

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2022 AT 5.30PM IN EGREMONT MARKET HALL**

Present:

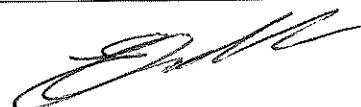
Mrs Elaine Woodburn (EW)                      Chairperson  
Mr Stephen Bell (SB)                              Vice Chairperson

Also:

Mr Graham Calvin (GC)                      Mr Sam Pollen (SP) who arrived at 5.45pm  
Mr Neil Ferguson (NF)                      Mr Thomas Higgins (TH)  
Mr Michael McVeigh (MM)                      Mrs Jean Lewthwaite (JL)  
Mr David Wright (DW)

Mrs Geraldine Pritchard (GP)                      Town Clerk

117.22.23	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> RESOLVED to accept apologies (with reasons noted) from G Stringer who had a prior engagement. Also from County Councillors David Southward who had a meeting elsewhere &amp; Chris Whiteside who was out of the area.</p>	GP
118.22.23	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA</b> There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
119.22.23	<p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> There was no County Councillors or members of the public present. Although Jane Mindar &amp; Alan Irwin from Age Concern had been invited to this meeting, they had not responded &amp; were not present.</p>	
120.22.23	<p><b>CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS</b> Chairperson stated that the allotment agenda item will be deferred until the January meeting, this was RESOLVED. Chairperson acknowledged that the recent Amenity Committee's Winter Wonderland event could not have taken place without the help of all the volunteers (many of whom were Town Councillors) so she thanked them &amp; reported that the day had been a huge success &amp; £2,800 was raised on the day. Chairperson requested that when Councillors are asked to look at a planning application and send in their comments, they make every effort to do so. Chairperson was delighted to announce that Nuclear Waste Services have agreed a grant of £10,000 to help those in need this Christmas, she announced that the covid group would meet soon to discuss the best way to utilise the money i.e. vouchers or hampers. She also suggested that the new hub in the Methodist Church should be given some of this grant for food or to purchase some room dividers as currently they are borrowing the Town Council's boards but it is not ideal to be carrying them back and forth across the Main Road, this was RESOLVED but no figure agreed upon until costs were obtained. Chairperson also mentioned that a resident had enquired about setting up a hub in St Mary's &amp; St Michael's Church, Councillors felt that only one was needed &amp; they should join forces as one. A request had arrived for Egremont Town Council to take on the ownership of a new recycled seat to be placed in Moor Row in memory of the late Anne Redden (wife of retired Town Councillor Jimmy Redden). A memorandum of agreement has to be signed before the seat can be placed in position which is something Lesley Sloan (who is helping the family) did not know. It was RESOLVED that the Egremont Town Council will sign the memorandum of agreement for this recycled seat in the place chosen by the family on the basis that the family maintain it &amp; a clause is included to state that if the seat becomes unfit for use, it will be removed.</p>	EW



121.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER, APPROVE &amp; SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING:</b>  RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Egremont Town Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022. EW duly signed them.</p>	EW
122.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER &amp; REVIEW ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b></p> <p>4/22/2452/0F1            Installation of a bio mass boiler and flue in timber shed  Springfield Farm, Bigrigg, Egremont  No objection</p> <p>4/22/2375/0F1            Consultation on additional &amp; amended information:  Proposed dwelling  Site of former 3 Mill House, Vale View, Egremont  No objection</p>	ALL
123.22.23	<p><b>TO RATIFY COMMENTS WITH REGARDS PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BETWEEN TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS</b></p> <p>The following plans were ratified:</p> <p>4/22/2304/0F1            Consultation on additional &amp; amended information:  Erection of a concrete &amp; steel garage.  Land adjacent Rose Bank, East Road, Egremont.  No objections</p> <p>4/22/2427/0F1            Detached dwelling with integral garage  Plot 2, Rusper Drive, Moor Row  No objections</p> <p>4/22/2429/0F1            Detached dwelling with integral garage  Plot 7, Rusper Drive, Moor Row  No objections</p> <p>4/22/2428/0F1            Detached dwelling with integral garage  Plot 21, Rusper Drive, Moor Row  No objections</p>	ALL
124.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER ANY REPORTS INCLUDING FINANCE, PERSONNEL, CEMETERY, BOWLING GREEN, MARKET HALL, WEBSITE, ALLOTMENTS, DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS, HEALTH &amp; SAFETY, CUMBRIA IN BLOOM, PUBLIC REALM &amp; WC PARTNERSHIP</b></p> <p><u>Finance</u>  RESOLVED that a meeting will be arranged to discuss any finance issues then bring back any recommendations to full council.</p> <p><u>Bowling Green</u>  The proposed lease for the Bowling Green needs to be considered, RESOLVED that this will be considered at the finance meeting.</p> <p><u>Allotments</u>  JL asked if all tenants were abiding by the Defra rules regarding the bird flu, GP confirmed that the Defra advice had been displayed at Sandholes &amp; East Road but it was up to the tenants to ensure they carry out the advice.  GC stated that some of the Defra advice was misleading &amp; very difficult to know exactly what to do.</p>	ALL



