**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Blennerhasset Village Hall on Wednesday 9 March 2016**

**1764. Present.**

Cllrs. Richardson, Powley, Clarkson, Raine, Ms. Little, Mrs. Bowe. Also present was Cllr. Mrs. Mounsey (A.B.C.).

**1765. Apologies.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. A. Bowness (C.C.C.)

**1766. Minutes.**

It was proposed by Cllr. Ms. Little that the minutes of 13 January 2016 be amended in that, in Min. 1750(iv), “the Heart Foundation” be changed to “Community Heartbeat”; and that, in Min. 1751(ii), the words “inclusive of” be replaced by the word “plus”. This was seconded by Cllr. Powley and, with these amendments, the minutes of 13 January 2016 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and the Chairman was authorised to sign them accordingly.

**1767. Declarations of Interest.**

 Cllr. Richardson declared an interest in any items relating to Torpenhow Village Hall; Cllr. Ms. Little declared an interest in any item relating to Torpenhow Village Hall and Cllr. Clarkson declared an interest in any items relating to Blennerhasset School and Blennerhasset Village Hall.

**1768. Dispensation Requests.**

The Clerk had not received any requests for dispensation.

**1769. Public Voice Slot.**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to hear comments from the public.

1. A complaint had been received regarding the fouling of the bus shelter at Torpenhow by a resident’s hens. The Clerk was asked to write to the owner of the hens.
2. One parishioner had suggested to the Chairman that a rockery be constructed behind the new seat at West End Green, Torpenhow.

**1770. Items in Action.**

i) Queens Diamond Jubilee Seat. The seat has been installed. Some grass-seed is still to be sown. (Min. 1751(i) refers.)

 ii) Village Signs Post Replacement. A quotation has been received from Paul Mitchell. A query was raised as to whether the price quoted included the poles. The Chairman will raise the query with Mr. Mitchell. (Min. 1751(ii) refers.)

iii)Blennerhasset Playing Field. The secretary of the Cricket Club has been contacted and a reply received. Cllr. Mrs. Bowe will speak to Mr.PeterTurner regarding the position concerning the strip of ground. (Min. 1751(v) refers.)

iv)Map Boards. The Chairman has had a word with Mr. Norman who says he will collect the boards this weekend and repair them within two to three weeks. Mr. Paul Mitchell will resite the board in Torpenhow at the price quoted by AKN Developments. The Chairman will check the fitness for purpose of the boards before reinstallation. (Min. 1751(iv) refers.)

v)Blennerhasset Village Hall Trust Deed It was agreed that the grant payment to Blennerhasset and Baggrow Centre towards its legal fees would be on signature and transfer of the deeds. (Min. 1751(iii) refers.)

vi) Drains’ Survey. Cllr. Ms. Little said she had completed the survey and will submit her report at the next meeting. (Min. 1751(vii) refers.) Cllr. Mrs. Mounsey (A.B.C.) said there is a “Flood R.E. Scheme” to help vulnerable households with insurance against flooding.

vii) Blennerhasset War Memorial. Cllr. Mrs. Bowe said a membrane and shillies are required for around the memorial. Cllr. Powley said he had some membrane which he would donate and he would order a dumpy-bag of shillies. (Min. 1751(ix) refers.)

viii) Mail and Email Records. These were presented to the meeting. It was suggested that the Mail Record be sent out with the agenda. (Min. 1752 refers.)

ix) Revision of Standing Orders. These are still to be done. (Min. 1755 refers.)

x) Village Greens’ Survey. This has been completed and sent off. (Min. 1760 refers.)

**1771. Project Groups.**

i) Aspatria Rural Partnership. Cllr. Ms. Little said that nothing has happened since the last meeting

ii) Blennerhasset Riverside. Cllr. Clarkson reported that some tarmac repairs had been done by Blennerhasset Bus Shelter and there had been some rubbish deposited at the riverside. This could be fly-tipping or flood debris. The Clerk was asked to contact Allerdale B.C. with a view to having it removed.

**1772. Finances.**

a) The Parish Council’s account stands at £15119.71. In accordance with Financial Regulation 2.2 the bank reconciliation and original bank statements were verified by Cllr. Raine and signed by him. The Clerk presented to the council a statement of receipts and payments to date under each of the budget headings.

b) The following payments were approved:-

 i) to Cumbrian Newspapers Ltd for Tenders’ Advert £108.19 ii) to Torpenhow Village Hall for meetings 13.01.2016 £ 18.00 iii) to Clerk as Salary for Half-Year £640.29

 iv) to HMRC for Income Tax on Clerk’s Salary £160.07

v) to Clerk as Expenses to 2 March 2016 £439.84 vi) to Torpenhow Village Hall as Grant £200.00

vii) to Blennerhasset & Baggrow Social Centre as Grant £200.00

viii) to The Playing Field and Sports Ground, Blennerhasset

as Grant £200.00

ix) to Rocket Sites Ltd. for Domain Name £ 18.00

**1773. Motion 1.**

Cllr. Ms Little proposed the motion that, “ This Council procures 7 copies of the 2106 edition of The Good Councillors’ Guide.” The motion was seconded by Cllr. Powley and passed.

**1774. Motion 2.**

 Cllr. Ms. Little proposed the motion that, “This Council prepares a schedule of weed-spraying required in the parish.” This was seconded by Cllr. Clarkson and all were in favour. Cllr. Ms. Little said she would work out what needs doing and Cllr. Powley said he would spray behind the new seat at West End, Torpenhow.

 **1775. Motion 3.**

 Cllr. Powley proposed the motion that, “This Council appoints Mrs. E.J.Tiffin as Internal Auditor for the 2017 audit. All were in favour. The Clerk drew the meeting’s attention to the fact that Mrs. Tiffin had been appointed as auditor for the 2016 audit. (Ref. Min. 1694)

**1776. Motion 4.**

 The meeting considered Motion No. 5 of 13 January 2016 and, on the advice of the Clerk, it was proposed by Cllr. Powley that, “This Council opts in to the sector led body audit procurement.” This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Bowe and all were in favour.

**1777. Contract for Grass-cutting at Playing Field.**

 Three tenders had been received and after some discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Bowe and seconded by Cllr. Clarkson that the contract for 2016 be awarded to the Baggrow and Blennerhasset Cricket Club. All were in favour.

**1778. Planning Matters**

 An application had been received from Cumbria County Council for the siting of a single-storey Portakabin building to be used as a temporary classroom at Blennerhasset School. The council had no objections.

**1779. Correspondence.**

 A file of correspondence had been circulated to members and additional items submitted to the meeting. In addition a request had been received from Aspatria First Responders for financial assistance. It was proposed by Cllr. Powley and seconded by Cllr. Raine that a donation of £250.00 be made from next year’s budget. All were in favour.

 It was proposed by Cllr. Ms. Little and seconded by Cllr. Clarkson that the Clerk inform the Chairman of matters of urgent business between meetings and that the Chairman then decides whether to call an extraordinary meeting or communicate with councillors by other means.

**1780. Next Meeting.**

 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 11 May2016 in Blennerhasset commencing at 7:00 p.m. to be followed by the Annual Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Signed……………………………….

Chairman

Date………………………………….