BASSENTHWAITE PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk:** Ms Becx Carter, 40 Windebrowe Avenue, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4JA – bassenthwaiteparishcouncil@hotmail.com 077866 78283

**Minutes of the Bassenthwaite Parish Council Meeting held at Bassenthwaite Village Hall Thursday 1st February 2024 at 19:00**

**Parish Councillors present:** Cllr B Cooper-Holmes, Cllr D Cannon, Cllr J Mattinson, Cllr C Grace, Cllr L Briggs, Cllr S Langcrake

**Others:** Becx Carter (Clerk), Cumberland Cllr J Perry

**Apologies:** Cllr K Armstrong (Personal Commitments)

With Councillors present the meeting was quorate (quorum is 3)

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| 1/24 | ApologiesResolved by all present that apologies be received and accepted from the above CouncillorsIt was noted that Mr Edward Trafford had resigned from the Parish Council with immediate effect.  |
| 2/24 | To appoint a Chair Person for the duration of the meetingResolved that the resignation of Mr K Armstrong as the Chair of Bassenthwaite Parish Council be noted as received.Resolved by all present that Cllr J Mattinson be appointed as the Chair of Bassenthwaite Parish Council for the duration of the Feb 2024 meeting. Cllr J Mattinson completed the Chair’s declaration of office form and this was witnessed by the Clerk.  |
| 3/24 | Minutes of last Bassenthwaite Parish Council meeting The Chairperson was authorised to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th December 2023 (*previously circulated)* |
| 4/24 | **Declarations of Interest/requests for dispensation**1. *Register of Interests*

All councillors have completed their DPI forms. 1. *To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature*

None1. *To declare any prejudicial interests in items on the agenda*

None1. *To make any requests for dispensation*

None |
| 5/24 | Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)None |
| 6/24 | Public ParticipationNone |
| 7/24 | Cumberland Council updateCllr J Perry attended and provided the below update:A community panel meeting has been held at which some grants were awarded, including £8,000 to Bothel Village Hall for more solar panels and battery back-up for the solar panels. A community network meeting was held in Crosthwaite Parish Rooms, to which there was limited attendance due to issues around time/date and lack of invitations being circulated to all…Highways & Transport Strategic Board Meeting- There is a forward plan for works that are proposed over the next 3 financial years:Resurfacing of A591 Skiddaw Service Station- Kiln Hill (24/25), and Millbeck25/26 Area around Little Dodd garden centre26/27 Crosthwaite Roundabout and Dubwath- Castle Inn ResurfacingIt was that the bridge at Scarness the side walls are collapsing. Action: Cllr J Perry to report this bridge issue again. There is a conifer at Little Orchard that is now leaning across the road and ‘hung up’ on a tree on the opposite (so across the highway)Action: Cllr J Perry to raise this issue with Cumberland Council to ensure that the Landowner acts.  |
| 8/24 | **Planning Applications****Ref: 7/2023/2284**Location: Armathwaite Hall Hotel, Bassenthwaite, KeswickProposal: Full retrospective planning application for the installation of a generator compound and associated gas tank compound within the grounds of Armathwaite Hall**Resolved** by all present have no comments or objections. **Action: Clerk to submit this comment.** **Ref: 7/2023/2279**Location: Land adjacent to The Old Smithy, Bassenthwaite, KeswickProposal: Erection of detached dwelling following withdrawal of application 7/2022/2245**Resolved** by all present that the Parish Council have no objections but would request a local occupancy clause be applied to the dwelling if it were approved. **Action: Clerk to submit these comments.** **Ref: 7/2023/2280**Location: Random Stones, BassenthwaiteProposal: Removal of modern garage building, refurbishment, alteration and extension of non-listed dwelling house, together with associated hard and soft landscaping proposals within proximity of grade II Listed Farm House**Resolved** by all present that the Parish Council have no objection to this proposal**Action: Clerk to submit these comments.** **Ref: 7/2023/2273**Location: Land at North Row, BassenthwaiteProposal: Agricultural Workers Dwelling**Resolved** by that Bassenthwaite Parish Council make no formal objection to this proposal but make the following comments:* That the proposal appears to be over development of a small site.
* That this proposal will involve the loss of a green field site.
* This is not a modest agricultural workers dwelling (which Bassenthwaite Parish Council believe is part of the criteria for an agricultural workers dwelling) this proposal is for large house.
* The Parish Council question if there should be an assessment on if the farm holding can sustain a full-time employee (that would require a dwelling).