Cemetery

Following an official complaint, MM reported that the police are looking into the matter of why they did not respond to an incident in the cemetery when there were loose bullocks within the grounds.

Market Hall

GP reported that the boxing club was going well and was well attended.

Borderlands/Public Realm

EW reported that Groundwork had been appointed by Copeland to carry out the Borderlands deal, which will hopefully start before the end of the financial year

Egremont Castle

DW reported that the Castle group have lots of things planned for next year including an Easter trail, a tree trail, planting the bed to commemorate the King's coronation and putting on a play, this was welcome news.

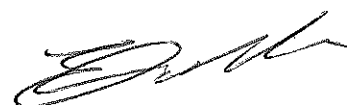
125.22.23

**CONSIDER & REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE**

ALL

1. Request from Great North Air Ambulance Service (who are celebrating 20 years of service) for any financial donation. RESOLVED that a donation of £100 is given.
2. In response to a letter sent to them, Stagecoach replied that the Government's proposal of a £2 cap on most bus fares outside of London is due to go live in the New year however there is no further information than this at the moment.
3. Following a letter of concern sent to Copeland about a recent planning decision, Copeland's planning officer has replied stating that they have changed their tree works consultation timeframes to the required 21 days to allow more time for any concerns raised to be addressed before a decision notice is issued.
4. The insurance re-build valuation has been completed & these will be discussed in more detail at the next finance meeting.
5. Email from CALC reminding the Town Council that our parish is due for an election on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023. GP reported that the Town Council may have to pay full costs so to take this into account when setting the precept for 2023/24.
6. Email from Copeland re: the Local Plan, confirmation has been sent to Copeland stating that David Wright will be the Town Council's representative who wishes to participate in the hearings.
7. Email from Cumbria Local Government Pension Scheme with the actuarial valuation results, RESOLVED that more information is requested before it is taken to finance for consideration.
8. A further verbal complaint about the gate within the Sandholes allotment site, the lengthsman has already tried to address this situation but to no avail. SB said he had an idea which may help so RESOLVED that SB & GC will attend to see if they can resolve the situation.
9. A further letter of complaint from the same resident regarding Sellafield workers parking inconsiderately at Cringlethwaite. NF reported that he had held a meeting with David Pettitt via teams to discuss these issues and who confirmed that the parking areas including the Rugby Union Club are being paid for and he couldn't understand why employees were not using them. He

