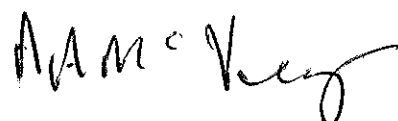


**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF EGREMONT TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2023 AT 5.30PM IN EGREMONT MARKET HALL**

|          |                              |  |
|----------|------------------------------|--|
| Present: | Mrs Elaine Woodburn (EW)     | Chairperson                            |
|          | Mr Michael McVeigh (MM)      | Vice-Chair                             |
| Also:    | Mr Graham Calvin (GC)        | Mr Sam Pollen (SP)                     |
|          | Mrs Jean Lewthwaite (JL)     | Mr David Wright (DW) arrived at 6.10pm |
|          | Mr Graham Calvin (GC)        |  |
|          | Mrs Geraldine Pritchard (GP) | Town Clerk                             |
|          | Mrs Nicola Cattanach (NC)    | Assistant Town Clerk                   |
|          | Mr Graham Minshaw (GM)       | Cumberland Councillor                  |
|          | Ms Mary Smith                | Growing Well Nursery                   |

|           |  |    |
|-----------|--|----|
| 115.23.24 | <p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b><br/>RESOLVED to note that apologies were received with reasons noted from Chris Whiteside</p>  | NC |
| 116.23.24 | <p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA</b><br/>EW, GP &amp; NC declared an interest under Personnel – wage increase<br/>DW declared an interest under planning – Gleeson building 164 dwellings, Daleview Gardens</p>   | EW |
| 117.23.24 | <p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b><br/>Mary Smith – Growing Well Nursey<br/>Cumberland Councillor Graham Minshaw<br/>Cumberland Councillor Sam Pollen</p> <p>Mary Smith introduced herself as the Chief Executive of Growing Well Nursery, the new project being developed at the old Beck Green nursery site which is due to open in Spring 2024. It has taken two years to raise the initial funding with donations from NDA, Copeland Community Fund and the National Lottery.</p> <p>Growing Well already have sites at Low Sizergh Farm, Kendal and Tebay Services and they provide structured mental health support to volunteers in the local community who can be referred from GP’s, Mental Health teams or hospitals to carry out horticultural work on site. The aim is to have supervised groups to manage risk, create routine and work towards individual rehabilitation. The site will produce fruit and vegetables on a commercial scale to sell on to local residents and businesses. Growing Well plan to work with other organisations such as Calderwood House and Together We and on a Friday it will be a community day where visitors can arrange to visit and take part on the site, where children and young adults will be encouraged to go along schools will also be invited to use the space on offer as a venue.</p> <p>Growing Well have secured funds for the first three years and have recruited 4 members of staff and are looking to employ another person in the new year. They are expecting up to 100 people a week to volunteer. There was an open day in October to answer local resident’s questions and another community day is to be held on 7<sup>th</sup> December. Mary said that plans for the office space have been submitted and she hopes to have them passed by January/February 2024. She said that early engagement from mental health professionals and Cumberland Council has been good and the recent change in the local government reorganisation has not affected progress. Once</p> |    |



established Growing Well hope to provide vegetable boxes for 100 families a week, 50 at a regular price and 50 at a reduced price, also surplus could go to Foodbanks and for wholesale to local cafes and restaurants.

SP said that Growing Well has fantastic partners having Sellafield, Works 4 You and Calderwood House.

MM said that he hoped Works 4 You would be allowed to work with Growing Well as they had previously submitted a bid to take over the site.

Mary Smith said that she had not been aware of the history with the Good Lives project and that their bid had been unsuccessful. However, because they are different things – Growing Well, being mental health led, Works 4 You/ Good Lives centred around employability and she would like them to work together and clients could be referred between the two where necessary.

GC thanked MS for her talk and he welcomed the two groups working together and he asked if Growing Well is a charity. MS confirmed that they are a registered charity and non-profit organisation. She said that 50-60% of funds come from grants and trust funding. She said that £10,000 had been raised towards the cost of a £20,000 mini bus. EW said this would be good to take away the transport barrier that some people have and also would prevent too many vehicles from accessing the site so as not to upset residents. MS said that the plan was not to have too many people coming to site Mon-Thurs with the gates not being open to everyone and only having the community day on a Friday.

MS then went on to talk about the benefits of the initiative, commissioning money to deliver what works. According to NHS data 70% of people at each site demonstrate an increase in positive mental health after 9 months – 1 year of working on the Growing Well scheme.

