

## Minutes of the F&GP Committee Wednesday February 1 2023 @ 6pm.

| Item                      | Minutes  |  | Action        |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
|---------------------------|--|--|---------------|----------------|-----|-----------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----------------|-----|---------------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----------------|-----|-----------------|-----|---------------|-----|---------------------|--|----------------|-----|----------|--|---------------------------|-----|--|
|                           | <b>Elected Members @ May 2022</b>  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| 1.                        | <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Elected Members:</th> <th style="text-align: center;">In attendance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr M. Wilson</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr D. Webster</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr B. Brown</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr G. Scrogam</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr N. Bishop Rowe</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr J. Drake</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr. T. Irving</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr M. Scrogam</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr P. Jones</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Non-Voting Members:</th> <td></td> </tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Cllr S Webster</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Officers</th> <td></td> </tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">Clerk and Assistant Clerk</td><td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td></tr> </tbody> </table>                     | Elected Members:                       | In attendance | Cllr M. Wilson | Yes | Cllr D. Webster | Yes | Cllr B. Brown | Yes | Cllr G. Scrogam | Yes | Cllr N. Bishop Rowe | Yes | Cllr J. Drake | Yes | Cllr. T. Irving | Yes | Cllr M. Scrogam | Yes | Cllr P. Jones | Yes | Non-Voting Members: |  | Cllr S Webster | Yes | Officers |  | Clerk and Assistant Clerk | Yes |  |
| Elected Members:          | In attendance  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr M. Wilson            | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr D. Webster           | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr B. Brown             | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr G. Scrogam           | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr N. Bishop Rowe       | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr J. Drake             | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr. T. Irving           | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr M. Scrogam           | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr P. Jones             | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Non-Voting Members:       |  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Cllr S Webster            | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Officers                  |  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| Clerk and Assistant Clerk | Yes  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| 2.                        | <p><b>Minutes:</b><br/>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved: Proposed: Cllr Wilson.<br/>Seconded: Cllr D. Webster.</p>  |  |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |
| 3.                        | <p><b>Finance:</b> Committee <b>approved</b> the bank statements and bank reconciliation for January.</p> <p><b>Finance Threshold:</b> Committee is concerned about the amounts in each account which take the council over the £85,000 protection threshold. Currently the town council has more than this in the Cumberland Bank and CCLA. The clerk to report back to the next meeting on options</p> <p><b>Variations:</b><br/>Committee noted the variations spreadsheet which shows the differences between approved budgets and actual spend. The spend on Green Spaces and Allotments has risen because of the works on trees that was required and agreed by council. A grant has been provided of 5k by the Town Lands which has helped to offset these costs.</p> <p><b>Actions:</b><br/><b>Allotments:</b> Cllr Webster requested a breakdown of the allotment expenditure<br/><b>Public Toilets:</b> Cllr M. Scrogam requested a breakdown of expenditure and income and usage on the WC's together with a projection of income if the charge for use was uplifted from 30p. It was noted that toilets charges elsewhere range from 30p to 50p. The clerk said that the major cost on toilets was for cleaning which happens everyday and was unavoidable. Other cost savings included a rain water capture system, and the council no longer pays rates on the toilets. Nevertheless, the toilets continue to run at a deficit and require subsidy from the town council.</p> <p><b>Proposed:</b> Cllr D. Webster. Seconded T. Irving. Unanimously approved.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |               |                |     |                 |     |               |     |                 |     |                     |     |               |     |                 |     |                 |     |               |     |                     |  |                |     |          |  |                           |     |  |

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| 4. | <p><b>Borderlands:</b><br/>All of the Projection Initiation Documents have been submitted and the Town Team and the leads on each project are awaiting the outcome which will be known on 14 February and will be reported directly to full council.</p>   |         |
| 5. | <p><b>CIL Income.</b><br/>The committee noted the apportionment of CIL funding. The clerk reported a request from Ford Park to ask if capital grants were available from this fund. It was agreed that Ford Park be invited to make a request but that no formal grant programme be introduced.<br/>Cllr Webster said that in terms of future income from CIL, this may be changed by Westmorland and Furness.</p>   |         |
| 5. | <p><b>Election Costs</b><br/>The clerk was aware that election costs for 2023 had increased significantly for town and parish councils and she had requested an estimated figure from SLDC for the town councils election in May 2024. The total cost <b>per ward is estimated at £2875.00</b>. The total cost for the election with 6 wards in Ulverston in May 2024 will therefore be <b>£17,250</b>. The costs payable by the TC for elections in the past has been approx. £4,000. The overall costs were defrayed because previously the town council would have piggybacked on SLDC/CCC or possible a general election. This time the elections will only include the Police and Crime Commissioner elections. W&amp;F has agreed to assist with costs for parish and town councils for the 23/24 (financial year) elections but has no plans to do so beyond this time.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b><br/>That the council consider a Community Governance Review that will align the town council elections with those of Westmorland and Furness in future. This will mean that the 2024 election will go ahead but that if the CGR is agreed by council those elected members will only stand for 3 years. After this the 4-year rotation would continue and costs would be defrayed. It was agreed that the clerk produce a report on the matter for further consideration the next F&amp;GP meeting.</p> | council |
|    | <p><b>Update on Canal Next Ness trackbed. To Note.</b><br/>Sustrans is currently in conversation with Network Rail, Railway Paths Limited (RPL) and the County Council to get agreement for the whole path (including the bridge structure) to be leased for 50 years to RPL, with the County taking on maintenance responsibilities for the path. The aim is to provide an outcome that reduces the Town Council's costs to a minimum, especially given that the route will be part of a wider project to use the former disused railway alignment between Ulverston and Greenodd. Sustrans still have not received a formal response from SLDC to the pre-planning advice. A planning application will be submitted once Sustrans can get agreement to the lease and maintenance responsibilities as this will determine if Sustrans will wish to use the bridge at Next Ness. This means that town councils involvement will now be minimal apart from paying some of the upfront costs to support studies and planning; these costs have been previously agreed and set aside in the reserve account and have been supported by Ulverston BID.</p>   |         |
|    | <p><b>Date of next meeting: Wednesday 1 March 2023 @ 6pm</b></p>   |         |