	<p>said it would be difficult to do anything if the drivers were not parking illegally. NF said Mr Pettitt would consider attending a Town Council meeting &amp; it was RESOLVED that he is officially invited to a meeting in February/March but EW recommended that all Councillors get together a full list of areas where these cars are causing a problem (with photographs if possible), the more evidence we have to show him, the better, this was RESOLVED. It was also RESOLVED that Mr Hurst is kept up to date and to ask him to send evidence too.</p> <p>Whilst at this meeting, NF mentioned (as agreed by the Town Council) about utilising the Sellafield buses to operate a service for the public especially at Moor Row especially now when there is no direct service to Cleator Moor. Mr Pettitt has replied that this was not possible as the contract between the buses and Sellafield does not allow for the public's use, there are sometimes staffing issues &amp; the Sellafield staff drive the buses themselves. It was felt that if the contract could be amended there shouldn't be an issue but again, this can be brought up when attending a meeting in the near future.</p> <p>Email from Matthew Reeves stating explanation for the reasoning behind the decision not to have resident parking at Cringlethwaite but to offer the painting of H bars on the junctions as a means to reduce the problem though they are not enforceable, a letter of this response will be sent to Mr Hurst.</p>	
125.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER &amp; RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT</b> RESOLVED to accept, consider and approve the Clerk's report.</p>	ALL
126.22.23	<p><b>TO RATIFY THE PAYMENTS MADE BETWEEN MEETINGS</b> RESOLVED to ratify the payments amounting to £23,644.91</p>	ALL
127.22.23	<p><b>RECEIVE &amp; APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2022</b> RESOLVED to accept, consider &amp; approve the financial statement at 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 amounting to £23,260.80</p>	ALL
128.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER, ACCEPT &amp; APPROVE THE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT</b> RESOLVED to accept &amp; approve the Internal Auditor's report</p>	ALL
129.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER ANY UPDATE ON THE BECK GREEN NURSERY SITE – SP</b> GP read out the response from Emmanuel Flecken which stated that as part of the landlord obligations, Copeland has started with some vegetation management mostly carried out by the community payback team but also the arborist team. Growing Well has received the lease proposal from Copeland and they are busy putting their funding part together.</p>	SP
130.22.23	<p><b>TO DISCUSS THE IMMINENT CLOSURE OF MCCOLLS AND THE LOSS OF THE POST OFFICE PROVISION</b> EW reported that herself and JL had a meeting arranged with our MP Trudy Harrison to ask for her support &amp; any influence she can use to help retain the post office in Egremont. EW said that she had spoken to a post office representative who were carrying out their own survey of the town to look at other possible suitable outlets which could house a post office but it was difficult as the post office is not a profit-making business on its own but would be better run as part of another business.</p>	ALL



	<p>DW felt that people were unaware of the situation &amp; the Town Council needed to make them aware that the post office will be closing in January 2023. DW also stated that the building itself does not belong to Morrisons but to a separate company. Councillors RESOLVED to do all it can to help relocate the post office in town but there was a major concern that a prominent building would be left to deteriorate right in the centre of town.</p>	
131.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER A DONATION FOR THE NEWLY OPENED WARM HUB - SP</b></p> <p>SP reported that the hub was going well with lots of volunteers attending every Friday to help. SB has also been helping by taking across the Town Council's 12 notice boards for the hub's use however due to health &amp; safety reasons, this cannot continue. <b>On this note, it was suggested that any donation given to the hub could be used for new display boards or something else that was needed so RESOLVED SP request some costings from the hub.</b></p>	SP
132.22.23	<p><b>TO CONSIDER A CELEBRATORY EVENT TO COMMEMORATE THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III ON 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023</b></p> <p>RESOLVED that this matter is re-considered in the New Year.</p>	ALL
132.22.23	<p><b>COUNCILLORS MATTERS</b></p> <p>SP reported that a lady from the charity Bee Unique is looking for donations for a fundraiser if any Councillor wished to donate. GP stated that the Amenity Committee had some selection boxes they could have.</p> <p>SP reported that Egremont will get their own dedicated police officer &amp; it would be nice to invite her to our January meeting.</p> <p>NF reported that Tracy McFadden had been appointed the new manager of Egremont Youth Partnership.</p> <p>EW suggested that the Town Councillors when on official duties should wear a lanyard, this was raised following Councillor's delivering the Christmas hampers.</p> <p>GC asked if there was a specific date that the poppy wreaths had to be removed from the war memorials, GP will contact John Edwards to find out.</p> <p>The lengthsman had checked the tree at Bigrigg that had been reported to be at risk, the tree was safe and not moving</p> <p>Moor Row has set up a new warm hub every Thursday from 10am – 2pm in the Emmanuel Church.</p> <p>Egremont Amenity committee donated remaining selection boxes to the foodbank.</p>	SP NF EW GP
133.22.23	<p><b>ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT AGENDA</b></p>	
134.22.23	<p><b>RESOLVED THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>RESOLVED the next meeting of Egremont Town Council will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023.</p>	
135.22.23	<p><b>MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE EXCLUDING THE PRESS &amp; GENERAL PUBLIC</b></p> <p>RESOLVED that matters in private could be deferred to the January meeting for discussion.</p> <p>The meeting was then brought to a close at 7.15pm</p>	