EW asked how Growing Well protect the community from potential issues with those referred. MS said that there is a structured plan throughout the day and those that have been picked up by the mini bus are unlikely to wander off site and that all are people that live in the community so are not on day release etc. EW asked if Growing Well visited the community to reassure residents and MS said that residents were invited to the open day in October a lot visited then. EW asked if there was any negative feedback and MS said that the main concern was parking, however she did not envisage more than 10 cars maximum on site.

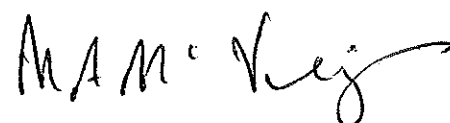
GM asked if the three Growing Well sites worked independently or if, for example, Egremont struggled would the other sites help. MS said that the other sites have a solid base and all partners would work closely together.

EW thanked MS for attending and wished her a safe journey back to Kendal, MS left the meeting at 6.20pm.

Cumberland Councillor Graham Minshaw gave an update. He said that two wildlife ponds at Moor Row had a blocked trap, resulting in a burst sewer seeping in but this was nearing a resolution. GM said that on the Outrigg to St Bees road a culvert was blocked and as discussions were ongoing between the landowner and the Council a diversion is still in place, for the time being. GM talked about the Moor Row footpath along Scalegill Road where some residents had extended their gardens over the walkway. GM said the planning department were involved and the Council will not take action if the footpath measures 1.8m +. It is believed that two of the plots have taken 3ft over the building line. GM & GC are to measure the path.

Complaints about parking at Moor Row school are to be monitored. GM spoke of the lack of bus provision and he had asked for the bus companies to reconsider the list to include Moor Row, Egremont and St Bees. GM mentioned the Rural Mobility Fund pilot scheme where there would be a 12 seater mini bus on demand, where residents could hail the bus, phone up or use the App to book a seat and the pilot schemes are to rolled out in Penrith, Ulverston, Wigton as well as Egremont.

|                         |  |           |
|-------------------------|--|-----------|
|                         | <p>SP said this was a good thing for the community. He also informed Councillors that he was due to meet Home Group as residents of Cleator Moor meet with them twice a month and he wanted Egremont to have the same. SP said he had forwarded information on school crossings to Councillors and a meeting was planned with Cumberland Council and Primary School representatives for Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December to discuss the lack of provision.</p> <p>SP said that the next Community Panel for South Cumberland is to be held on 10.01.24 where Town Council's and partners can have their say and he hoped that the Borderlands committee would launch in the new year with a challenging but major opportunity to regenerate Egremont.</p> <p>MM &amp; EW expressed concerns over Sellafield working with Cumberland Council as previously reported to develop the former Red Lion site.</p>   |           |
| <p><b>118.23.24</b></p> | <p><b>CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS</b></p> <p>EW discussed the correspondence from Aldi to request a meeting with Councillors regarding the proposed development of the former East Road Garage. She suggested Councillors agreeing on what was to be discussed before a meeting is arranged, if possible.</p> <p>EW announced that there would be a judging of the best dressed Christmas window in the town. SP nominated EW &amp; MM as Chair and Vice-Chair, this was RESOLVED.</p> <p>EW thanked all those who donated prizes for the Christmas event.</p> <p>EW said that there had been reports of young people throwing mud from the castle, onto passing vehicles and asked that the police be contacted for an update.</p> <p>EW thanked all those who helped organise the Remembrance Sunday parade and DW commented on the large turnout. She did note that the Reverend was difficult to hear because of the large gathering and church bells so a PA system might be an idea for next year.</p> |           |
| <p><b>119.23.24</b></p> | <p><b>TO CONSIDER, APPROVE &amp; SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING:</b></p> <p>RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Egremont Town Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023.</p>   | <p>EW</p> |
| <p><b>120.23.24</b></p> | <p><b>TO CONSIDER &amp; REVIEW ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b></p> <p>4/23/2313/0F1 Full planning application for the residential development of 164 dwellings (use class C3, vehicle access from Uldale View, landscaping, suds, and associated infrastructure works</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Land to the south of Daleview Gardens, Egremont</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Councillors need more time to discuss this application and will meet to discuss a response then</p> <p>4/23/2319/0F1 Change of use to residential property</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">4 Dryden Way, Egremont</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">No comments</p>  |           |



3/2340/OF1 Ground floor accessible bedroom & shower room

10 Queens Drive, Egremont

No comments

121.23.24

**TO CONSIDER ANY REPORTS INCLUDING FINANCE, PERSONNEL, CEMETERY, BOWLING GREEN, MARKET HALL, WEBSITE, ALLOTMENTS, DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS, HEALTH & SAFETY, CUMBRIA IN BLOOM, PUBLIC REALM & WC PARTNERSHIP**

**Personnel**

See matters in private

**Allotments**

GP reported that Emanuel Flecken is leaving Cumberland Council to work for Growing Well. This could have an impact on how the Sandholes handover to Cumberland Council is done as he was the lead on this.