**Action: Clerk to submit these comments.**  |
| 9/24 | Planning Decisions*To receive the below decisions* Resolved by all present that the below decisions be noted as received:

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| Ref | Location | Proposal | Decision |
| 7/2022/2245 | Land adjacent to The Old Smithy, Bassenthwaite,  | Proposed detached dwelling | Withdrawn |

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| 10/24 | Highways & Parish MaintenanceNone |
| 11/24 | To consider applications for co-option (1 seat)None  |
| 12/24 | **Financial Matters** 1. To consider and authorise the below payments:

**Resolved** by all present that below payments were approved/ratified as per the below table.

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| **To** | **Budget line** | **Value** |
| Becx Carter | Jan Salary | £297.66 |
| HMRC | PAYE | £74.40 |
| Becx Carter | Expenses | £50.40 |

1. To note the Cash Book to date

**Resolved** by all present that the cashbook balance at the 31st December 2023 was £7,470.14 1. To consider the draft budget

The Clerk had circulated this in advance of the meeting to all councillors, the clerk notified all councillors that she was suggesting a precept increase of 20% to £8,820. The council is currently running a loss budget and needs to be move toward being a balance budget. This increase will cost an additional £6.21 per annum on an average Band D house. **Action: Clerk to file the precept demand** 1. To consider and adopt policies.

**Resolved** by all present that the below policies be adopted with immediate effect:* Scheme of Delegation
* Communications Policy
* Planning Policy (and guidance)

**Action: Clerk to update the website.**1. To consider adding additional signatories to the Parish Council Bank Account.

The Clerk confirmed that Cumberland Council request that the Clerk of Parish Councils is named on any bank account held with them (without any signing powers so there is no conflict of interest).**Resolved** by all present that the Clerk be added on to the Parish Council Bank Account as a signatory.**Action: Clerk to process this paperwork.** 1. To note the increase in cost of the Tivoli Services Contract

It was noted that Tivoli Contract fee for the works that Tivoli undertake in the Parish are increasing to £1,325.81 for the forthcoming year.  |
| 13/24 | **Councillor Reports**1. Village Green Committee

None1. Parish Owned Land Committee

The Clerk fed back to the Council on the outcome of the tree safety survey that had been commissioned for a number of parcels of Parish Council land (the Village Green, and the land parcels along the beck edge).The outcome of this is that there were two ‘high’ risk findings:* The plum on the beck edge
* Ash trees in the area of land along beck edge, due to ashdie back

These both require removal of the trees ASAP. It was noted that the plum has dropped a limb during the recent storms.**Resolved** by all present that Cllr D Cannon liaise with a local contractor to ask if he as the appropriate insurances in place to do the works to remove the plum tree. If the local contractor doesn’t have the appropriate insurances in place this matter should be raised with the Clerk who will appoint an appropriately qualified contractor to undertake the works. **Resolved** by all present that the Clerk seek a quotation for works for all the other parcels of work identified as being required by the independent safety report. **Action: Clerk to seek quotations for these areas of work for approval at the March 2024 meeting of Bassenthwaite Parish Council.** 1. Playareas Committee

No matters raised.  |
| 14/24 | **Date of next meeting****Resolved** by all present that the next meeting date be set asThursday 29th February 2024 17:45- Bassenthwaite Village HallIt was agreed to hold the meeting an early time due an event being held on the same evening that many councillors wanted to be present at.  |