

TEMPLE SOWERBY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 7th November 2017 in the Victory Hall. This commenced at 7pm

Present were Councillors Kevin Overs (KO) (Chairman), Martyn Cannon (MC), Angela Mathers (AM), Jonathan Richardson (JR), County Councillor David Whipp (DW) and District Councillor Sawrey-Cookson. Also present was Caroline Fennell (Clerk) together with 15 parishioners.

Item 1 – Apologies – Caryl Varty

Item 2 – Minutes

It was resolved that the minutes of the meetings held on 18th September be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Item 3 – Requests for Dispensation – None

Declarations of Interests – None

Item 4 – Digital Inclusion Event

Phil Rushton, Broadband Champion attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of running a digital inclusion workshop within the village. Phil works closely with Cumbria County Council to roll out superfast broadband throughout rural communities. He offers workshops to ensure people understand the benefits and need for broadband. Phil has run over 90 workshops throughout Cumbria and is looking for some assistance to promote and publicise the running of a digital inclusion event for Temple Sowerby.

Following an informative presentation from Phil, feedback from councillors and parishioners was that this would be a helpful event for the village. AM will look at available dates and communicate with Phil to arrange a workshop.

Item 5 – Adjournment of Meeting

Gavin Young, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, gave an update regarding the delay in removing the render on the Victory Hall stating this was due to an issue with scaffolding. Render will now be removed in the spring and the hall will be assessed as to whether it needs re-rendering, and if not, and further funds can be raised, the plan will be to undertake some major interior repairs to the building. Gavin Young also raised the point that from the New Year, two new members are required for the Victory hall Committee. If the hall does not have a full committee then the Charity Commission will not allow the Hall to run as a charity and as such could close it down.

The meeting also heard that the cricket club had applied for a new pavilion. The committee discussed the possibility of a combined project to include the village hall. However, at present, the cricket club have declined this and are going ahead on their own. This could however be an option for the future.

Chris Rush gave an update on the 563-bus route. He stated that at present this is running just under the point at which it is commercially viable. It needs to be running 230 trips a week and is currently at just under 200, however hopefully this is increasing as awareness increases.

Item 5 – Chairman will report on matters from last minutes, not listed on agenda.

CF has received contact from Highways regarding traffic calming. The person dealing with this has been off on long term sick leave and is now back to work so will be addressing this and getting back to us.

Following the request from St James church for a donation at the last meeting, it was confirmed that £250 has been paid every other year from the Parish Council. It was agreed that a £250 donation would again be made to the upkeep of the cemetery.

Item 6 – Parish Houses – Rent Reviews

The change to rent for 3 Crossfell View was briefly discussed as this can be amended from November in line with the Fair Rent Agreement. CF informed the parish Council that at the last increase the rent was increased by 10%. The rent is currently £42.50 per week, and the Parish Council agreed to apply for a further 10% rent increase through the fair rent review taking the rent up to £47 per week. CF to arrange.

KO to chase up Steve Bradley regarding status of repairs to the chimney of 2 Crossfell View.

CF reported that a locksmith had been called to address some issues with the lock at No 2 Crossfell View. This was now fixed although the locksmith anticipated that the lock may need replacing in the near future.

There is also a problem with bathroom taps at No 2. CF to arrange plumber visit.

Item 7 – Planning Matters

Planning Application No 17/0519 for Mr JP & Mr WH Terry – Barn adjacent to Counting House, Temple Sowerby – proposed demolition of stone barn and construction of four 3 bedroom, two storey dwellings on footprint of barn, with associated carports, parking and private gardens – letter of objection submitted to EDC. A site visit was held on 02/11./17 by the Planning Committee followed by a meeting at Penrith Town Hall, where the planning application was passed. The Parish Council have an issue regarding access over the Village Green. Contact has been made with the applicants however there has been no response. JR will make preliminary enquiries with solicitors that specialise in such matters. In cases elsewhere, significant amount of monies have been paid in order to grant access over such land – this could then come to the parish Council for the benefit of the village.