GS is still to contact the Sandholes resident that contacted the Town Council about removing trees.

**Cemetery**

D Spurr has fitted ventilation fans in Cemetery House and Haverigg workers have been removing wall paper and decorating.

**Market Hall**

Staff have ordered Christmas decorations and they, the caretaker and D Spurr decorated the Market Hall this year.

**Christmas Lights**

SP congratulated all involved in organising the Christmas Lights, they are greatly admired. Lite connected the Christmas street lights and motifs for the light switch on.

**Public Realm**

EW asked for delegated authority to sign off agreement between Cumberland Council and ETC with regard to the upkeep of bus shelters and planters etc., only when the Mares Tail weed is eradicated. SP thought another seat could go opposite the Co-op to add to the seating area. SP thanked EW for pushing the Public Realm project forward.

**Lengthsman scheme**

EW & GP met with Works 4 You to discuss grass cutting in the cemetery and they would like it written in the next contract that they must have a supervisor on site to avoid mess or accidents as it is not up to the Cemetery Curator to follow the workers round to check on their work. Karen Jones said it had been a difficult year with regard to securing staff.

SP asked about the maintenance of the Falcon Path as he receives complaints from residents. GP confirmed it is on the list of works to do. She said it is also the responsibility of West Lakes Academy to keep foliage clear on their side of the fence. DW asked if when the contract is put out to tender can we make it clear of the tasks we expect to be done. EW & GP explained that the Lengthsman scheme is not put out to tender and it is an agreement with flexibilities between the Town Council and Works 4 You.

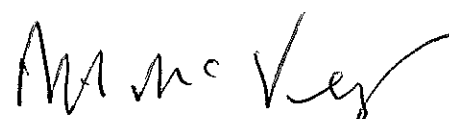
122.23.24

**CONSIDER & REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE**

Egremont Youth Partnership sent a report of the status of the group and what they have been doing in the community in the hope of securing the youth grant to help with the decoration of their premises. GC explained that the Moor Row Youth Group was not up and running therefore it was RESOLVED to award Egremont Youth Partnership the full £1000 grant this year.

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|           | <p>GP read out the email from Cumberland Council to explain that due to the Local Government Reorganisation they are not in a position to give any quotes until the review of grounds maintenance has been carried out. Therefore, Cumberland have asked the plant nursery to quote us for the plants direct. RESOLVED to accept this and enquire about the cost for planting.</p> <p>Moor Row Jubilee Club asked for a donation towards their Christmas meal at O'Halloran's restaurant. It was RESOLVED to donate £100.</p> <p>There has been a request from the Great North Ambulance for a donation. RESOLVED to donate £50.</p> <p>Sammy's Skate School enquired about skateboarding classes in the Market Hall. RESOLVED not to agree to this because of potential damage to the floor.</p> <p>GP asked for confirmation of what was agreed about the Bowling Green having advertising boards on the exterior fence. RESOLVED to allow the existing boards to stay unless Highway challenge them.</p> |    |
| 123.23.24 | <p><b>TO CONSIDER &amp; RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT</b><br/>RESOLVED to accept, consider and approve the Clerk's report.</p>   |    |
| 124.23.24 | <p><b>TO RATIFY THE PAYMENTS MADE BETWEEN MEETINGS</b><br/>RESOLVED to ratify the payments at 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 amounting to £11,813.92. Also RESOLVED to ratify the payments made at 11<sup>th</sup> October which was previously agreed at £6,481.60 is amended to £6,126.63 as picked up by the Town Clerk</p>   |    |
| 125.23.24 | <p><b>TO RECEIVE &amp; APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT 22ND NOVEMBER 2023</b><br/>RESOLVED to accept, consider &amp; approve the financial statement at 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 amounting to £40,534.54</p>   |    |
| 126.23.24 | <p><b>TO RATIFY THE RESPONSE TO CUMBERLAND COUNCIL REGARDING THE CONSULTATION ON USE OF LAND NEAR THE PASTURES</b><br/>Councillors support this in principle subject to receiving further details. Councillors are equal to both sides and therefore require all information.</p>   |    |
| 127.23.24 | <p><b>TO CONSIDER AND AGREE A RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT BIGRIGG</b><br/>There were some concerns about access on to the main road from Bank End View however, Councillors will reserve judgement until the planning application is available to view.</p>   |    |
| 128.23.24 | <p><b>TO CONSIDER ANY UPDATED INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL CROSSINGS</b><br/>SP has arranged separate meetings with Cumberland Council and three local primary schools on 14.12.23, the first beginning at 4.30pm.</p>  | SP |
| 129.23.24 | <p><b>TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE FOOD BANK &amp; WARM HUB</b><br/>SP said the Egremont Food Hub works with social and council partners to provide a warm space for vulnerable people in the parish. He said they are launching a Christmas event which isn't covered financially and he suggested a donation from the Town Council.<br/>GC said that vulnerable people also attend the Warm Hub at Moor Row, providing a great service and suggested a Christmas donation there. EW said that in the new year all Councillor requests for donations should be put in a report so that we know exactly</p>  | SP |

