

**ROCKCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Rockcliffe Parish Council Meeting held on  
Monday 19th September 2016 in Rockcliffe Community Centre at 7:30 p.m.**

**RO 30/9/16 Apologies for absence**

None received.

**RO 31/9/16 Present**

The Chairman, Cllr J Harper, M Irving, H Graham, G Moss, G Mounsey-Heysham, R Park, G Percival, S Sidgwick & J Twentyman.

**RO 32/9/16 In Attendance**

County Councillor J Mallinson & City Cllr R Bloxham.

**RO 33/9/16 Declarations of Interest or Requests for Dispensations**

Cllr S Sidgwick declared an interest in Planning - due to his wife being a member of Carlisle City Councils (CCC) Development Control Committee.

**RO 34/9/16 Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**RO 35/9/16 Public Participation**

One member of the public was in attendance. The resident again queried why the PC paid 50p/annum to rent the green and if the PC had copies of the deeds of ownership for the green? The resident was advised again (see minutes of May 2016 meeting) that he could determine this personally through the land registry. The resident then requested that a member of the council accompany him to the Archives Office to examine historical documents relating to the green. No Cllrs offered to accompany the resident and he was advised that if he had any concerns, to copy these documents and write to the council stating their relevance. Further discussion undertaken included that green is a registered village green and is protected by village green law; that 50p/annum is considered a nominal charge to pay to allow residents enjoyment of the green; that any legal challenge would be expensive and the burden of paying for it would fall to the local tax-payer; that general maintenance of the green e.g. the removal of dead animal carcasses and rubbish would incur extra expenditure to the PC and the local tax payer.

**Agreed:** that the PC was satisfied with the current arrangements and that no further investigation into this matter was considered necessary.

**RO 36/9/16 Administration & Governance**

**36.1 Annual Review of Policy Documents**

The annual review of policy documents was undertaken, the council being advised that no revisions had been issued by the National Association of Local Councils - since the last review in September 2015.

**Resolved:** Approved.

**36.2 Consultations Received**

Removal of Public Payphone – Rockcliffe

Notification of BT's intention to remove phone box had been received and consideration was given to the adoption of the box (by the PC or community) for use as an information centre or other use.

**Resolved:** that the PC do not wish to adopt the box under the 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme. However, to suggest that CCC write to Sustrans to see if they would consider adoption, due to it being situated along the Coast to Coast cycle route.

Cllr S Sidgwick advised that he was to attend the 'Community Right to Bid' workshop that is to take place on 29<sup>th</sup> September and that he would report back on this to the November meeting.

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### 36.3 How the Council Works

Consideration was undertaken to how the council could work more efficiently and effectively.

**Resolved:** Clerk to continue to circulate information and Cllrs to volunteer to become involved in areas of concern or issues raised.

## RO 37/9/16 Clerks Report

### Highway Items

*Collapse of Noise Barrier, Todhills* – Cllrs advised that the inside lane of the A6 was currently cordoned off and it was surmised that repairs to the barrier were imminent.

*No-through road sign, The Boathouse* – Clerk to determine further progress through Cllr V Tarbitt and Highways;

### Summer Play Scheme

Clerk advised that the summer scheme had been well attended, with 24 children on the first day and 12 on the second. Overall, the Parish Council will contribute in the region of £220 towards the scheme from its project budget. Advised that the project budget currently had £88 of un-allocated funds for the rest of the financial year.

### Blencarn Park Tree Seat – Application for Grant Funding

Clerk advised that the Community Development Officer, Cumbria County Council had advised that the Longtown and Bewcastle Grants Panel had approximately only £1,000 left for 2016/17 and they still had previously submitted applications to consider. Recommended that Rockcliffe Parish Council applies at the beginning of the next financial year in April 2017.

Cllrs R Bloxham & J Mallinson advised that they would determine if they currently had any funds that they could contribute towards the tree seat.

### Registration of land at Blencarn Park as a village green

Notice of Application has been issued by Cumbria County Council and this has been published in the Cumberland News and on site. Any objections to the registration are to be received by the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017 and the PC will be notified if any are received.

## RO 38/9/16 Planning Matters

### 38.1 Applications

*The following applications have been agreed or commented on by the Clerk under Delegated Powers and after consultation with members by e-mail, in view of the time constraints for submission of observations:-*

**15/0754 High Harker Farm, Harker** – erection of 2No. dwellings (outline).

**Resolved:** No objections submitted.

**Permission Notices Received** - None received.

### 38.2 **1/16/9005 Energy From Waste Plant, Kingmoor Park**

Cllr R Park reported on the site meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Reported that:-

- the building is 39m high (equivalent in height to the Civic Centre and similar size/scale to Nestle, Dalston) with a 70m high chimney;
- the building will house a waste incinerator that burns waste pellets that produce electricity for the National Grid. This reduces landfill waste levels – a government target for the future;
- Planning Officers appeared to be in-favour of the development;
- the development is to be owned and managed by a private company;
- uncertainty exists as to if waste would be transferred from Hespian Wood and if CCC plan to use the facility, or if waste would be transferred from all areas of the country;
- additional wagon movements are estimated to be in the region of 42/day and are to use the Northern Relief road to enter/leave the site. Concerns were voiced as to the possible increase in number of local movements that maybe generated - if waste was transferred from Hespian Wood. It was also queried if transport by rail had been considered, given the proximity of the railway line. Advised that no-plans to use rail transport were outlined.

