

SATTERTHWAITE PARISH COUNCIL

Reference No: M098

Minutes of the Meeting of Satterthwaite Parish Council held in the Satterthwaite Parish Room on Tuesday 27th November 2012.

Present: Councillors David Fletcher [Chairman], Gary Thomason and Mhari Elkington-Crabtree, the Clerk, and two members of the public (Grant Nickson and David Walker).

98.1 **Apologies:**

Councillor Mike Thornley (other commitment) and County Councillor Claire Salisbury.

98.2 **Casual vacancy:**

After consulting (2nd November 2012) Claire Marsh, Electoral Services Manager, South Lakeland District Council, it was established that this vacancy was remaining from the May elections, there was no need to advertise and co-option could proceed. Thus the parish council was pleased to co-opt Grant Nickson who duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and the Notification of Financial and Other Interests forms.

98.3 **Representations from Members of the Public:**

The lengthsman: David Walker accepted a trial, one-year appointment as self-employed lengthsman working two days per month on the parish's highways and byways problems that are not the responsibility of the principal authorities. Councillor Thomason, the parish council's Highways-liaison officer, will over-see the lengthsman. The clerk will complete checks on the parish council's obligations and responsibilities.

98.4 **Minutes:**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 9th October 2012 were confirmed, and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

98.5 **Declarations of Interest:**

- There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

98.6 **Planning:**

- No new applications and notices.

98.7 **Financial and Administrative**

- The following orders for payment were authorized:
 - Clerk's salary £56.00
 - PAYE £14.00
 - Clerk's expenses £18.74
- A statement of accounts was accepted, and signed by the Chairman.
- A request from Edward Collins, Churchwarden and SPCC Secretary, for a grant for graveyard maintenance next year was discussed and it was RESOLVED to budget for a £400 allowance. Councillors debated a small increase but felt that other financial demands worked against it. However, as a demonstration of their support, councillors asked that unexpected costs during the year be brought to their attention.

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Mr Collins also acknowledged with thanks this year's grant.

- Budget 2013-14: Councillors RESOLVED to submit to SLDC a Precept request for £2,600 to cover the extra commitments that the parish council is making: to employ a lengthsman; to create a residents car park; and, to maintain the playground as a free facility.

98.8 Car Parking

- Councillors are following closely the on-going debate about car-parking fees in the National Park.
- Councillors RESOLVED to acknowledge and accept without comment Hawkshead Parish Council's National Trust Car Park Budget.
- Councillor Fletcher spoke to the NPA and it seems a planning application will be needed to create a residents car park. Further discussion and a site visit may satisfy the NPA. Councillors acknowledge the need for careful management and control of such a facility. Plans of the site are being sought.

98.9 Satterthwaite Recreation and Play Area:

- Following discussion with Councillor Fletcher, Paul Townsend [Chairman] and David Granville [Treasurer] felt that they must step down from the responsibility of looking after this facility.
- Mr Townsend wrote (26th November 2012) to the council to say: "Whilst the demands are not onerous ... a steady commitment is needed to keep things running smoothly and ... (i)t is ... logical that the Parish Council could take over responsibility for the play area, given the ownership of the land and the service that it provides to the community as a whole."
- Councillors noted the following points in the letter:
 - a councillor to take nominal responsibility, reporting periodically
 - this person to have day-to-day management and financial control
 - the insurance costs are about £300 per year and could possibly be incorporated into other Council premiums
 - other major expenses are ground and equipment maintenance - at present more or less free
 - provided current funds are ring-fenced there will not be a (financial) problem for a year or two
 - handover date should be the end of December this year
 - this facility was created and is maintained at a far lower cost than is normal these days
 - there is still a ... demand for the playground from parish children
- The council thanks Paul Townsend, David Granville and all who have worked so hard to keep the playground an important feature of the village.
- From the 1st January 2013, to oversee the transition, Councillor Thomason will act as the council's playground officer.
- The council will stop charging for tennis court use but will hope for donations towards up-keep costs.

98.10 The Community Plan:

The review and update of the Community Plan are ongoing.

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98.11 **Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence received since last Meeting were noted:

From	Subject	Date
Cruse Bereavement Care	Promotion	21 Sep
Great North Air Ambulance	Appeal	Oct
Tim Farron, MP	Advice Surgeries Autumn 2012	1 Oct
SLDC	Publication of the Register of Electors for 2012/13	19 Oct
SLDC	Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Review 2013	19 Oct
Local Development Framework	Public Consultation on Mineral Safeguarding Areas	19 Oct
Cumbria CC	'Go Cumbria'	Nov
BDO	Changes to extranet for local councils	1 Nov
CALC	Annual Report for AGM 10 Nov	3 Nov
Satterthwaite PCC	Graveyard Grant	23 Nov
Hawkshead Parish Council	National Trust Car Park Budget	23 Nov

98.12 **Councillor Matters**

- Councillor Thomason has sought clarification of road-gritting policy and schedules for the parish without success as yet.
- Councillors RESOLVED to engage more actively with their electorate and to this end are looking to create, with owners' permissions, a directory of email addresses and to consult Kevin Baverstock on greater use of the community website.
- Councillor Fletcher reported on the continuing drainage problems at the Forge; Councillor Thomason has spoken to BT about this.
- Councillor Fletcher is working against time to have Christmas lights in the centre of the village; Councillor Thomason is to cost a new set of lights; the clerk is to investigate grant aid to cover the costs.

98.13 **Consultations**

- Local Development Framework - Public Consultation on Mineral Safeguarding Areas

98.14 **Items for Next Agenda**

- Satterthwaite Recreation and Play Area
- Satterthwaite Community Plan
- Satterthwaite Housing Needs Survey
- Satterthwaite village parking provision

98.15 **Date of Next Meeting**

- It was resolved to hold the next Meeting on Tuesday 15th January 2013 at 7.30pm in the Satterthwaite Parish Room.

The Meeting closed at 9pm.

