

# Gosforth Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7p.m. in Gosforth Library

**PRESENT**

**Paul Turner (PT) – Chairman**

**Councillors**

**Mark Fussell (MF)**

**David Gray (DG)**

**Rachel Rowe (RR)**

**Tyson Norman (TN)**

**Graham Hutson (GH)**

**Others present: Jacqueline Williams (Clerk) and Dawn Pennington**

193/19	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b> that apologies from Councillor Ancell be received and the reasons noted.</p>	
194/19	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b> that a Declaration of interest be received from Cllr. Norman regarding a payment of £7.32 and that a Declaration of Interest be received from Cllr. Gray regarding the Flagpole.</p>	
195/19	<p><b>Councillor Administration</b>  The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that Agenda item 12 (Councillor Administration) be moved up in order to vote on a co-option.  <b>RESOLVED</b> that Dawn Pennington be co-opted onto the Parish Councillor: Proposed by Cllr. Hutson, Seconded by Cllr. Gray and unanimously agreed.</p>	
196/19	<p><b>Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019, pages 56 to 59, be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
197/19	<p><b>Progress Reports:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Playground &amp; Playing Field</b>  Cllr. Turner reported that he had difficulties registering the work required on the Cumbria Exchange website. A short discussion took place about finding local contractors to carry out the work.  The Clerk reported no progress on the filling of the hole behind the Pavilion. Cllr. Turner suggested contacting ENW.</li> <li>➤ <b>Flagpole</b>  The Flagpole has been installed and Cllr. Gray presented a cheque for £784 although the Clerk had calculated a sum of £614. Cllr. Gray requested that the difference be used to install a planter to protect the flagpole from damage by cars. A short discussion took place regarding insurance. Cllrs. expressed their appreciation for the donation from Cllr. Gray.  <b>RESOLVED</b> that a planter be installed in front of the Flagpole and that the Clerk ensure that the Flagpole is insured and added to the Asset Register.</li> </ul>	<p><b>PT</b>  <b>Clerk</b>         <b>Clerk</b></p>

	<p>➤ <b>Telephone Box</b> No progress was reported.</p> <p>➤ <b>Street Lighting</b> A discussion took place regarding Street Lighting in general and CBC's policy on none-replacement of redundant lighting. CBC had stated that it would cost £4,000 to replace the light at Ellerslie Terrace which was the subject of a recent complaint. Some lights were the responsibility of CBC and others CCC Highways. Cllrs. agreed that the light in question could be classed as a Highway light as it was at the end of a footpath and at a road junction. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Clerk contact CCC Highways (PT to send email contact).</p> <p>➤ <b>Notice Boards</b> Cllr. Gray reported that the new noticed board has been installed. The Clerk pointed out that the new board does not have any fibreboard. <b>RESOLVED</b> that a letter of thanks be sent to Josh Smales and that Cllr. Gray meet with the Clerk to discuss installing fibreboard.</p> <p>➤ <b>Toilet Door</b> The Clerk reported that the order has been placed and that the metal sheeting from the old door will be used at no further cost and confirmed that the roller-shutter door will be removed.</p>	Clerk/ PT																
198/19	<b>Public Participation</b> – No members of the public were present.																	
199/19	<b>County Councillor and District Councillors' Reports</b> Cllr. Turner had nothing to report and Cllr. Pratt was engaged elsewhere.	Clerk/ DG																
200/19	<p><b>Planning Applications</b> <b>Applications</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Planning Authority be advised of the Council's observations on the applications listed below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="309 1227 1353 1375"> <thead> <tr> <th>Application No.</th> <th>Location</th> <th>Proposal</th> <th>Comment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>4/2019/4116</td> <td>Thistleton Farm, Wasdale</td> <td>Porch &amp; LPG Store</td> <td>No objections</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Decisions</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that the decision of the Planning Authority for the applications listed below be noted.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="309 1518 1353 1668"> <thead> <tr> <th>Application No.</th> <th>Location</th> <th>Proposal</th> <th>Decision</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>4/2019/4102</td> <td>Former Science Block, Harecroft Hall</td> <td>Local occupancy dwelling</td> <td>Granted</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Application No.	Location	Proposal	Comment	4/2019/4116	Thistleton Farm, Wasdale	Porch & LPG Store	No objections	Application No.	Location	Proposal	Decision	4/2019/4102	Former Science Block, Harecroft Hall	Local occupancy dwelling	Granted	
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201/19	<p><b>Other Planning Matters</b> – None</p> <p><b>Financial Reports</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Bank Reconciliation to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be received, noted and signed by the Chairman. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the schedule of payments be approved and signed by two bank signatories. The Clerk reported that Stewart Kenyon had recommended weed treatment twice per year at a cost of £400 and this was agreed by all Cllrs.</p>																	

