

Minutes of a meeting of Crook and Winster Parish Council held at Winster Village Hall on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.30pm.

Present were Councillors Richard Metcalfe (Chairman), Andrew Allen, Alan Atkinson, John Leigh, Emma Scott and Patrick Sefton, Westmorland & Furness Councillor Steve Bavin, three members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor George Taylor.

**24/1 Public participation:**

It was brought to the Council's attention that since Old Mill House, Winster has been sold, certain things have taken place by the River Winster.

- a. The course seems to have been altered.
- b. Trees by the River have been cut down.
- c. The old (a Grade II Listed structure) Pack Horse Bridge has been altered.

Councillor Sefton explained the situation fully and showed photographs that had been taken. He will contact the Environment Agency, as the course of the river appears to be been diverted.

The Chairman has already been in touch with LDNPA and awaits a response from that body.

The Clerk will back the above up with a letter from the Council.

**24/2 Requests for Dispensations: None.**

**24/3 Declarations of Interest:**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters of the agenda.

**24/4 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**24/5 Traffic on the B5284 Road:**

**24/6 Finance:**

- a. *It was resolved to make the following payments:*

HMRC	£442.80	PAYE
Winster Parish Room		
	£10.00	Hire of hall
K M Price	£129.28	Quarterly expenses to 31 <sup>st</sup> December
		Including use of home office and travel
K M Price	£119.54	Backpay (Pay Award) to 1st April 2023

- b. The Budget Report was considered and it was resolved to make a Precept upon Westmorland & Furness Council in the sum of £13,125 for the financial year 2024-25. There is therefore no increase in the parish element of the Council Tax.
- c. The nationally agreed Pay Award for Clerks was approved – this is for £1 per hour across all salary points and is backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.
- d. A request from Crosthwaite C of E Primary school, for funding, was considered and it was resolved to contribute £1,000 to this.

**24/7 Planning:** None.

**24/8 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D Day:**

Arrangements for this event on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 are in progress. There will also be an event on the same day at Crook Memorial Hall.

**24/9 Defibrillator:**

The Clerk had been in touch with BT and was informed that the kiosk at the Sun Inn, Crook, is not available. As there is little or no mobile signal in that area, the kiosk needs to be kept 'live' for public use.

Councillor Leigh agreed to speak to B4RN, to see if they could help with the siting of a defibrillator for Crook.

**24/10 Highways:**

Councillor Bavin will report potholes at Chapel Lane, Mitchelland and on Back Lane, (the whole length from the church).

The absence of some of the 'repeater' 40mph and 30mph signs in Crook will be reported by the Clerk to W&F Council.

**24/11 Date of the next meeting:**

***Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 at 7.30pm – venue to be confirmed.***

*The meeting closed at 8.10pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*