

# MORLAND PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Morland Parish Council held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm at Morland Village Hall.

**Present:** Parish Councillors; Dan Fitton, Gillian Garratt, Phillip Hancock, Paul Vines, Steve Wilson  
Westmorland and  
Furness Councillor: Neil McCall  
Officers; Lisa Beken (Clerk)

Four members of the Public were also present.

- 9/23/1** **Apologies for absence: RESOLVED** that the following absences be noted:  
a) Councillor Lesley Robinson, apologies received;  
b) Councillor Taylor, no apologies received
- 9/23/2** **Declarations of Interest: RESOLVED** that no interests were declared.
- 9/23/3** **Minutes: RESOLVED** that the amended minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on May 25<sup>th</sup> 2023 and the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were agreed, as a true record and were signed by the Chair.
- 9/23/4** **Public Participation: RESOLVED** that the following issues were raised;  
- Drain gulleys on High Street – Clerk to report.
- 9/23/5** **Progress Reports: RESOLVED** that the following updates were received;  
a) **Neighbourhood Development Plan** – the meeting was informed that minor formatting amendments had been passed back to the Clerk, who had corrected these. A query regarding consultation had been raised, which the Clerk will discuss further with Westmorland and Furness Council.  
b) **Allotments** - the meeting was informed that the sale had now gone forward, awaiting final documents in confirmation. The Council wished to thank Michael Robson for his work, as well as Mike Tonkin, the former Eden District Council and the Hadfield Trust, for their assistance with grant funding. It was agreed to invite allotment holders to the November meeting of the Parish Council to discuss plans going forward.  
c) **Signage at Morland Ford** – the meeting was informed that the amended designs had now been forward to Highways at Westmorland and Furness. It was agreed that the current signage not appropriate, as it had fallen down during recent bad weather, causing a potential hazard, and concerns were raised that had depth gauges been installed, these would also have been damaged. Concerns were also expressed that signs actually encourage usage, implying that it is safe to do so. Westmorland and Furness Councillor Neil McCall to follow up with Highways department.
- 9/23/6** **Sewerage works: RESOLVED** that problems have been continuing, with recent weather causing further overflow issues.
- 9/23/7** **Accounts; RESOVLED** to approve payments as listed in the payment schedule.
- 9/23/8** **Highways and Maintenance: RESOLVED** that the following was discussed;  
a) **Play area** – Councillor Fitton has begun to repair toddler unit, removing rotten wood, painting metal work and has ordered replacement wood. The Council agreed to reimburse cost of materials to date. Councillor Fitton has also been in touch with a company in Penrith for a replacement rope bridge, and will investigate the possibility of a cargo net, if price is prohibitive. The meeting was also informed that broken fencing has been removed from the Play Area, and that the goalposts have been situated, with the nets to be kept in storage in the Village Hall. Councillor

Wilson agreed to collect waste material at the site and dispose of it. Councillor Hancock agreed to remove an overhanging bough of tree at the football field.

- b) **Cliburn Bridge** – the meeting was informed that one arch of the bridge was beginning to fill up with debris and overgrowth, and that images have been forwarded to Highways.
- c) **Issues with river meander** - the meeting was informed that the meander was now within twelve metres of the road. Images have been forwarded to Highways, and the land owner is working with the Environment Agency.
- d) **Outside Morland House** - the meeting was informed that Highways were aware, and had scheduled work to repair lost tarmac.
- e) **Noticeboard** – access to the noticeboard was discussed, as well as the condition of the board, with the possibility of a replacement being considered in the near future.

**9/23/9** **Crown Inn** – the meeting was informed that a steering group had been established, of interested members of the community. The group will be distributing a questionnaire to residents to ask for their input and perspective. The Council agreed their support in principle, and that if positive feedback was received from residents, it would make a grant contribution towards membership of the Plunkett Foundation, alongside the Town's Fund.

**9/23/10** **Planning Applications: RESOLVED** that the following comments on planning applications received since the last meeting of the Parish Council were agreed;

- a) **23/0567** 8 Cobblestone Corner, Morland. Rear single story sun room extension.

**NO OBJECTIONS**

**9/23/11** **Council matters: RESOLVED** that Councillors discussed the following matters;

- Councillor Hancock to replace light at Hilltop.
- Electricity North West would be conducting tree work, to ensure cables were unobstructed.
- The meeting was informed that a beacon lighting celebration across the country would be held for D-Day anniversary.
- A new Westmorland and Furness Council support fund for those struggling with essential bills, providing grants in form of vouchers had been established.
- A thank you letter had been received from Fellrunner for the Council's grant donation.

**9/23/12** Councillor Hancock raised concerns over BT plans to end landline provision, and transfer to digital, and the potential issues for areas of poor mobile coverage.

**9/23/13** **Date of next Ordinary Meeting: Monday November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7.30pm, at Morland Village Hall.**

Meeting closed: 9:24 pm