**Minutes of the meeting of Broughton Moor Parish Council held in Broughton Moor Primary School on Thursday 17th October 2024 at 7.00pm**

**Present**: Cllrs J Grisdale, B Pegram, D Scott, L Dakers, P. Lewis, L Morrison, S Henderson and Rev’d J Morgan, Parish Clerk. Two members of the public were also in attendance.

**54/24** **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr A. Semple. These were accepted.

**55/24 Requests for Dispensation** – there were none.

**56/24 Declarations of Interest –** there were none.

**57/24 To decide on co-options to the Parish Council**

The clerk reported that six applications had been received, all from eligible candidates. Each one would require both a proposer and a seconder from amongst the existing members of the council and would also require a majority of the voting members to vote in favour. The candidates were considered in the order in which their applications had been received, as follows:

1. Hanore Daltom, proposed by Cllr Dakers, seconded by Cllr Grisdale, vote unanimous in favour.
2. Salvatore McShane, proposed by Cllr Grisdale, seconded by Cllr Pegram, vote unanimous in favour.
3. Justine Dicks, proposed by Cllr Scott, seconded by Cllr Dakers, vote unanimous in favour.
4. Phil Lewis, proposed by Cllr Dakers, seconded by Cllr Scott, vote unanimous in favour.
5. Lesley Morrison, proposed by Cllr Scott, seconded by Cllr Dakers, vote unanimous in favour.
6. Stuart Henderson, proposed by Cllr Scott, seconded by Cllr Pegram, vote unanimous in favour.

The three candidates present at the meeting each signed their declaration of acceptance of office, which was countersigned by the Clerk as the proper officer of the council.

The four Cumberland Councillors were thanked for stepping into the breach to permit the Parish Council to transact its business in the interim until a sufficient number of local candidates could be found to make the Parish Council viable once more. It is likely that three of the four will offer their resignation to the Chair in the coming days. The chairman indicated his willingness to continue until the next AGM of the Parish Council, in May 2025.

**58/24 Public Section**

One member of the public advised the council that the school currently has an interim governing body which will continue until February 2025 and is currently looking to appoint a shadow governing body to take over the governance of the school thereafter.

One member of the public stated that the Play Area on the Welfare Field is looking much better since the removal of the wooden play equipment and the filling in of the holes.

**59/24 Approval of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr B Pegram, seconded by Cllr D Scott, the minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 2024 were approved for signature and publication.

328

**60/24 Matters arising** **not covered on the agenda**.

The clerk updated the council on the Moorside Wood Management Plan Consultation, and it was noted with disappointment that no reply had been received from Julian Smith or from Michael Barry, at Cumberland Council. Cllr Henderson had visited the site and noted that a considerable amount of work had been carried out with new access roads, drainage, footpaths and gateways created. He had noted the presence of a lot of wildlife including goldcrest, siskins and swallows. The site had the appearance of a well-managed forest which was worth protecting but there was no harvestable timber in evidence. The clerk was instructed to email the site managers to ask what will be removed under the terms of the management plan.

**61/24 Planning Matters** – no new application had been received.

**62/24 Correspondence**

The following items ofcorrespondence had been received:

1. Thank-you card from Andy’s Man Club for the £100 donation sent after the summer event.
2. Letter from Mrs C Ashcroft giving details of Remembrance Sunday services and asking about Christmas arrangements – clerk to reply.

**63/24 Updates:**

**i. Welfare Field**

a) The latest Play Report from Tivoli was received. There was further discussion of the wooden surround to the swings, and it was thought that additional bark could be added and sloped towards the surround from the inside and soil could be sloped towards the surround from the outside, alleviating the trip risk.

b) Cllr B Pegram was thanked for carrying out the repairs to the grassed area.

c) The log equipment that RoSPA had identified as high risk and at the end of its life, had been removed. Cllr Scott proposed that two colourful picnic benches with seating, made from durable recycled materials, be sited in its place. It was agreed that prices be brought forward at the next meeting when the budget and precept will be set for 2025/26.

d) Cllr Henderson offered to affix the new ‘No Dogs Allowed’ sign to the Play Area gate and tighten up the loose fixtures to the gate, and to rake the bark beneath the swings.

e) A member of the public asked for a new bin inside the play area. Cllr Scott explained that this had been requested previously from Allerdale who had refused. Clerk to make a new request to Cumberland Council.

**ii. St Columba’s Church**

a) The Clerk is in discussion with the Archdeacon of West Cumberland re an appropriate site for the RBL ‘Tommy’ figure. It was hoped this could be resolved in time for Remembrance Sunday.

b) The council’s solicitor is negotiating the final stages of the handover with the Church Commissioners.

**iii Community Centre**

Cllr Scott reported that everything had been packed up for removal in readiness for work to begin on 21st October. The work is scheduled for completion by January 2025, so there will be no Christmas events this year in the Community Centre. The architect is working with the electricity and gas suppliers to have new meters installed. The builders require contact details for ADT – clerk to supply. Several old cabinets had been sold for a nominal price with the money to be put towards new crockery once the work is completed.

The clerk was instructed to order the new pop up pre-lit Christmas Tree.

329

**iv Railway embankment**

The Clerk reported that Cumberland Council had written to the council’s solicitor to move the transfer forward.

**64/24 Financial Matters**

1.The clerk reported that £11,000 had been received from Cumberland Council as the second half of the Precept.

2.The Clerk read the External Auditor’s Report, which was accepted.

3. The following cheques were approved for payment:

102047 EoN Next (Gas) £ 39.99

102048 EoN Next (Electricity) £410.91

102049 Seaview Joinery £860.00

102050 Moore (External Audit fee) £252.00

102051 Tivoli Group Ltd £889.92

102052 HMRC (PAYE) £ 60.40

102071 Rev J Morgan (salary & expenses) £578.55

102072 J P Cleaners £ 15.00

102075 Calva Design Studios £798.75

3. It was unanimously approved that the following members be added to the list of signatories on the Parish Council’s Bank Accounts: Cllr L Dakers, Cllr L Morrison, Cllr S Henderson and Cllr P Lewis. Clerk to attend to the necessary documentation.

**65/24 Date of Next Meeting**: Thursday 21st November 2024 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 7.55pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

330