## DRAFT MINUTES TO BE AGREED AT MEETING TO BE HELD 21st NOVEMBER 2016

**Resolved:** to raise the following concerns; -

- The level of emissions and air pollution emanating from the site;
- the size & scale of the building and the visual impact that this will have on the surrounding countryside, Kingmoor Nature Reserve & Hadrian's Wall walking route;
- the cumulative effect that an additional 42 HGV movements would have on the parish - given that vehicle movements for the Hespin Wood site had also recently been increased;
- to determine if any community benefit/compensation is to be made available to the local community through permission being granted.

### 38.3 Neighbourhood Planning

Further consideration was given to the production of a plan for Rockcliffe. Cllr S Sidgwick advised that he would prefer if a.n.other Cllr took this item forward, due to a conflict of interest following his wife's recent appointment to the CCC Development Control Committee.

**Resolved:** to defer further consideration on the production of a plan until the CCC Local Plan is adopted. To also monitor adoption and impact of the Dalston Neighbourhood Plan.

### RO 39/9/16 Correspondence

No items of correspondence for action by the council had been reported as received.

### RO 40/9/16 Financial Matters

**40.1 Resolved** that the following payments be approved:-

A McCallum – Aug & Sept salary of £150.33 (D/D 1/8 & 1/9/16)	300.66
A McCallum re-imburements for July/Aug 2016	59.62
HMRC - PAYE – Aug/Sept 2016	1.40
GLL North – Summer play scheme	800.00
Rockcliffe Comm Centre – Room hire for summer scheme	80.00
Envirocare – grass cutting July & Aug 2016	148.80
D Malley – Payroll administration (6 months)	29.00

### 40.2 Financial Statement

A financial statement for the period up to the 31st August 2016 was received and approved:-

Opening balance 1st April 2016	4,157.56
Income to 31st August 2016	4,673.53
Expenditure to 31st August 2016	2,048.17
Bank reconciliation at 31st August 2016	6,782.92

### 40.3 Income Received

Reported that grant funding of £300 from Cumbria County Council and £200 from Carlisle City Council towards the summer play scheme had been received.

### 40.4 Quarterly Monitoring Report

A report on income and expenditure for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 had been circulated alongside the agenda.

**Resolved:** Approved.

### 40.5 External Audit 2015/16

Council were advised that the external audit had been completed, the annual return approved and the Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been displayed. Clerk reported that a query had been raised by the auditor regarding the valuation of the Harker Bus Shelter. Auditor advised that as no payment was made for the shelter, that a nominal value of £1 should be entered on the asset register and audit return. Approval of the annual return was requested.

**Resolved:** Approved.

### 40.6 Skipton Bond

Consideration was given to the appointment of two trustees.

**Resolved:** Cllr J Twentyman & G Moss approved.

#### **40.7 Computer/Programming Support**

Consideration was given to a financial contribution towards computer programming, storage and security support. St Cuthbert Without Parish Council having recently entered into an annual maintenance contract for these services.

**Resolved:** annual contribution of £25/annum agreed.

### **RO 41/9/16 Village Matters**

#### **41.1 England Coastal Path**

Cllr G Mounsey-Heysham advised the council on proposals for improved footpath access between Gretna & Allonby coastline and what was planned for the area. Advised on the footpath route and that Rockcliffe Marsh would be excluded from users being able to reach the coastline via 'spreading room' - to conserve wildlife. Understood that the government would provide extra funding via Cumbria CC so that improvements/upgrades to the existing footpaths could be undertaken.

#### **41.2 Beck Burn Wind Farm Community Fund**

Cllr S Sidgwick advised on meetings held by EDF Energy that he had attended. Reported that:-

- EDF Energy will pay £155,000/annum into the community fund and this will be distributed to councils within a 5 km radius of the farm – including Rockcliffe PC;
- £5,000 per annum will be made available to Rockcliffe PC and it would be up to the PC to decide how this is spent within the community;
- £80,000 will be allocated for charitable organisations within the area in a 'fund held for the benefit of residents within the area of benefit'.
- £31,000 would also be allocated for education and training purposes, to members within the community for training on renewable and energy related schemes e.g. NVQ's;
- Cumbria Community Foundation is to supervise the fund alongside a panel of 10 members (made up of the 8 Parish Councils, 1 x Carlisle City Council Cllr & 1 x Cumbria County Council member). Panel members will not have the power to approve grants but will vote on the process.

Consideration was then given to the authorisation of Cllr S Sidgwick & J Twentyman (substitute member) to agree the Terms & Conditions and the Memorandum of Understanding for the fund.

**Resolved:** Cllr S Sidgwick & J Twentyman ratified to agree the Terms & Conditions & Memorandum of Understanding of the community fund on behalf of Rockcliffe PC.

### **RO 42/9/16 Councillor Matters**

**Cllr G Moss** advised that visibility problems were being experienced by pedestrians crossing the road near the pub, due to an overgrown tree. Cllr G Mounsey-Heysham to investigate.

**Cllr G Mounsey-Heysham** advised on the following:-

#### Housing Developments in Rockcliffe

Advised that the development of the two sites by Knightbridge Developments had fallen through and it was likely that the sites would now be placed on the open market.

Also advised that planning consent for access to another site was forthcoming in the near future.

#### National Grid Pylon Route – Power Line

A plan of the proposed route was circulated. In total, 8 x 50m towers are to be erected in the parish, 2 of these on the outskirts of the village. However, a lot of the lines are to be placed underground. Further consultation by ENW is to be undertaken in October/November with an exhibition to be held at the Rockcliffe Centre on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

**Cllr J Twentyman** raised that a local resident had advised her of problems contacting the Clerk - when trying to determine if a 'phishing' e-mail required a response. Clerk advised that to her knowledge, the matter had been resolved and required no further action.

**RO 43/9/16 Date of Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016 in Rockcliffe Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9:50 p.m.

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