and that the potential for an election would be advertised.

47/17 Appointment of Parish Council Committees

Resolved – that appointments to committees as appended to these minutes be approved.

48/17 Declarations of Interest

None received

49/17 **Minutes**

Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.

50/17 **Library Link**

Resolved - that a protocol be established for communication with the Library Link in order to ensure that the Parish Council was made regularly aware of any issues for which they might have responsibilities.

Cllr Walton made the Council aware that he had scheduled a meeting of with the Library Link the following weekend. .

51/17 **Gosforth Playing Field Association/ENWL**

Councillors received an update on the progress of a wayleave agreement.

52/17 **Financial Matters**

The Council considered the monthly bank reconciliation and schedule of payments.

The draft minutes of the Finance Committee of 5th April 2017 were received and noted for information, at which the Corporate Governance Statement and the annual financial statements had been considered at length.

The Council received the annual corporate governance statement for 2016-17.

The Council received the financial statements for 2016-17, which had received a clean audit, and the bank reconciliation for 2016-17.

Resolved –

- a)** That the monthly bank reconciliation and schedule of payments be approved;
- b)** That the Corporate Governance Statement for 2016-17 be approved and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk;
- c)** That the bank reconciliation for 2016-17 and the audited financial statements for 2016-17 be approved and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk

It was noted that the financial statements 2016-17 would be open to public consultation from 5th June 2017-14th July 2017.

53/17 **Meetings**

Councillors were briefed on the new A595 group, convened by the police to consider safety issues arising.

54/17 **Planning Matters**

The change of use of facilities at Sellafield was discussed, and in particular the length of planning approval sought. A proposed meeting with Sellafield had been postponed under purdah rules owing to the general election. A meeting would be arranged thereafter. .

Attention was drawn to a request for consideration of development land by the Lake District National Park Authority. It was noted that in respect of the Parish Plan, infill development was preferred. There was some discussion about the sustainability of services in the village if the village did not grow. It was agreed to return to this issue at the next meeting.

The Council had no objection to an extension to 13 Ellerslie Park.

Approval had been given to the planning application for a holiday let at Parknook.

55/17 **Public Participation**

The Church Warden contributed to the discussion below.

56/17 **Correspondence**

The clerk drew attention to the further information received in respect of a grant towards the repair and renewal of the paths in the churchyard.

Benchmarking of costs for grass cutting had showed that the current arrangement was competitive. In discussion, the Church Warden had been unaware that the Council contributed a grant to the maintenance of the church yard. He was also unaware of whether Seascale Parish Council contributed.

It was agreed that he would provide further research and, as the precept had been set for this year, would return with proposals for an increase in the annual grant.

57/17 **Questions**

It was asked for an update in respect of the parking of Morgan Sindall vehicles and confirmed that they have been asked not to park inappropriately.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

2017-18 appointments:

Appointment of Committees

Finance Committee	Cllrs; Jacob; Ancell; Walton; Norman; Turner (vacancy)
Village Care, Car Park & Toilets	Cllrs Gray; Norman; Ancell; Hobson

Appointment to External Groups

Mid-Copeland Group	Cllrs Gray; Walton
Nuclear Matters	Cllrs Hutson; McKinley; Walton; Norman
Sellafield Sites Liaison	Cllrs Walton; Norman
Sellafield SSG	Cllr Hutson
Cycleway Group	Cllrs Gray; Rae
3-Tier Meetings	Cllr Norman; Turner

Appointment to Roles

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Highways (liaison)	Cllrs Gray; Hutson; Jacob; Rae; Norman
F'paths	Cllrs Hobson; Ancell; Walton
Parish Communications (Tethera; W/On; Web)	Cllrs Gray; Norman; The Clerk

Appointments as Trustees

Gosforth Public Hall	Cllrs Hutson; Jacob
Gosforth Playing Field	Cllrs Norman; :Cllr Hobsonr