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| 130.23.24 | <p>what we are being asked for with numbers involved etc. however in time for Christmas she suggested a donation of £100 for each of the hubs. All Councillors supported this. MM confirmed that he and SP often attend the hub and he thought that the majority of people who attend are vulnerable.</p> <p>GC said that vulnerable people also attend the Warm Hub at Moor Row, providing a great service with donations from the church and suggested a Christmas donation there too.</p> <p>EW suggested a donation of £100 for each of the hubs, in time for Christmas. All Councillors supported this.</p>  | SP, DW      |
| 131.23.24 | <p><b>TO CONSIDER FORMING A PLAY PARK WORKING PARTY AND A CHAPEL WORKING PARTY WITH NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE</b></p> <p>EW said that the chapels are the responsibility of the Town Council and a group is required to take the maintenance forward and also for a play park it was suggested to have a Town Council representative and work with the Borderlands committee. DW said that a dedicated working group could be set up similar to the Friends of Egremont Castle Group as there is no decent play provision in Egremont. SP said that there were lots of opportunities and the town is in desperate need of a new play park.</p> <p>EW said groups need to look at funding requests and SP proposed that he as a Cumberland Councillor and DW as a Town Councillor work together to look into play park provision and report back in 2-3 months to see where they are.</p> <p>EW said we need to re-engage the chapel and cemetery committees.</p> | EW, GC & GS |
| 132.23.24 | <p><b>TO RECEIVE &amp; ACCEPT THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR 2022/23</b></p>   | ALL         |
| 133.23.24 | <p>RESOLVED to accept the external auditor's report.</p> <p><b>TO RECEIVE &amp; ACCEPT THE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT</b></p> <p>RESOLVED to accept the internal auditor's report.</p>   | ALL         |
| 134.23.24 | <p><b>TO RATIFY THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2023 WINTER PLANTING QUOTE FOR THE FLOWER BED OPPOSITE THE CEMETERY</b></p> <p>RESOLVED to accept the winter planting quote.</p>  | ALL         |
| 135.23.24 | <p><b>TO CONSIDER THE QUOTE FOR THE 2024 SUMMER PLANTING PROVISION</b></p> <p>RESOLVED to accept the quote of £1080.90 for flowers from J &amp; R Bennett.</p>  | ALL         |
| 136.23.24 | <p><b>TO CONSIDER AN UPDATE REGARDING COUNCILLORS PROFILES TO ENCOURAGE NEW MEMBERS</b></p> <p>DW agreed to create a structured template detailing the role of a Town Councillor with what is involved and why it would be recommended to others to join.</p> <p>GC asked who could apply for a Councillor vacancy if they did not live in the parish.</p> <p>EW confirmed a person had to reside within 3 miles.</p>   | DW          |
|           | <p><b>COUNCILLORS MATTERS – AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO RAISE MINOR MATTERS NOT ON THIS AGENDA AND NOT FOR DISCUSSION</b></p> <p>MM said that he had been contacted by a resident as they had concerns with a neighbour. EW stated that this was a civil/legal matter and the Town Council have no jurisdiction on a dispute between neighbours. GP advised that if a resident contacts a representative in a Town Councillor capacity then they should be referred to the Town Council office in future. SP &amp; GC also confirmed that they had been contacted by one of the residents involved. GP advised that if a resident contacts a representative in a</p>  | DW, GC      |



Town Councillor capacity then they should be referred to the Town Council office in future.

DW, GS & GC will get together in the new year to meet and view the chapels.

GC said he had met with the tenant who has the drainage problems on the allotment plot at East Road to discuss proposed drainage works. He has access to a digger and it was suggested that any top soil removed could be offered to Works 4 You to use elsewhere. GC asked for volunteers to help level out the plot. GP suggested volunteers from Haverigg or Calderwood House as long as we have prior notice to ask them  
GM left the meeting.

137.23.24

**FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT AGENDA**

To consider and agree the Precept figure for 2024/2025

138.23.24

**RESOLVED THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED the date of the next meeting on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 5.30pm.

The meeting was then brought to a close at 8.30pm

