

Caton with Littledale Parish Council

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7pm at the Victoria Institute, Caton.

Present Cllr Carter, Cllr Heywood (chair) Cllr Walmsley (vice -chair), Cllr Boland, Cllr Wright, Cllr Powell, Cllr Gibbons.

Gill Mason – clerk.

One member of the public.

Open Forum

No issues raised.

1/24 To receive apologies for absence.

None.

2/24 To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th December 2023. It was resolved that the minutes be approved and signed by the chair.

Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.

Seconded by Cllr Gibbons.

3/24 To receive declarations of interest and dispensations.

Cllr Walmsley declared an interest in any item regarding Caton St Paul's School.

Cllr Wright declared an interest in any item regarding Caton Primary School.

Cllr Gibbons declared an interest in any item regarding the Victoria Institute as a trustee.

4/24 To consider planning application and matters.

23/01308/ELDC Station Hotel – Lawful use of subject land as ancillary outdoor space to public house. The parish council objects to the loss of any leisure facilities in our community. The Bowling Club at the Station Hotel has for many years provided outdoor exercise and friendship for our people. Not only the elderly - in recent years big efforts have been made to attract children and young people to the sport. The Bowling Green was listed as an Open Space in our recently approved Neighbourhood Plan, and should be safeguarded under Lancaster City Council's policy DM27 on Protection of Open Spaces.

5/24 Accounts and finance.

Payments

Victoria Institute, administration grant (S/O)	£800.00
BayTech web hosting (S/O)	£60.00
Victoria Institute room hire	£52.00
Gill Mason clerk's expenses	£44.26
Lancaster City Council grass cutting	£1534.64

It was resolved that the payments be made.

Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.

Seconded by Cllr Powell.

6/24 To consider the update on the Fell View playpark repair and maintenance.

Update on the progress of repair and maintenance and LEF funding.

The parish council has secured LEF funding and LCC will provide the third party contribution of £1500.00.

To consider and approve the purchase of the toddler hut.

It was resolved that the toddler hut be purchased at a cost of £9571.00 including vat.
Proposed by Cllr Powell.
Seconded by Cllr Walmsley.

7/24 To consider any highways and/or footpath matters.

To review the current battery operated SpIDS and consider the purchase of a solar powered replacement.

The parish council approve the potential sites for the Spid from LCC.
It was resolved to go ahead with the siting of the SpID posts up to a cost of £3000.00.
Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.
Seconded by Cllr Heywood.

8/24 To consider any parish management & maintenance matters.

To consider the Hornby Road car park lease renewal.

It was resolved that the lease be renewed.
Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.
Seconded by Cllr Wright.

9/24 To consider the update on the Greenway improvements and the Greenway engagement event.

Cllr Powell had contacted the contractor regarding the works on the Greenway. The paving to site the benches on should be laid by the end of the month. The clerk will order the benches and tables ready to be sited once Cllr Powell provides the supplier and types of bench.

Proposed by Cllr Heywood.
Seconded by Cllr Walmsley.
The Sustrans Group will be holding an engagement event which the parish council fully support.

10/24 To consider training courses and costs for councillors.

Cllr Walmsley and the new clerk will attend the social media training session at an approximate cost of £80.00.
Proposed by Cllr Powell.
Seconded by Cllr Wright.

11/24 To consider and approve the precept for 2024/2025.

It was resolved that the parish council set the precept at £37829.07 (Band D £34.21)
Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.
Seconded by Cllr Powell.

12/24 To consider and approve the website transfer to Easyweb hosts.

It was resolved that the website be transferred at a cost of £500. There will be extra charges incurred when the directory is also transferred.
Proposed by Cllr Walmsley.
Seconded by Cllr Heywood.

13/24 To consider the update on the clerk's vacancy.

The parish council has interviewed four applicants and is awaiting references.

14/24 To consider the request from the Victoria Institute Trustees for a grant towards the rewiring of the institute.

It was resolved that the parish council award £1000 to the Victoria Institute.
Proposed by Cllr Heywood.

Seconded by Cllr Walmsley.

15/24 Reports and correspondence (information only).

16/24 Date and time of the next parish council meetings.

- Tuesday 13th February 2024 at 7pm.
- Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7pm.
- Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 7pm.
- Tuesday 14th May 2024 at 7pm.
- Tuesday 11th June 2024 at 7pm.
- Tuesday 9th July 2024 at 7pm.
- Tuesday 10th September 2024 at 7pm.
- Tuesday 8th October 2024 at 7pm.
- Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 7pm.
- Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at pm.

Signed **Date.....**