Highways department have suggested that prior to any works going ahead that the access would need resurfacing. The parish Council will have strong views on what this is surfaced with if access is permitted. JR suggested the necessity for the Parish Council to be proactive in

addressing this rather than reactive. It was questioned by a parishioner whether the Parish Council would be willing to sell the strip of land for access. JR pointed out that if an application was made, the Secretary of State could allow the land to be given for access anyway, so it would make far more sense for the Parish Council to negotiate.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the planning decision made by EDC and the views of the parishioners on this, and the likelihood of access being granted over the Village Green and the effect that this may have on further developments or current access that is in place over the Village Green. JR confirmed that the Parish Council will seek legal advice, and should things progress further with the development it may be necessary to hold an extraordinary meeting to keep parishioners up to date with progress.

Planning application number 17/0915 for Acorn Bank – change of use of existing car park and installation of 4 electricity points. Discussion was held between the councillors about the lack of information offered regarding this application relating to things such as water, waste and refuse. It was agreed by both councillors and parishioners that this development would be an eyesore. It was questioned whether further information should be sought. AM made the point that even if further information was obtained, the application itself is not in keeping with the area and a decision must be made on the information that is available. The parish Council unanimously voted to object to this application.

Item 8 – Village Greens, Play area, Trees, etc.

It was noted the area of hardcore placed on the Village Green to allow for car parking close to Sunnybank was still in situ. CF confirmed that further letters had been sent to neighbouring properties following the last Parish Council meeting. At this point there has been no response from either.

JR stated that the parish Council have made the point that this could be fly tipping so should it now be dealt with as such? AM suggested the other option was for the parish Council to reseed it in the spring. Discussion followed between the councillors regarding the removal of the hardcore and what work would be needed to put the village Green back, and at what cost to the parish Council. JR suggested if EDC were involved the parish Council would not have to cover the cost, however AM made the point that if EDC do not know exactly who has placed the hardcore there then they won't prosecute. It was decided that the Parish Council would take a look at the site and reach a decision following that.

A review of trees was undertaken in October with Rob Sim, Tree Preservation Officer. Chris Starr and Chris Rush also kindly attended. CF has just received the report back from Rob so will now obtain quotes for the works.

Item 9 – Accounts and Financial Report

Income:	1 Crossfell View – July & August	£ 540.00
	2 Crossfell View – July & August	£ 640.00
	3 Crossfell View – July & August	£ 368.32
	TOTAL	£ 1548.32

Expenses:

CALC Course Fees	£	150.00
Countrywide (Grass Cutting) Aug, Sept	£	440.00
Clerks expenses	£	77.40

Balances at

31/10/2017: Community Account	£	5,278.88
Business Money Manager Account	£	4,798.59
Penrith Building Society (Maypole Account)	£	1,170.34
Penrith Building Society (Parish Houses Account)	£	7,091.56

Cheques to authorise:

Countrywide (Grass Cutting Oct & Nov)	£	440.00
Metcalfes Plant Hire (well)	£	600.00
Clerks expenses	£	61.60
TS Victory Hall (hire fees)	£	120.00
BDO External Auditors	£	120.00
PCC of Temple Sowerby	£	250.00

The conclusion of Audit has been received from the external auditors. All agreed that this be accepted and approved. The 'Notice of Conclusion of Audit' has been displayed for a period of at least 14 days.

Feedback was received from JR following attendance at the 'How to Invest parish Funds' seminar. JR reported that the Parish Council needed £25,000 to invest, and as such this is not suitable as the Parish Council is not in such a position.

The proposed devolution and transfer of assets by EDC was discussed and the possibility of a meeting with CALC to discuss this further. Councillors agreed it would be beneficial to attend a meeting with other parish Councils to gain further insight. CF to contact CALC to discuss further.

Item 10 – Correspondence

All correspondence received since the last meeting has been circulated.

The CALC AGM is to be held on 18/11/17

A request for donations has been received from the Air Ambulance. Parish Councillors agreed not to donate on this occasion.

The Chairman thanked those present and announced that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 9th January 2018 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 9pm

Signed Date