

**WHICHAM PARISH
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3rd MAY 2017
COMMENCING 07.00 PM IN SILECROFT VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: **Mr A Fell (Chair)** Mrs R Jopson, Mrs S Wilson, Mrs V Bradley, Mrs C Lowery
Cty councillor K Hitchen
Borough Cllr G Scurrah
Mr J Fell
Mr Robert Morris-Eyton

APOLOGIES: Mr P Rand, Mr M Sharp, Mrs M Cumming

PM1/17: ELECTION OF CLERK

It was **RESOLVED** that Mrs Lesley Cooper, Low Marshside, Underhill nr Millom Cumbria be elected as clerk for the forthcoming year

PM2/17: MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 4th May 2016 be signed as a true and correct record.

PM3/17: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman presented an oral report of the work of the Parish Council over the past 12 months. The play areas at Silecroft and Kirksanton were now completed and he thanked Cllr V Bradley for her work in achieving the funding from Tesco Bags for Life. The Council currently have put in another bid for funding to the scheme for stage 2 development of the tennis courts at Silecroft. A number of people have commented on how nice the playareas look and are pleased with the facilities.

The Parish Council are investigating the possibilities of taking over the toilets at Silecroft foreshore when the LDNP lease expires with Copeland BC. LDNP have not renewed the lease of the car park and this is back in the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Chair thanked the Quarry for supplying stone at the cost of transport and Cllr Sharp for filling in the pot holes and making the car park fit to use.

3 more seats have been replaced on the foreshore with plastic benches. It was asked if the Council had insurance for the car park and the Clerk explained that it was included in the Public Liability Insurance that the Council held.

PM4/17: ACCOUNTS

The Clerk presented on oral report of the Accounts of the Parish Council for 2016/17. It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts for the year of the Parish Council were a true and correct record.

PM5/17: GUEST SPEAKER AND OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr Robert Morris-Eyton, Chair of CIC gave a talk on the progress made on the Beach front development. Planning permission had been granted but the cost of the project was around £1m and finding funding for the project was an issue. Different funders have been approached with little success. A primary problem was the lack of evidence for the demand for a café on the beach front. It is proposed to install a "popup café" to gather the information required and show demand to assist in future funding proposals.

A number of issues require resolving including security, drainage, publicity etc and a number of options are being considered.

The preferred option would be to purchase a steel container type building with space for indoor seating and cooking facilities and a generator to power, this would cost approx. £5k but the CIC do not have sufficient funds for this project.

LDNP have agreed to support the planning application for the pop-up café and planning consent would take approx. 4 weeks

The café would be let out on a franchise.

After discussion it was agreed that this was the best option. Cllr Hitchen stated that there may be a small amount of funding to help set this up if the project was to run for 2 years.

The Parish Council also expressed support for the project.

Mr Morris-Eyton was thanked for his report

PM6/17: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Annual Parish meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd May 2018

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed..... Dated.....