**Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Torpenhow Village Hall on Wednesday 13 January 2016**

**1746. Present.**

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

**1747. Minutes.**

It was proposed by Cllr. Ms. Little that the minutes of 11 November 2015 be amended in that reference to the road sweeper in Min. 1735(viii) be removed. There was no seconder to this motion and therefore the minutes of 11 November 2015 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and the Chairman was authorised to sign them accordingly.

**1748. 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.

**1749. Dispensation Requests.**

The Clerk had not received any requests for dispensation.

**1750. Public Voice Slot.**

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

1. A letter had been received from a resident of Blennerhasset to the effect that persons had visited an elderly resident purporting to be from the ‘Memory Team’. They had no means of identification. The elderly resident had informed the police. The Clerk had replied to the letter advising that Cumbria Trading Standards might be interested in this matter and also the editor of The Binsey Link might wish to publish something in the newsletter.
2. A letter had been received from Ms. G. Hinds expressing an interest in the erection of a Christmas tree in Torpenhow in December 2016 and asking for guidance on price, health and safety issues and the erection and dismantling of the tree. She also wondered if financial assistance might be available.
3. Cllr. Mrs. Mounsey (A.B.C.) advised the meeting that members of Allhallows Parish Council had met with officers of Allerdale B. C., Cumbria C.C. et al. at Blennerhasset Bridge regarding flooding and safety. She was concerned that neither she, Cllr. Bowness (C.C.C.), nor members of this council had been informed when the bridge is wholly in this parish. The Clerk was asked to write to Allhallows P.C. requesting that this council be kept informed. Cllr. Ms. Little said that Cllr. Mrs. Abbott of Allhallows had requested that information be reciprocated between the councils.
4. Cllr. Bowness (C.C.C.) said that the Heart Foundation are charging for the installation of defibrillators in the disused telephone kiosks. He said it would probably be cheaper for the council to install one in a box. The Clerk was asked to contact First Responders regarding the acquisition and installation.

**1751. Items in Action.**

i) Queens Diamond Jubilee Seat. The Chairman reported that the installation of the seat had been delayed due to inclement weather. (Min. 1735(i) refers.)

 ii) Village Signs Post Replacement. Paul Mitchell has been asked to give a quote for the installation of the posts and Cllr. Powley said the posts themselves would cost £118.00 inclusive of V.A.T. (Min. 1735(ii) refers.)

iii)Blennerhasset Village Hall Trust Deed The Clerk had received an email from Mrs. Turner regarding the payment and, after some discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Raine and seconded by Cllr. Clarkson that the council gives a donation of £750.00 to Blennerhasset and Baggrow Social Centre towards its legal fees. All were in favour.( Min. 1735(iii) refers.)

iv)Map Boards Mr.Norman has been advised and assures the council that the boards will be attended to within the next month. The question of damage rectification was raised.(Min. 1735(v) refers.)

v) Playing Field. The Clerk contacted Miss.L.Bowe by email at the address given by Cllr. Ms. Little but the address was incorrect. (Min. 1735(vi) refers.)

vi) Bags of Loam. A letter has been sent to the Cricket Club. (Min. 1734 refers.)

vii) Drains Survey. Cllr. Clarkson has done the Blennerhasset portion of the parish but Cllr. Ms. Little has still to complete the Torpenhow portion. (Min. 1736(i) refers.)

viii) Newsletter. A précis of the draft minutes of the last meeting has been sent to the editor of the Binsey Link. (Min. 1736(iii) refers.)

ix) Blennerhasset War Memorial. Mrs. Bowe suggested that gravel is put around the memorial and the railings be painted. This was agreed and will be considered as an annual project.

**1752. Chairman’s Report under S.O.21(c)**

The Chairman presented his report and proposed that it be approved. Cllr. Clarkson seconded the motion and it was passed. Cllr. Raine suggested that, for a trial period, a copy of the bandtpc@gmail.com in- box and sent-box as well as a record of all correspondence in and out be circulated to members. Cllr. Ms. Little had submitted a number of questions in writing to which the Clerk had similarly replied. Copies of these questions and answers were circulated to members.

**1753. Project Groups.**

i) Aspatria Rural Partnership. Cllr. Ms. Little said that a new co-ordinator was required following the resignation of Mrs. Muir.

ii) Blennerhasset Riverside. There was nothing to report.

**1754. Finances.**

a) The Parish Council’s account stands at £17965.68. 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 Christian James for seat treatment £25.18 ii) to Paul Mitchell for Seat Plinth £444.00 iii) to Torpenhow Village Hall for meetings 11.03.2015,

 13.05.2015 and 18.11.2015 £42.00

 iv) to Blennerhasset and Baggrow Social Centre for

 meetings of 08.07.2015 and 11.11.2015 £40.00

v)to SLCC as subscription for 2016 £65.00 vi) to Strawberry Cottage Landscapes for

 Grass cutting 2015 £2230.00

c) Allerdale B.C. has informed the council that the CTRS Grant for 2016/2017 is £160.48. Accordingly the request for precept has been submitted.

**1755. Motion 1.**

The Chairman proposed the motion that,” This Council clarifies the procedure to be adopted to maintain continuous cover during an absence of the Proper Officer and issues a revision of the Standing Orders to reflect its decision.” The motion was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Bowe and passed.

**1756. Motion 2.**

 Cllr. Ms. Little proposed the motion that,” This Council advertises for tenders for the grass-cutting of the Playing Field for the 2016 season.” The motion was seconded by Cllr. Powley and passed. It was agreed to advertise in the Cumberland News.

**1757. Motion 3.**

 This motion (re: defibrillators) was withdrawn.

**1758. Motion 4.**

 This motion (re: urgent correspondence) was withdrawn.

**1759. Motion 5.**

 Cllr. Ms. Little proposed the motion that,” This Council opts out of the sector led body audit procurement.” After some discussion regarding opting-out and/or exemption it was decided to carry this motion to the next meeting after more clarification has been obtained from CALC.

**1760. Motion 5.**

 Cllr. Ms. Little proposed the motion that,” This Council delegates to named members the completion of the Village Green Survey Form.” Cllr. Raine proposed an amendment that, for ‘named members’ there should be substituted ‘the Clerk.’ This amendment was seconded by Cllr. Powley and all were in favour. The amended motion was then voted on and passed.

**1761. Planning Matters**

 An application under S.211 had been received to carry out works in trees at Torpenhow Vicarage. The council had no objections.

**1762. Correspondence.**

 A file of correspondence had been circulated to members and additional items submitted to the meeting.

**1763. Next Meeting.**

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 9 March 2016 in Blennerhasset

Signed……………………………….

Chairman

Date………………………………….