

Caton with Littledale Parish Council

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 7pm at Victoria Institute

Present Cllr Boland, Cllr Carter, Cllr Heywood, (chair), Cllr Powell, Cllr Rei, Cllr Wright.
Laura McGowan – clerk.
33 members of the public. City Councillor Peter Jackson.

186/24 Open Forum

Graham Love from S&L Planning and Chris Middlebrook from Highbrook Homes addressed council with information relating to a potential housing development on land off Quernmore Road, Caton.
A number of concerns were raised by residents.

187/24 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Gibbons and Cllr Walmsley

188/24 To consider and approve the minutes of the meetings held Tuesday 12th November, 2024

It was resolved that minutes be approved and signed by the chair.
Proposed by Cllr Boland
Seconded by Cllr Wright

189/24 To receive declarations of interest and dispensations

Cllr Wright declared an interest in any item regarding Caton Primary School.
Cllr Carter declared an interest in any item regarding the Lune Valley Community Land Trust.

190/24 To consider planning applications and matters.

[24/01276/FUL](#) – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new dwelling
Property address - 43 Caton Green Road Brookhouse Lancaster Lancashire LA2 9JJ
The Parish Council defer to experts at Lancaster City Council

[24/01189/FUL](#) – Erection of first floor rear extension and construction of verandah and raised patio to the rear
Property address - 115 Hornby Road, Caton, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA2 9HZ
The Parish Council has no observations

[24/01305/FUL](#) - Erection of a single storey wraparound extension, loft conversion with construction of dormer extensions to the front and rear elevations and installation of solar panels to the front elevation
Property address - 17 Hawthorn Avenue, Brookhouse, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA2 9NS
The Parish Council has no observations

191/24 Payments

Payments

Cllr Gibbons (Tree lights)

£43.98

Regular Payments

Easyweb website hosting (S/O) (Nov)

£36.96

Victoria Institute (Contribution Nov)

£800.00

Methodist Hub (Room Hire Nov)

£18.00

Methodist Hub (Room Hire 7 Dec Community HUB)	£46.00
Methodist Hub (Room Hire 4 Jan Community HUB)	£46.00
Methodist Hub (Room Hire Jan) *Larger room*	£26.00
Clerks Wages (Dec)	£608.00
Clerk Expenses (Nov)	£44.00
02 Mobile (Clerk Mobile Nov)	£6.99

Receipts

Caton Gala Playpark donation	£200.00
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Balance at end of Nov 2024

Co-Op Bank £34,615.24

Unity Bank £38,137.14

Total £72,752.38

It was resolved that the payments be made.

Proposed by Cllr Powell

Seconded by Cllr Heywood

192/24 To consider the update on the Fell View playpark repair and maintenance

- To consider update on the progress of repair – rotten timbers and repair of path
No update. Clerk to check with contractor on progress.
- To consider proposal to regular maintenance of the playpark contract
2 contractors quotes received. Divert decision to January meeting.
- To consider update on broken roundabout
Roundabout working after inspection November by Clerk and Cllr Powell

193/24 To consider any highways and/or footpath matters

- To consider progress on the installation of camera for SpIDS
The SpIDS camera had been collected by Lancashire County Council and will be installed early in the new year.
- To consider Becks Green and by Artlebeck bridge contractor damage
No update from Cadent. Will chase.
- To consider footpath review actions
No update
- To consider current status on hedges in the parish
Update to follow in January meeting
- To consider update on local participation in Lancashire Police speed monitoring
No update from Halton to date.
- To consider progress on traffic plan/safety improvement paper.
Spotlight for January meeting.

194/24 To consider any management and maintenance matters

- To consider update on Oak Tree Copy Lane restoration (Mr Webster) and pruning quotations
A cheque had been received for £300 to cover specialist prune scheduled for January 2025. A letter of thanks to be sent on behalf of the Parish Council.
- To consider waste bin disappearances
Clerk highlighted the missing bins. Councillor Jackson updated at the end of the meeting that new bins were being rolled-out through the district.

195/24 To consider any parish management relating to Victoria Institute

- To consider update on VI AGM that took place on 29th November.
Update to follow in January meeting

- To consider monthly financial contribution to VI for 2025/26 – in line with budget 25/26
Defer to January meeting
- To consider public convenience opening times and costs
Defer to January meeting.

196/24 To consider the update and status on the Greenway improvements

- To consider work completed and in progress/scheduled
Cllr Powell updated on improvement works planned such as pathway to picnic tables, the stolen bollard had been replaced and additional fencing erected to reduce motor vehicle access. In addition, Tim Blythe had spoken to contractor to “grub-out” hedges on a section from Low Mill to reduce regrowth and maintenance need to that area. Additional works to be considered at “Otter triangle” including repair of 2 wooden pedestrian bridges. Suggest £4,000 be allocated from the reserve funds.
Proposed Cllr Wright
Seconded Cllr Boland
- To consider update on Community orchard
Work was scheduled to prepare the soil in advance of planting in February. Clerk to contact nursery re: timing of order to coincide with planting. Brookhouse Scout leader confirmed the troop would be excited to help with the planting.

197/24 To consider an update on the passive housing development

Cllr Carter updated that a Steering group formation was in progress. Update was emailed in advance of meeting to the Parish Council.

198/24 To consider update on provision for young people of the parish inc. engagement Activities

Cllr Carter updated that Emma from Lune Valley Community Hub was on-board to help progress on meeting.

199/24 To consider the arrangements for the Poor’s Land distribution

Applications were received from 8 residents and grants were made to all applicants. Total expenditure from the Poor’s Land Fund was £750.

200/24 To consider financial position and draft budget for 2025/2026

The draft budget for 2025/2026 was distributed for review in advance of the meeting. The council would accept proposed budget with a recommended increase of 5% on precept

Proposed Cllr Wright
Seconded Cllr Carter

201/24 To consider an update on events within the village

Friday 6th December saw the annual Christmas lights. Thanks to all involved including Pastor Wadsworth. A lovely event with lots of families involved despite the rain!

202/25 To receive items for consideration for a future agenda

- To consider invoices due but not received at time of agenda publication – D. Skelton £269.20.
Invoice not received by day of meeting but to be paid in accordance with contract.
- To consider councillor details on parish website.
Carried Forward to January meeting.

203/24 Date and time of the next parish council meetings

- Tuesday 14th January, 2025 – LVMH

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed **Date.....**