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 Parish Room Thursday 4th April 2024 at 19:00**

**Parish Councillors present:** Cllr B Cooper-Holmes, Cllr D Cannon, Cllr L Briggs, Cllr A Pini, Cllr A Clarke, Cllr K Armstrong

**Others:** Becx Carter (Clerk), Louise Smith

**Apologies:** Sarah Langcake, Jonathan Mattinson

With 6 Councillors present (initially) rising to 7 after co-option the meeting was quorate (quorum is 3)

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| 30/24 | ApologiesApologies for absence were received from S Langcake & J Mattinson due to work commitments.  |
| 31/24 | To appoint a Chair Person for the duration of the meetingResolved by all present that Barbara Cooper-Holmes be appointed as the Chair of Bassenthwaite Parish Council for the duration of the 4th April 2024 meeting. Barbara Cooper-Holmes completed the Chair’s declaration of office form and this was witnessed by the Clerk.  |
| 32/24 | 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 29th February 2024 (*previously circulated)* |
| 33/24 | **Declarations of Interest/requests for dispensation**1. *Register of Interests*

All councillors have completed their Declaration of Pecuniary Interest 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 |
| 34/24 | Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)None |
| 35/24 | To consider applications for co-option (1 vacancy)It was noted that an application for co-option from Louise Smith had been circulated to all councillors in advance of the meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the individual is eligible for co-option.Louise Smith left the room whilst councillors discussed their co-option applications.Resolved by all present that Louise Smith be co-opted on to Bassenthwaite Parish Council with immediate effect.Louise Smith completed her declaration of acceptance of office forms and this was witnessed by the clerk.Action: Clerk to update the website with the new councillor informationAction: Louise Smith to complete their declaration of pecuniary interest forms and return them to the Clerk within 14 working days.  |
| 36/24 | Public ParticipationNone |
| 37/24 | Cumberland Council updateCllr J Perry confirmed that she will raise the issue of tree surveying on the trees on the edge of the Highway on the area of land on the other side of the beck edge with the Highways Team as the enquiry submitted to HIMS has been closed.The area of land on the junction opposite the Castle Inn is the responsibility of Cumberland Council. Cllr J Perry has requested that the path be scrapped back, and the area will be cut once a year. Highways have suggested that the Parish Council could look after it, but the Clerk has confirmed that a legal agreement would be required from Cumberland to allow this to happen, to ensure insurance liabilities etc were discharged. The Clerk confirmed that when she most recently spoke to Cumberland Council about this (late March) Cumberland Council confirmed that they don’t have this legal agreement in place now. Action: Clerk to submit another complaint to Cumberland Council regarding the lack of parish maintenance agreement etc.   |
| 38/24 | **Planning Applications**None |
| 39/24 | 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 |
| 7/2023/2280 | Random Stones, Bassenthwaite | Removal of modern garage building, refurbishment etc | Approved with conditions (along with Listed Building Consent) |
| 7/2024/2057 | Armathwaite Hall Hotel | Extensions and alterations to existing dwelling | Approved with conditions |

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| 40/24 | Highways & Parish Maintenance1. *To discuss any issues in the parish*

None raised. 1. *Additional Tree Surveying (Beck side Opposite Bank)*

The Clerk confirmed that concerns have been raised by a member of the public around tree safety/surveying on the area of land on the opposite side of the Beck to the Village. The Clerk confirmed that part of this land is registered as belonging to the Parish Council (but not all of it).A quote has been received of £400 plus VAT to survey this area.The Clerk confirmed that she has also raised these safety concerns with the LDNPA (as the responsible body for Public Rights of Way) and Cumberland Highways (as the Highways Authority)**Resolved** by all present that this survey be commissioned ASAP on the grounds of public safety**Action: Clerk to let this contract.** 1. *To consider quotations for tree works*

The Clerk confirmed she has received 3 quotations for undertaking the tree works identified in the recent tree safety survey on the Village Green and ‘various parcels of land’ Parish Council land.These quotes range from £750 to £1500 for the works.**Resolved** by all present that the contract for works be let to the lowest priced contractor.**Action: Clerk to let this contract**1. *Christmas lighting & trees*

The member of the public who has historically organised Christmas Trees has contacted the Parish Council to confirm that this year he struggled to source the Christmas Trees and this needs to be borne in mind for Christmas 2024.Additionally the member of the public has requested that the Parish Council consider buying new Christmas Tree Lights (as the current ones are now broken).**Action: Clerk to obtain a quote for the purchase of such lights and return to a future Parish Council meeting.** Storage of the Christmas Tree Lights- The member of the public that currently stores the lights is no longer able to and is asking the Parish Council to source storage.**Action: Clerk to send a request to the Village Hall about if the lights could be stored at the village hall.** 1. *Beckside Grass Cutting*

Consideration was given to how to manage this going forward. Mr G Oliver who has historically undertaken this work may not be able to commit this year, or if he does commit will have to charge a fee to reflect a recent capital investment in a new mower.**Resolved** by all present that the Clerk obtain quotes for this work and bring them back to the May 2024 meeting. **Action: Clerk to take this forward.**  |
| 41/24 | **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 | March Salary | £297.66 |
| HMRC | PAYE | £74.40 |
| Gordie Oliver | Replacement cheque for Christmas Lights | £64.95 |
| Cumberland Council | Business Rates for Bassenthwaite Parish Room | £99.42 |
| Water Plus | The Trough | £251.65 |

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| 42/24 | **Councillor Reports**1. Village Green Committee.

Nothing to report.1. Parish Owned Land Committee.

**Action: Clerk to investigate the issue of the Parish Council Allotment**1. Play areas Committee.

Inspection report received from Cllr K Armstrong with no issues reported.**Action: Clerk to expedite quotations for signage for the swings identifying that they are not for adult usage.**  |
| 43/24 | **Correspondence received for consideration.**1. *Revised bus timetables*

Cllr J Perry is attending the AGM of the Bus Users Group on Monday 8th April 2024. It was noted that the changes to the bus services were made with no consultation. Q: Why has Bassenthwaite got extra buses? A: Stagecoach have altered the routes so more of the routes run on the Bassenthwaite side of the lake to expedite their time keeping. Concerns noted included:* The last buses on the new timetable are even earlier on this new timetable than historically, and there are no evening services.
* There is no Sunday provision on the X4/X5 to Bassenthwaite, so no access to Cockermouth/Workington.
* None of the routes include small buses, so none of the services come into the village meaning that those who are less able can no longer use the bus services.
* The bus stop in the village still has a timetable on it, and people are now waiting at the bus stops when the service no longer runs through the villages.

**Action: Cllr J Perry to raise these issues at the Bus User Group AGM.**  |
| 44/24 | **Date of next meeting****Resolved** by all present that the next meeting date be set asThursday 2nd May 2024 19:00- Bassenthwaite Parish Room |