

Carsington & Hopton Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held at St Margaret's Church
on Wednesday 25 March 2024 at 7pm

Present: Councillors: N. Edmiston, L. Corbett, R. Miles (Chair), S. Mitchell and M. Wilson
Also, in Attendance: Kath Gruber (Parish Clerk)
3 members of the public

FC/0324/01 Apologies for Absence

None

FC/0324/02 Variation of Order of Business

None

FC/0324/03 Exclusion of the press and public

None.

FC/0324/04 Declaration of Members Interest

None

FC/0324/05 Public Speaking

Residents

On behalf of St Margarets church

Gave a presentation on plans to maintain and enhance the church to maximise the value of the building to the village and broader community. Funding opportunities are being sought and they asked if the parish council could function as lead authority for funding bids.

On behalf of CARE

Advised that a village litter pick is taking place next Saturday, 6 April.

FC/0324/06 County & District Councillor Reports

None

FC/0324/07 Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council **Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2024 are a correct record under the provisions for approval and were signed by the Chair.

FC/0324/08 Parish Clerk Position

Councillor Miles updated the Council on the recent interview and advised that she was seeking DALC advice on appropriate grading and working hours for the role.

FC/0324/09 Village Plan Projects

- a) Bug Hotel – the contractor has advised re-work will be started by the end of March. It was **Resolved:** to give a deadline for completion as end of May 2024.
- b) Telephone Box – electrician has advised electricity is not fully functional and a 2nd opinion is being sought. It was **Resolved:** the telephone box to house a defibrillator in the future.

FC/0324/10 Village Matters

a) Defibrillators:

- Hopton – all in working order.
- Carsington – all in working order; new adult pads ordered with status of child pads being checked. Councillor Edmiston has requested a new password for Webnos so checks can be updated.
- Annual safety check – completed and all in order.
- First aid kit – the Council considered a request from residents to store first aid kit in the defibrillator cabinets, it was **Resolved:** to consider again when telephone box in Carsington set up.

b) Village Green:

- i) Planting – Councillor Wilson is meeting with grounds maintenance contractor to agree plans for spring bulbs and summer bedding. the Council agreed that the bushes are a priority; lavender will last another year.
- ii) Dislodged stones – It was **Resolved:** to ask contractor to cement sections where stones are being removed and use Longcliffe monies for this.
- iii) Paving stone - **Resolved:** to ask contractor to re-set stone pillar by the gates.

c) Village Green Playground

- I. Slide – **Resolved:** Councillor Willson to ask grounds maintenance contractor for a price to lay topsoil and turf.
- II. Agility tunnel – action to consider options carried forward and **Resolved:** to use silicon to plug gaps and stop water entering; request contractor who will be doing noticeboard if he can fix.
- III. Gates – the Council **Resolved:** to take inspectors advice of positioning a door stop.

d) Environment

- Dog Waste – no new issues reported.
- Fly Tipping – no new cases. [the Council thanked Flo Miles for her litter picking and removal of fly litter around the villages.
- Noticeboards – contractor sourced.

e) Parish Council assets – no new issues; **Resolved:** to ask contractor to clean and varnish 5 benches in playground.

f) Snow Warden – **Resolved:**.

DCC minor maintenance scheme – the Council considered report, noting that the 40 metres area of concern (length of the wall to the rear of the pub adjacent to School Lane) is outside of scope. It was **Resolved** :to ask grounds maintenance contractor for a quote.

FC/0324/11 Biodiversity

The Council reviewed the policy and action plan and **Resolved:** to adopt it.

FC/0324/12 Financial Matters

- a) The Council approved the accounts for payment as at Schedule 1
- b) The Council noted income received.
- c) Bank Reconciliation reviewed and approved.
- d) Funding opportunities 2024/25 – It was **Resolved:** to set up a working group meeting to review Council priorities for 2024/25 and agree which funding to apply to.
- e) Windfarm applications:
 - Village Grounds Maintenance 2020/2021 – **Resolved:** to award £832 (50%)
 - Installation of 2 benches - **Resolved:** to award £465 (50%)
 - Design, build, install insulated defibrillator box - **Resolved:** to award £234.87 (50%)
 - Village Green tree bases – **Resolved:** to award £198.71 (50%)
 - Refurbishment of Hopton telephone box - **Resolved:** to award £376.71 (50%)
 - Hopton telephone box refurbishment materials - **Resolved:** to award £386.69 (50%)
 - New Bench - **Resolved:** to award £236.66 (50%)
 - Repointing dry stone walls - **Resolved:** to award £75 (50%)
 - Solar project – application refused on grounds of community focus, benefit to residents and location outside the parish.

FC/0324/13 Planning Applications

The Council considered planning applications 23/00437 and 24/00125/FUL and **Resolved:** to object to 24/00125/FUL (Knockerdown inn) on the grounds of ownership of the land.

FC/0324/15 Correspondence & Consultations (for information only)

- a) The Council noted the contents of Dalc circulars – February & March 2024.
- b) General and resident correspondence – reviewed and noted.
- c) Clerk’s Action Plan – reviewed.
 - o Consultation on DCC boundaries – reviewed & noted.

FC/0324/14 Next Council meetings

- a) Items for next agenda –update from working group on funding; PC as lead bidder for PCC; 1st aid kit in Carsington defibrillator box.
- b) Dates of 2024/25 meetings – reviewed, **resolved:** councillors to advise if any problems with dates.
- c) Next meeting – it was **Resolved:** that the Annual Parish Meeting, Annual Meeting of Parish Council and Ordinary meetings of Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 28 May 2024

The meeting closed to the public at 9.23pm

Appendix 1 – Payment Schedule

Description	Supplier	VAT		Net
Salary	Employee	366.16		366.16
Training	SLCC	30.00	6.00	36.00
Website	Cloud Next	49.98	10.00	59.98
PAYE	HMRC	275.75		275.75
Subscription Costs	Scribe	172.80	34.56	207.36
Salary	Empl;oyee	366.16		366.16
	Total	1,260.85	50.56	1,311.41

