

WAVERTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting
held Thursday 24th November, 2023 at 8.00 p.m.

33/23 In attendance

Cllrs Girvan, Huntington, Patterson, Graham, Wharton & Peile

34/23 Apologies

Cllr Dixon

Cllr Lynch (Cumberland Council)

35/23 To Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28th September, 2023

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair

36/23 Declarations of Interests, Members and Officers to give notice of interest on items on the agenda

37/23 Dispensations

None

38/23 Exclusion of Press and Public

None

39/23 Public Participation

39.1 To receive any representations from members of the public - None

39.2 To receive a report from Cllr Lynch of Cumberland Council - Cllr Lynch had provided the clerk with a written report. The key points she highlighted were the launch of Food Cumberland in relation to free school meals, an update on the budget process, the first workshop of the Fells and Community Panel, and funding for Wigton Baths trust.

39.3 To receive a report from the Wigton Burial Joint Committee – Cllr Huntington reported on the budget setting, precept, and earmarked projects. The proportion of the precept to be paid by the three councils is based upon the number of electors in the parish (£3.13 per person). Cllr Huntington explained the priority works of improving the entrance to the cemetery to facilitate disabled access, and also advised of works that will be needed to Cemetery House. Cllr Girvan thanked Cllr Huntington for the work he had undertaken with regard to the business plan, and allocation of earmarked reserves

39.4 To receive a report from the Village Hall Committee – new heaters had been obtained which cover half of the hall. There has been an over 50's lunch, and this may become a quarterly event. A fashion show will take place. The art classes will resume this year

27.5 To receive a report from the Internal Drainage Board – Nothing to report

40/23 Financial Matters

40.1 Council received and authorised the payment schedule to the end of November

40.2 The clerk had been unable to obtain bank statements to prepare a reconciliation due to ongoing issues with the council's bankers

40.3 It was **RESOLVED** that the signatories for a new bank account are to be Cllrs Girvan, Huntington, and Patterson

40.4 It was **RESOLVED** to increase the clerk's salary in line with the local Government pay award announced earlier in the month

40.5 It was **RESOLVED** to make the following donations:

Citizens Advice - £50. Wigton Baths Trust £150. Gt North Air Ambulance £100. D A Harrison Voucher £100, Solway Plain Magazine £30.

41/23 To agree the Budget and set the Precept for 2024-25

Council **RESOLVED** that the draft budget be accepted, and the Precept was set at £3,150.00

42/23 Review the Statement of Internal Control and appoint an auditor for 2024-25

Members considered the statement of Internal Control, and it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Mrs J Airey as Internal Auditor to the council

43/23 Letter of Appreciation

It was **RESOLVED** letters be sent to residents of the parish who help with grass cutting, and to D A Harrison for its facilities in the village – it is appreciated as a good community hub. The clerk was also asked to write to The Thomlinson Junior School to bring to their attention the good work of one of their pupils in litter picking around Waterside

44/23 Members Reports

None

45/23 Clerks Report

Nothing that had not been dealt with under the agenda

Meeting Closed 20.20pm

Date of next meeting – Thursday 22nd February, 2024