

STANWIX RURAL PARISH COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of a Meeting Held on Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 7:30pm in the
Village Hall, Houghton

PRESENT

The Chairman Cllr C Nicholson, Cllr's A Coles, H Phillips, A Robinson, C Savory and N Watson.

IN ATTENDANCE

City Cllr's F Robson and P Nedved. The Clerk, S Kyle.

SR 195/05/22 ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN FOR THE COUNCIL YEAR 2022/23

Resolved to elect Cllr C Nicholson as Chairman for the Council year 2022/23. Cllr Nicholson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

SR 196/05/22 APPOINTMENT OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN

Resolved to appoint Cllr H Phillips as Vice-Chairman for the Council year 2022/23.

SR 197/05/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr E Leitch as well as City Cllr E Mallinson and County Cllr J Mallinson. The resignation of Cllr A Lightfoot was received and noted.

SR 198/05/22 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 28 APRIL 2022

Resolved to authorise the Chairman to sign, as a true and accurate record, the minutes of the last meeting of the Council.

SR 199/05/22 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A previously granted dispensation for Cllr Robinson remains current, with regards to planning application 22/0297.

Declarations of interest were made by Cllr Nicholson regarding matters relating to Houghton Village Hall, his spouse being treasurer. Cllr Phillips also declared an interest in matters relating to Houghton Wildlife Group, being a group member.

SR 200/05/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present, and no reports were received from attending City Cllr's.

SR 201/05/22 PLANNING MATTERS

201.1 22/0297 Land to the east of Lansdowne Close/Lansdowne Court, Carlisle - Erection Of 101no. Dwellings with Associated Parking, Landscaping, Drainage and Surface Water Attenuation, Public Open Space and Access

A public meeting had been held on 10th May, with approximately 75 – 80 residents in attendance, with ward members and two City Council planning officers also present. Many issues were raised with drainage, access and road networks being of primary concern. Full minutes from the meeting will be circulated in due course however it was noted that the

planning officers had stated they did not expect the application to be approved in its current form.

201.2 Planning Application 19/0452 - L/A Croft House Brunstock

Consent issues regarding the above remain ongoing.

SR 202/05/22 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

202.1 Village Hall Reports

Crosby Parish Hall

A Jubilee party has been arranged for Saturday 4th June.

Houghton Village Hall

It was reported that the Committee had recently gained two new members and were searching for a booking secretary. A Jubilee afternoon tea is planned for Thursday 2nd June for hall user groups. The parking issues have been very much resolved, and a surveyor has been engaged to assess the damp in the small hall. It was also noted the Hornby Model Railway Group is to host a fundraiser on 9th October for the Hall's benefit.

202.2 Stanwix Urban Community Governance Review

Concerns were raised regarding the information from Carlisle City Council that was provided to residents, with residents in Tarraby View and Millcroft not being informed that they were part of the existing Stanwix Rural parish and therefore not given any options to determine how they would be affected by the proposed parishing of Stanwix Urban; democratic representations were subsequently not fully transparent.

Resolved to formally complain to Carlisle City Council. Also to question the decision to prevent Cllr Nicholson from joining the review working group on behalf of parish councils in the locality.

202.3 Programme of Meetings

Resolved that the calendar of meetings for 2022/23 be accepted, with meetings taking place at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of every other month, asides from August. The venue for each meeting will be confirmed. Apologies were noted in advance for the September meeting from Cllr Robinson.

202.4 Review of Policies and Procedures

Resolved to accept the review undertaken by the Clerk of the Council's Standing Orders; complaints procedure; procedures and practices in respect of freedom of information, General Data Protection Regulations; and policy for dealing with the press/media, with no amendments suggested.

202.5 Financial Regulations

Resolved to accept the updated Financial Regulations, which had been circulated alongside the agenda.

202.6 Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies & Appointment of Working Groups

Resolved to appoint the following representatives to outside bodies:

- Houghton Village Hall Committee – Cllr C Nicholson
- Crosby Village Hall Committee – No representative appointed
- Brampton & Beyond Community Trust – No representative appointed

Also **Resolved** to appoint the following working groups:

- Finance/Risk – Cllr's C Nicholson, H Phillips, A Coles & C Savory
- Planning & Housing – Cllr's C Nicholson, A Coles & N Watson
- Personnel - To be called on an ad-hoc basis according to need
- Salary Review – Vacancy & the Clerk
- Cllr Interview Panel - To be called on an ad-hoc basis
- Complaints/Appeals - Relevant selection based upon nature of complaint/appeal
- Environment & Recreation – Cllr's Phillips & Savory
- Highways & Transport – Cllr Coles & C Savory
- Community Plan - Relevant selection called upon ad-hoc
- Houghton Fair Planning Group – No representative necessary
- Brunstock Common – Cllr's Nicholson, Coles & Watson
- Flood Group – No representative appointed

SR 203/05/22 VILLAGE MATTERS

203.1 Brunstock Pond

A recommendation from the Finance/Risk group to ringfence up to £5,000 for ongoing refurbishment works was considered. Concerns were raised that such a figure amounted to almost ten percent of the annual precept, however members were reassured that the budget was being primarily drawn from higher-than-normal reserves.