	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> that the Budget and Precept for 2020/21 be approved: Proposed by Cllr. Turner, Seconded by Cllr. Pennington and agreed by all.</p>	
202/19	<p><b>Schedule of Correspondence, notices and publications</b> (<i>previously circulated</i>)  <b>RESOLVED</b> that all items listed on the schedule be noted.</p>	
203/19	<p><b>Car Park Maintenance &amp; Asset Transfer</b>  Cllr. Turner outlined the various pros and cons of Leasehold against Freehold. It appeared that CBC had changed their policy stating that they would not manage the Car Park if we decided to go for Freehold. Cllr. Turner had discussed the management of the Car Park with Simon Fell of LDNPA who already manage Ravenglass Car Park. LDNPA seem keen and can be flexible, tailoring the management package to our requirements. A lively discussion took place involving all Cllrs. who commented on various issues including the management of the surrounding trees, residents permits, refurbishment of the toilets and the amount of ring-fenced reserves we have allocated for the Car Park. Cllrs. Hutson, Gray, Norman, Turner and Rowe agreed to meet with Simon Fell for an initial discussion.  <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr. Turner arrange a meeting with Simon Fell in Gosforth.</p> <p>Cllr. Gray pointed out that only the small saplings had been removed from the wall and CBC staff had claimed the larger saplings were covered by TPOs which was not correct.  <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Clerk contact CBC to request further removal of the saplings.</p> <p>Cllr. Norman pointed out that the Parish Council has been pursuing this Asset Transfer for many years and that CBC had frustrated progress. He stated that a letter of complaint be sent to the Government as the Parish Council had invested a great deal of time and money for legal fees.  <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Clerk draft a letter of complaint to CBC and circulate to Cllrs. for comment.</p>	<p>PT</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
204/19	<p><b>Meetings</b>  Cllr. Turner had met with David Kelly of Sellafield Ltd and toured the village and other areas to demonstrate the parking issues caused by commuters to the Sellafield site. The Travel to Work Plan has not been signed off by CBC. Cllr. Fussell reported that there may be a step-change in January as Sellafield Ltd are clamping down on single-occupancy passes and bringing in parking enforcement measures upon the Sellafield site which could have a negative impact on village parking.</p> <p>Cllr. Norman reported on a meeting at Westlakes to discuss NDA properties. There had been a knock-on effect by moving all office accommodation North. Seascale Mill had been demolished which was contrary to NDA's instructions. There were several empty properties; High Ling Bank has been boarded up and has damp problems. It will be expensive to repair and NDA are required to get government approval. Cllr. Norman had suggested selling it. There is another empty property in Ponsonby. Stangs Cottage in Calder is ready to rent out. NDA were unaware that they own Longlands Farmhouse and Cottage and will be looking into it. Cllr. Norman had asked about the new CNC Training Centre which was still not open after two years. NDA said it was almost ready to open after problems with the contractor. Cllr. Norman reported that Newton Manor woods was neglected. NDA said they would send a copy of the management contract.</p>	

	<p>Cllr. Hutson said the 3-Tier Meetings were very poorly attended probably due to the time as they meet during working hours. It was confirmed that Cllr. Hutson will continue to represent the Parish Council at WCSSG meetings.</p> <p><b>205/19 Councillor Matters</b></p> <p>Cllr. Gray noted that CRUG have set up a new Facebook page which will be useful for information.</p> <p>Cllr. Turner has arranged for the Flood Prevention team to attend the February meeting to give an update.</p> <p>Cllr. Fussell has reported a street light using the online reporting system which he found very user-friendly.</p> <p>Cllr. Norman raised the subject of the Scouts offer to buy a seat for the green around the Car Park. Cllr. Gray has the specification and needs to pursue the siting location with the Scouts.</p> <p>Cllr. Hutson said a seat outside the Methodist Church is believed to be owned by the Parish Council although this was not confirmed. The seat could be moved to Meadowfield depending on condition.</p> <p>Cllr. Rowe raised an issue with the Cork tree in the Graveyard and it was confirmed that the Church are responsible for it.</p> <p>Cllr. Pennington spoke passionately about Rural Wheels and community transport in general. The Clerk to forward information on the Community Mobility Plan being managed by ACT.</p> <p>Cllr. Gray asked whether any progress had been made registering a TPO on the Oak Tree behind the sub-station. The Clerk agreed to progress this.</p>	<p>DG</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>206/19</b></p>	<p><b>Date of the next meeting</b> The date of the next meeting is scheduled as <b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7pm.</b></p> <p><b>Meeting closed at 8.50pm</b></p> <p>Chairman.....Date.....</p>	