**MINUTES OF KIRKLAND**



**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**8th January 2024 Held at**

**Kirkland and Catterall Memorial Hall**

**The Avenue, Churchtown.**

*Present;*

*Kirkland Parish Council:*

*Mrs. I Cutler Vice Chairman,*

*Mrs. A Walmsley,*

*Mrs. J Thompson*

*Mr. G Williams.*

*Angela Nicholls: Clerk to the Parish Council*

**1470. Apologies for Absence**

*Mrs. K. Davies Chairman,* (due to illness)

1. **1471. Declarations of interest**

Councillors were asked to disclose any interests on matters to be considered at this meeting and reminded to up-date changes in their interests within 28 days. Cllr. Davies, Walmsley, Thompson and Cutler declared interest in Churchtown in Bloom

**1472. Minutes of the Previous Meeting 10th October 2023**

**Resolved:** *The minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 9th October 2023, being previously circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman.*

**1473. Public Participation**

Standing Orders were suspended to allow guests to speak.

The clerk had received no public requests to join the meeting.

**1474.Planning Applications**

**Application Number:** No Planning Applications

**1475. 30mph markings on the surface of the A586 be renewed**

The Parish Council asked the Clerk to write to Highways to request the 30mph Roundels are renewed on The Avenue. They have faded to such an extent they are nearly not visible. Traffic is exceeding the 30mph speed limit but there is no clear signage to deter motorists from speeding.

The Clerk will write to the PSCO and invite her to March meeting to review what can be done about speeding and the possibility of having a mobile speed check

**1476 Training Parish Councilllors would like this year**

The Clerk will ask LALC for this years programme

**1477. Memorial Hall new roof**

The Parish Council only have a very small budget but agreed to make a donation of £100 to Memorial Hall roof. The Clerk agreed to assist the Memorial find grant funding on a voluntary basis. For example The National Lottery Community Fund or :-

The Harold and Alice Bridges Charity provide grants for capital projects to grants for village halls in the Lancashire and South Cumbria areas.

When considering whether to apply for a grant from the Harold and Alice Bridges Charity, applicants should consider the following criteria which the Trustees use to help assess the applications:

1. Grants awarded by the Charity are mainly for capital projects and not usually for running expenses. For example, an application from a village hall for a grant towards the re-roofing of the building is likely to be more favourably considered than an application to pay for the hall to be regularly cleaned.

**1478. Grounds Maintenance Contract**

The Grounds Maintenance Contract is to be carried forward to the next meeting when the Parish Council will review the schedule of works in particular the work carried out during the winter months as the contract is all year round with the same hours in winter as summer

**1479 Christmas Tree**

The options for the Christmas Tree were discussed. In the past there used to be a tradition of the gathering round tree with a celebration and switch on. This stopped with Covid and hasn’t been reinstated.

To safety put up a tree in a public place with electric lights significant expenditure would be needed for a strong metal holder for the tree and safety fencing. The original safety fencing and lights were misplaced by the lengthsman when it was taken down. It was agreed the lengthsman may not have the correct skills and equipment to install a large public Christmas tree.

It was discussed and agreed it was time to try something different like an event or planting a different type of real tree to display the lights on. It was resolved next year there would not be an official Parish Council Christmas Tree outside The Horns Inn. There is a Christmas Budget which the Parish Council will discuss and agree options at the March meeting.

**1480. Finance**

**Precept for 2024 /2025**

The precept for 2024 /2025 by reviewing the draft budget. The Parish Council currently has a small surplus with most of this being allocated to a Speed Indicator Device which was previously budgeted for. In the next financial year the Clerk will look at available options to see if its affordable and it will make a difference if speed data can be collected. It was discussed and agreed to raise the precept by 5% this year to cover the current cost of inflation.

**Bank reconciliation to 31st December 2023**

**Accounts, bank reconciliation, internal scrutiny reports to 31st December 2023**

Hard copies delivered; Councillors are asked to scrutinise these documents?

Receipts since the last meeting:

Councillors are asked to consider the following payments;

Please note payments for the Churchtown Flood Group and Churchtown in Bloom are from funding and not Kirkland Parish Council, who administers these funds.

Receipts since the last meeting:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| October | Bank Interest | £18.45 |
| November | Bank Interest | £17.32 |
| December | Bank Interest | £14.46 |
| October | Lottery October | £14.00 |
| November | Lottery November | £17.50 |
| December | Lottery December | £11.00 |
|  |  |  |

**Standing Orders and Direct Debits**

Easy Web Sites October £27.60

Easy Web Sites November £27.60

Easy Web Sites December £27.60

Staff Costs October £278.35

Staff Costs November £398.99 (includes back pay)

Staff Costs December £295.68

**Payment made by Bank Transfer**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 01 September 2023 | LCC Pension | £400.00 |
| 01 September 2023 | Easy Web | £27.60 |
| 02 October 2023 | J Robs Ground Main, INVOICE 320 SEPTEMBER | £540.00 |
| 02 October 2023 | A Nicholls September 2023 | £260.35 |
| 02 October 2023 | A Nicholls Sept 2023 working from home | £18.00 |
| 02 October 2023 | Easy Web | £27.60 |
| 09 October 2023 | TOWERS AND GORNALL | £46.80 |
| 26th October 2023 | In Bloom for Awards Ceremony | £60.00 |
| 30th October 2023 | Festive Lights | £172.62 |
| 31 October 2023 | A Nicholls October 2023 | £260.35 |
| 31 October 2023 | A Nicholls October 2023 working from home | £18.00 |
| 02 November 2023 | Easy Web | £27.60 |
| 08 November 2023 | J Robs Ground Main, INVOICE 332 November | £540.00 |
| 20th November 2023 | Battery Charger | £29.99 |
| 30 November 2023 | A Nicholls November 2023 | £398.99 |
| 30 November 2023 | A Nicholls Nov 2023 working from home | £18.00 |
| 30 November 2023 | Bradshaw Farm Shop | £150.00 |
| 30 November 2023 | J ROBS GROUND MAIN, INVOICE 350 | £720.00 |
| 1st December 2023 | Duracel batteires | £37.07 |
| 02 December 2023 | Easy Web | £27.60 |
| 02 January 2024 | A Nicholls December 2023 | £277.68 |
| 02 January 2024 | A Nicholls Dec 2023 working from home | £18.00 |

**1481. Verbal Reports for information**

**Kirkland Memorial Hall**  The roof is the main issue

**The School House Trust** No recent meetings attended

**Wyre Area Lancashire Association of Local Councils** No meetings

**Churchtown in Bloom** Ready to start up again in spring to match last years successes

**Parish Lengthsman** To be discussed in detail at the next meeting

**1482. Agenda for next meeting/ date and time of next meetingMeeting closed 8:00pm The next meeting will be held on Monday 11 March 2024 at 7pm Kirkland Village Hall.**