Resolved to proceed with renovation works to the maximum sum of £5,000 prior to additional consideration of any increased budget necessary.

203.2 Queen's Green Canopy

Resolved to retrospectively authorise expenditure on six oak trees, which have been planted around the parish to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Also **resolved** to grant permission to Tarraby residents to plant an additional tree on the common land.

203.3 Flooding, Houghton

An on-site meeting had been held with Cumbria County Council and County Cllr J Mallinson to consider drainage issues adjacent to 1 – 8 The Green. The County Council are to organise a drainage survey to investigate the current state of the drains.

203.4 Houghton Village Green Damage

Further consideration was given to the damage incurred adjacent to the track leading parallel to the Village Hall, which residents had blamed on Hall users rather than visitors to the properties over the Green.

Resolved that prices be obtained for large boulders to prevent vehicular access (allowing for emergency vehicles) onto the Green, for consideration at a future meeting.

203.5 Parish Goal Posts

It was noted that the previously ordered goalposts for Linstock were delayed in shipment.

Resolved to install the Linstock goal posts in Houghton upon arrival and to authorise expenditure on two new sets of goalposts, to be installed in Linstock and Crosby.

203.6 Speed Indicator Device

An update regarding the potential purchase of a speed camera was given, noting that there may be problems in reliance on the data provided. An alternative purchase of a speed indication device is to be considered by the Finance/Risk working group before consideration at a Council meeting.

203.7 Houghton in Bloom Tree

Resolved to allow Houghton in Bloom permission to plant one wildlife friendly tree species on Houghton Village Green.

203.8 Linstock Play Area

An update regarding the purchase of replacement swings for Linstock was provided, with three quotations now being obtained.

Resolved to obtain updated quotations for a nest swing, two cradle swings and two flat swings.

SR 204/05/22 CLERK'S REPORT

Tyre Storage

No update to report.

Eden Gate

No response to the letter sent to the Police has been received, to date.

Jackson Road Parking

No update to report.

Emergency Planning Meeting

A working group meeting is still to be arranged.

Community Plan

The Community Plan group have published an online questionnaire, which has so far attracted 8 responses without any advertising. Posters and online advertising will commence soon.

Houghton Wildlife Group

Work continues within the group, with a meeting held on 28th April with Cumbria Wildlife Trust. Plans were currently being put in place for Spring flowering; Houghton School and the Rainbow groups are involved.

Speedwatch

There were few observation sessions in 2020 and none in 2021 due to Covid-19 restrictions, unavailability of the speed gun and limitations on processing records. The current volunteer team consists of two people which limits the number of sessions as does the inclement weather. The team have carried out 5 one-hour observation sessions in February and March 2022 and have logged 33 speeding vehicles. The results will be processed, and warning letters despatched. Further observation sessions will take place once the speed gun has been recalibrated.

Rickerby Community Asset

Work to register the above will be discussed with the lead resident and an update will be provided at a future meeting.

SR 205/05/22 FINANCE MATTERS

205.1 Payments

Resolved that the following payments be approved:

S Kyle	May Salary	£1319.19
HMRC	May PAYE	£226.42
NEST	May Pension	£98.58
CALC	Subs	£479.53
Cluaran Landscapes	Groundworks	£1074.00
	Insurance	
SLCC	Subs	£234.00
	TOTAL	£3431.72

205.2 Bank Reconciliation

Noted: Balances at bank as of 30th April 2022:

Cash Account	£31,022.10
Unity Bank (current a/c)	£5,669.52
Unity Bank (savings a/c)	£69,518.79
Income to 30/04/22	£46,500.00
Expenditure to 30/04/22	£1887.40

205.3 Internet Banking

Resolved to reconfirm approval for the Clerk to authorise internet banking payments; also to confirm approval for the direct debit for ICO and pension payments to continue.

SR 206/05/22 COUNCILLOR MATTERS

Cllr Savory noted that the vehicular restriction sign near to Whiteclosegate had been replaced, however action still needed to be taken on the St. John's bridge positioning.

SR 207/05/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 8th June 2022 in the Parish Hall, Crosby at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.44pm.