**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Torpenhow Village Hall**

**on Wednesday 6th July, 2022 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllrs. J. Bowe (Chair), M. Giddings and W. Powley

Also Present: One parish member.

**2557 Apologies for absence**

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

**2558 Minutes 26 May 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th May, 2022 were accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

**2559 Declarations of Interest**

Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests

(i) To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature

(ii) To declare any pecuniary interests in items on the agenda and their nature

No declarations of interest were received.

**2560 Dispensation Requests**

None received.

**2561 Public Voice Slot**

One parish member was in attendance and updated members on the proposed play area for Blennerhasset.

Two grants had been received and other grant possibilities are being explored.

A site meeting had been arranged with a different company to provide an alternative quotation and discuss the requirements for the surface of the play area.

The grass at the play area had been cut and the area generally tidied up.

A letter stating that the parish council are in agreement for the use of part of the land at the playing field to be used as a play park had been provided.

Updating the registration at the Charity Commission and the option to have a lease in place for the play area were discussed.

Concerns had been raised by residents in Blennerhasset regarding the accumulation of rubbish outside two properties in Blennerhasset. The Clerk agreed to report this to the Borough Council.

Concern was raised in relation to vehicles encroaching onto the village green in Blennerhasset. The Clerk would write again to the property owner reminding them that it is an offence to park, drive over or encroach onto a village green.

Issues with the refuse collectors not returning bins to the collection point were raised.

**2562 Reports from Outside Bodies**

Apologies had been received from M. Grainger, Allerdale Borough Councillor, A. Bowness, Cumbria County Councillor and J. Perry, Cumberland Councillor.

Police Community Support Officer – No report received.

**2563 Matters arising from the Meeting 26 May 2022**

Min Ref 2545 - Horse Chestnut Tree, Blennerhasset – Lowther Forestry Group had confirmed that the elder growing out of a gap is not likely to be of concern. ENW had been contacted regarding trimming the trees at Blennerhasset in the vicinity of their lines. ENW had agreed to carry out the work.

Min Ref. 2545 – Village Green, Adj Church, Torpenhow – The leak had been reported to United Utilities. UU had advised that an engineer would be going out to investigate.

Min Ref. 2545 – Footpath application, Torpenhow – Cumbria County Council had confirmed that the application is now no 13 out of 59. Since Covid all applications had been held back.

Min Ref 2545 – Footpath Signs, Torpenhow area – Cumbria County Council had advised that two signs are still on the list to be replaced.

**2564 Highways**

1. Maintenance

Cumbria County Council had advised that the pot holes on the highway adjacent to the monument had been repaired.

Some pot holes on the Blennerhasset to the Fitz road had been repaired. The Clerk agreed to make enquiries when this road will be surface dressed.

Issues with the drains on the Torpenhow to Cockbridge road recently surface dressed were reported. The drains are slightly higher than the road resulting in standing water as the water does not completely drain away.

A manhole cover near the T junction in Torpenhow had been covered over.

1. Speed Monitoring – No matters reported.

**2565** **Planning**

1. Applications received:

HOU/2022/0111 – Newbiggin Grange, Torpenhow, CA7 1JJ

Replacement of existing windows, reinstatement of old openings and construction of a modern single storey extension and installation of solar panel in the south elevation roof. No objections

LBC/2022/0025 – Newbiggin Grange, Torpenhow, CA7 1JJ

Listed Building consent for replacement of existing windows, reinstatement of old openings and construction of a modern single storey extension and installation of solar panel in the south elevation roof No objections

FUL/2022/0133 - Land rear of Wallace House, Blennerhasset, Wigton, CA7 3QU

Erection of two horticultural poly tunnels and associated shed

Comments - Members raised concern at the height of the proposed poly tunnels and impact this will have on the visual amenity as they will be clearly visible from the highway entering Blennerhasset from the A595. Concern was also raised whether the proposed poly tunnels are to be used for commercial purposes.

HOU/2022/0122 – Kingarth, Torpenhow, CA7 1JA

Construction of new driveway access to property to replace existing shared access

No objections

LBC/2022/0029 – Pear Tree House, Blennerhasset, CA7 3RE

Listed Building consent for the replacement of windows, repairs to the east chimney and repairs and painting of external walls to all elevations of property.

