**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Torpenhow Village Hall on Wednesday 4th September, 2019 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllrs. J. Bowe, M. Giddings, A. Little (Chair), W. Powley, A. Raine.

**2236 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. M. Grainger, Allerdale Borough Councillor and Cllr. A. Bowness, Cumbria County Councillor.

**2237 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th July, 2019 were accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

**2238 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Little declared a personal interest in item 5 on the agenda.

**2239 Dispensation Requests**

None received.

**2240 Public Voice Slot**

The following matter was raised:

Correspondence received from a Torpenhow resident advised that several metal poles believed to belong to the parish council had been left in their front garden. Cllr. Raine agreed to arrange for the removal and disposal of the poles as soon as possible.

**2241 Reports from Outside Bodies**

(a) Allerdale Borough Council – Apologies had been received from Cllr. Grainger

(b) Cumbria County Council – Apologies had been received from Cllr. Bowness

(c) Police Community Support Officer – The report received advised that since the last meeting a public order offence in Blennerhasset had been reported to the police. No incidents of public interest had been reported in Torpenhow. Members noted that PCSOs Hannah Donaughee and Peter Nichol have arranged to do a talk in the School in September.

**2242 Highways**

1. Maintenance

It was noted that the road at the Cockbridge junction has been marked up for repair

A595 Improvements at Bothel – Cllr Raine reported that he had attended the public meeting held with the MP at Bothel. The MP had advised that she would not support the scheme proposed by Cumbria County Council. It was suggested that the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport at the County Council be invited to attend the next parish council meeting to explain why the County Council have supported the scheme against local opposition. Bothel Parish Council had confirmed they would keep this Council informed of any future meetings regarding the A595 Improvements.

1. Speed Monitoring

Cllr Giddings reported that incidents of speeding vehicles at Blennerhasset was still occurring. It was agreed that any future occurrences should be reported to the police on the 101 number.

**2243** **Planning**

1. Applications received:

FUL/2019/0176 – Former Hearse House, Torpenhow

Change of use of hearse house to office accommodation and external alterations

Members considered the above application and had no objections.  The only concern that was raised was with regard to the use of the office accommodation, Members would prefer that this is used for no other purpose other than for the storage of records.

CAT/2019/0025 – The Vicarage, Torpenhow

Pruning of Trees

1. Decisions:

None

**2244 Parish Council Insurance**

Renewal documents had been received from Zurich Insurance at an annual premium of £374.30. An alternative quotation had been requested from BHIB Insurance Brokers at a premium of £347.51. The two quotations and the cover provided were considered. RESOLVED to accept the quotation from BHIB Insurance.

**2245 Finances**

1. The financial statement at 31st July, 2019 had been circulated with the agenda.

Balances at 31st July, 2019

Nat West £ 1,193.15

Cumberland Building Society £13,044.25

1. The following payments were approved for payment:

Clerk’s account Quarter 2 – £339.53

HMRC – PAYE Quarter 2 - £85.00

Clerk’s expenses Quarter 2 - £128.17

BHIB Insurance Brokers – Annual Insurance £347.51

Blennerhasset and Baggrow Social Centre – Room Hire 9.5.18, 9.1.19, 17.7.19 £48.00

1. Cheque Signatories

Cllr Raine reported that the mandate from Cumberland Building Society had been completed and ID and VA had been provided to CBS. The form is now being processed.

1. Nat West Account

RESOLVED that the account with Nat West Bank be closed and the funds transferred to the Cumberland Building Society.

**2246 Correspondence**

Correspondence received since the last meeting had been circulated to members:

CALC Newsletter July/August 2019

CALC Minutes of Three Tier Meeting 11 July 2019

CALC/Cumbria CC – Working Together Statement

St Michael’s Church Torpenhow – Letter of thanks for the parish council’s donation

Citizens Advice Allerdale – Letter of thanks for the parish council’s donation

CALC Training and Log In Details

CALC Developing your skills Training Programme September to December 2019

CALC Joint OPCC and Cumbria Constabulary Survey

Additional correspondence received:

Allerdale Borough Council – Blennerhasset Conservation Area Appraisal – The Borough Council are undertaking a series of Conservation Area Appraisals to shape development within each Conservation Area. It is proposed that the Borough Council will share the initial findings with the parish council at a meeting and then widen the process out to a community drop in event before publishing a final draft for formal consultation prior to approval in 2020. It was agreed to invite the Planning and Building Control Manager from the Borough Council to the next Parish Council meeting on 13th November.

**2247 Blennerhasset Playing Field**

1. Playing Field Committee – It was noted that the committee had still not been held a meeting to discuss the future management of the playing field.
2. Registration of the legal title - It was reported that there had been no further developments with the transfer of the strip of land at the playing field since the last meeting. It was agreed that the present trustee should be advised that until the land is transferred to the parish council, they as the only named trustee, will be personally responsible for the maintenance of the fence which is currently in need of repair and considered to be a safety risk.

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**2248 Village Greens**

1. Blennerhasset – It was reported that the issues with vehicles parking/encroaching onto the green are still occurring. One particular vehicle is obstructing the refuse vehicle and also obstructs the grass cutting contractor from carrying out his work. It was agreed that the offender should be contacted and advised that if this continues the parish council may have to consider fencing off the green.
2. Torpenhow – The contractor had advised that the area at West End has been sprayed ready to cut down and prep. The Clerk was requested to obtain an update from the contractor and seek clarification as to what the prep work entails.

**2249 Weed Control at the Riverbank, Blennerhasset**

It was reported that the weeds had still not been sprayed at the riverbank. The Clerk was requested to contact the contractor for an update. It was suggested that this work should be carried out in September in future years.

**2250 Notice Board/Map Board - Torpenhow**

The Clerk reported that the contractor had advised that the notice board was ready for installation. Cllr Powley agreed to meet with the contractor to arrange the siting/installation of the board. Options for the map board will be discussed at the next meeting once the contractor has returned this to the parish council.

**2251 Defibrillator – Torpenhow**

No further progress had been made regarding raising funding for the installation of a defibrillator at Torpenhow. Cllr Bowe agreed to pass on information to the Clerk of the grants and funding streams that were used by Blennerhasset community groups.

**2252 Trees at Blennerhasset/Tree Liabilities**

Cllr Giddings reported that Lowther Forestry Group Limited had provided a quotation to carry out a tree hazard survey at Blennerhasset Village Green and at the Playing Field at a total cost of £380.00. It was agreed to accept the quotation. Cllr Powley agreed to meet the contractor on site when the survey is carried out.

**2253 Repainting Bus Shelter at Torpenhow**

The Clerk reported that the contractor had advised that he was unable to submit a quotation to repaint the bus shelter at Torpenhow. It was agreed that other contractors be invited to submit quotations to be considered at the next meeting.

**2254 Releasing of Sky Lanterns**

Following the response in May that once a policy to ban the releasing of sky lanterns has been finalised it will be put to the Members of the Borough Council for approval and adoption, it was agreed that an update be requested from the Borough Council

**2255 Public Right of Way**

It was agreed to request an update from the County Council with regard to the parish council’s application for a new public right of way.

**2256 Vacancies/Co-option of new Members**

Vacancies still exist on the parish council following the election in May. No one as yet has expressed an interest in joining the parish council. The vacancies will be advertised again.

**2257 Agenda items for the Next Meeting**

Budget/Setting the Precept

**2258**  **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th November at Blennerhasset & Baggrow Social Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed……………………………….

Chairman

Date………………………………….