

KIRKBY THORE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the proceedings of the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of Kirkby Thore Parish Council (KTPC) held on **Monday 8th May 2017** at 19:00hrs in Kirkby Thore Memorial Hall.

Present

Chairman: Frank Birkett (FB)

Councillors: Chris Meldrum (CM), Susannah England (SE), Dan Pattimore (DP)

Clerk/RFO: Lindsay Nicholson

Also in attendance:

Members of the Public:

2017/070 Election of Chairman

FB was proposed as Chairman by SE and this was seconded by DP. FB then signed the Acceptance of Office declaration.

Resolved: FB to act as Chairman

2017/071 Election of Vice Chairman

CM was proposed as Vice Chairman by FB and this was seconded by DP. CM then signed the Acceptance of Office declaration.

Resolved: CM to act as Vice Chairman

2017/072 Apologies

District Councillor Henry Sawrey-Cookson

2017/073 Requests for Dispensation

No requests for dispensation had been received since the previous meeting.

2017/074 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received in respect of items on the agenda.

2017/075 Minutes of the Last AGM Meeting

The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

RESOLVED: to accept the minutes and recommendations contained therein.

2017/076 Matters Arising from the previous minutes

None

2017/077 Chairman's Report

FB presented the Chairman's report as per appendix 1 on page 3.

Resolved: to accept the Chairman's Report

2017/078 Areas of Special Interest / Representatives to Outside Bodies

It was agreed that special areas would not be assigned. Councillors to continue to support each other to ensure as many special areas and outside bodies are covered.

Resolved: to receive the information

2017/079 Approval of Council Policies

Councillors agreed to defer this item to the June meeting of the Parish Council.

Resolved: to defer to June's Meeting of the Parish Council.

2017/080 Approval of HSBC as bankers

It was agreed that HSBC would continue as bankers for the ensuring year.

Resolved: to accept HSBC as Bankers

2017/081 Appointment of Internal Auditor

It was agreed that Alan Verity of Dodd & Co would be asked to continue as Internal Auditor for the ensuring year.

Resolved: to receive the information

2017/082 Concerns raised either by Councillors' or members of the Parish

None

Date of the next Annual General Meeting: Monday 14th of May 2018 at 19.00hrs in the Memorial Hall.

FB closed the meeting at 19:20hrs.

Please note: all Parish Council meetings are open to members of the public.

Appendix 1

AGM 2017 - Chairman's Report

Throughout the 2016-17 year the Parish Council have continued to engage on several issues that have been ongoing for some time.

We have finally achieved a result with regard to footway light no.1. The Parish Council have been in communication with Eden District Council for 2 years in an attempt to have the light fitting replaced. A new lamp post has now been installed and the immediate area around the lamp is illuminated again, so helping to improve safety at the busy A66/Main Street junction.

We have also seen the installation of the average speed cameras on the A66. This again has been a long standing issue for the Parish Council but we are pleased that the system is now operational and helping to reduce traffic speed along this section of the A66.

At this time last year I reported that the Eden Local Plan 2014 was being assessed by the Planning Inspector. After this initial inspection, the document was brought back to Eden District Council for further adjustment and has been resubmitted to the Planning Inspector. Over the course of the year EDC have amended the housing allocation requirement for Kirkby Thore and we have had several meetings with the local planning team to find a mutually acceptable level of housing allocation for our village.

The provision of services is an important element of any sustainable housing allocation plan but we have had to accept that for the time being the 563 bus service has been lost. The Parish Council is continuing to work with other community groups along the bus route to find a solution to this problem. In recent months, a new service has been introduced which provides the opportunity to access services in Penrith on Tuesday only. Whilst this is not a satisfactory replacement for the previous 563 service it at least offers some benefit to residents who have been significantly affected by the withdrawal of the Grand Prix service. It is pleasing to note the positive contributions of the community in several issues – the introduction of a defibrillator which is now installed and working; the planting of several thousand crocus bulbs on areas outside the school and adjacent to the Memorial Hall, and the ‘unseen’ community work that individual residents undertake to help improve the village.

I would also like to express my congratulations to the staff, parents and pupils at the school and pre-school in retaining their Ofsted classifications of Good. The Parish Council are very proud of the achievements of the schools and we recognise that the tremendous work of the staff is a major reason for their success.

Another note of thanks goes to Harry Lucas who has consigned his grass cutting shears to the museum after maintaining the grassed areas in the village for many years. Harry will be a hard act to follow and I wish him all the best for the future.

The Parish Council continue to work with the Village Hall Committee to help manage the community assets of the Village Hall and Recreation Field. Both areas continue to require time, effort and money to maintain and improve the facilities for the community.

As a Parish Council we are still in need of additional councillor support. We have 3 vacancies for councillors at the moment and would welcome any resident who is interested in helping the community to contact me or any other councillor.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all Parish Councillors and our Clerk, Lindsay Nicholson, for their hard work and commitment this year. I would also like to offer my thanks for the support provided by Henry Sawrey-Cookson, Eden District Councillor and Gary Strong, Cumbria County Councillor.

Frank Birkett – Kirkby Thore Parish Council