Comments - As the building is a listed building and in a Conservation Area the proposed replacement windows should be like for like.

1. Decisions: None

**2566 Financial Matters**

1. The financial statement at 30th June, 2022 had been circulated with the agenda.

Balances at 30th June, 2022

Nat West £ 276.20

Cumberland Building Society £18,226.93

Income Received – COIF Charity £0.41

(b) The following payments were approved for payment:

Torpenhow Village Hall – Room Hire £ 20.00

Clerk’s account Quarter 1 2022-23 £442.35

HMRC – PAYE Quarter 1 2022-23 £110.40

Clerks Expenses 10th March – 30th June 2022 £166.48

Donations granted to

St Michaels Church Torpenhow

Donation towards grass cutting at the Churchyard £250.00

Citizens Advice Allerdale £ 50.00

**2567 Correspondence**

Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted by Members.

LGR Programme Board - Local Government Reorganisation - Town and Parish Council Newsletter

CALC News March & April 2022

Cumbria CC - Connecting Cumbria Newsletter - May 2022

Cumbria CC - Grant Funding Opportunities for Town or Parish Councils

FLD/CALC - Ensuring that the need for Common Land consent is not ignored

Cumbria CC/CALC - The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

LDNPA/CALC -  LDNPA National Park Authority is looking for hidden gems to celebrate local heritage

Local Government Reorganisation Newsletter - 10 June 2022

Cumbria CC - Cost of Living Support

Cumbria CC - Emergency Information Sheet for Town and Parish Councils

CALC - Annual General Meeting of the Allerdale district of Cumbria Association of Local Councils 20 July

CALC – Play Area Training

Cumbria CC - The £150 million Community Ownership Fund- Funding Opportunity for your communities

Cumbria CC - Vaccinations Update

NALC/CALC – Survey on Dementia Friendly Councils

**2568 Blennerhasset Playing Field**

1. Play Area – An update was provided in the Public Voice part of the meeting. The Clerk agreed to contact the Charity Commission with regard to varying the original scheme.

(b) Play Area Inspection – The inspection will be carried out in July

(c) Management of the Field – Nothing to report.

**2569 Donation Requests**

1. St Michael’s Church, Torpenhow – RESOLVED to grant £250.00 towards the grass cutting/maintenance of the Churchyard
2. Citizens Advice Allerdale – RESOLVED to grant a donation of £50.00.

**2570 Tree Inspection, Blennerhasset**

A quotation for the re-inspection of the trees on the playing field and village greens at Blennerhasset had been received from Lowther Forestry. The quotation in the sum of £445.00 plus VAT included an inspection of the trees and to provide a written report with work recommended where necessary. RESOLVED to accept the quotation and instruct Lowther Forestry Limited to carry out the survey. Cllr. Powley agreed to accompany Lowther Forestry when the survey is carried out.

**2571 Emergency Information Sheet**

The correspondence from Cumbria County Council regarding Emergency Plans had been circulated. Currently there are around 50 town and parishes across Cumbria who have an emergency plan in place, led by a community response group within the area. Cumbria CC are aware that not every area has the resources to create an emergency plan and keep it up to date. A new Emergency Information Sheet for Town and Parish Councils had been created, when completed, this would be useful in case of an emergency or an event in the absence of an emergency plan. Members noted there is an Emergency Plan in place for Blennerhasset Village.

**2572 Resignation of Parish Councillor**

A letter of resignation had been received from Cllr A. Raine.

RESOLVED that:

Electoral Services at the Borough Council will be notified of the vacancy. If after 14 days an election has not been requested the vacancy will be filled by co-option.

The mandate with Cumberland Building Society would be updated to add Cllr J. Bowe and remove Cllr A. Raine as authorised signatories

**2573 Agenda items for the Next Meeting -** Resignation of Cllr A. Little

**2574**  **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 14th September, 2022 – 7.30 pm - Blennerhasset Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Signed……………………………….

Chairman

Date………………………………….