

KIRKBY THORE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the proceedings of the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of Kirkby Thore Parish Council (KTPC) held on **Monday 14th of May 2018** at 19:00hrs in Kirkby Thore Memorial Hall.

Present

Chairman: Chris Meldrum (CM)

Councillors: Frank Birkett (FB), Dan Pattimore (DP)

Clerk/RFO: Lindsay Nicholson

Also in attendance: County Councillor David Whipp,
District Councillor Henry Sawrey-Cookson.

Members of the Public: 0

2018/046 Election of Chairman

FB indicated that he wished to stand down as chair. CM was proposed as Chairman by DP and this was seconded by FB. CM then signed the Acceptance of Office declaration.

Resolved: CM to act as Chairman

2018/047 Election of Vice Chairman

DP was proposed as Vice Chairman by FB and this was seconded by CM.

Resolved: DP to act as Vice Chairman

2018/048 Apologies

None

2018/049 Requests for Dispensation

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

2018/050 Declarations of Interest

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

2018/051 Minutes of the Last AGM Meeting

The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

RESOLVED: to accept the minutes and recommendations contained therein.

2018/052 Matters Arising from the previous minutes

None

2018/053 Chairman's Report

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

Resolved: to accept the Chairman's Report

2018/054 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. Clerk to clarify with CALC the best way to represent this as per the transparency guidelines.

Resolved: to receive the information

Action: LN

2018/055 Approval of Council Policies

Councillors agreed to approve the council policies. Those requiring amendment for GDPR were being assessed and would be updated and approved over the coming months.

Resolved: to approve the council policies for the ensuring year.

2018/056 Approval of HSBC as bankers

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

Resolved: to accept HSBC as Bankers

2018/057 Appointment of Internal Auditor

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

Resolved: to receive the information

2018/058 Concerns raised either by Councillors' or members of the Parish

None

2018/059 Date of the next Annual General Meeting: Monday 13th of May 2019 at 19.00hrs in the Memorial Hall.

CM closed the meeting at 19:20hrs.

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

Appendix 1

AGM 2018 - Chairman's Report

2017-18 has been a demanding year for the Parish Council especially as we have undertaken our responsibilities with only 3 Councillors for much of the year.

Just when we finally achieved the installation of a new footway light at the junction of Main Street and the A66 our attention has now focused on the next light on Main Street which failed and was subsequently removed by Eden District Council. We again seek to find a solution to this removal but we face a larger problem in light of current desire of EDC to 'devolve' services to Parishes. This includes footway lighting. This may entail the Parish Council having to take on the responsibility for all footway lighting with the additional financial burden being placed on the residents of Kirkby Thore. Hopefully, the appointment of a new Chief Executive at EDC will lead to better and more sympathetic support for rural Parish Councils.

It is pleasing to report that Stagecoach have agreed to run a Monday to Friday off peak 563 bus service that offers some opportunity for residents to travel along the A66 between Penrith and Appleby in addition to the existing Cumbria Classis Coaches service on Tuesdays. With more visitors expected in the summer months it is hoped that usage of the service will continue to improve and Stagecoach will consider extending the service to include early morning and later afternoon runs.

Much of our recent work has been related to the A66. The spate of recent traffic incidents, some with fatal and life changing consequences, and the long term problems of the road structure, have prompted Highways England to consider a major scheme of refurbishment and restructuring works on the section of the highway through Kirkby Thore. This work will undoubtedly cause significant disruption and business interruption but the hope is that the carriageway will be rebuilt to a higher standard and one that improves safety and reduces maintenance needs over the coming years. It is expected that the dualling of the A66 will commence within 5 years and that the benefits of a fully dualled road will be gained by the parish. However, we are keen to see that another access to the Saint Gobain site is created to reduce the volume of HGV traffic through the village.

Whilst the treat of significant financial demand looms with the devolution of services from Eden District Council, the Parish Council have continued to manage our financial responsibilities in a prudent and responsible manner. Some monies have been used this year to refurbish 2 public seats and a sum has been given to the Memorial Hall and Recreational Field Committee to help enable much needed repairs to the Memorial Hall.

I take this opportunity to again ask residents of the village to consider giving up some of their time to help ensure the community continues to be effectively represented and is able to undertake the responsibility of a modern Parish Council. We have several vacancies on the Parish Council and would welcome anyone who feels they have something to contribute to the community. The small group of residents who continue to offer their time to helping the community is slowly reducing in size and places greater responsibility on the few that remain. Please consider offering some of your time to help the community.

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 David Whipp, Cumbria County Councillor.

Frank Birkett – Kirkby Thore Parish Council