

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ARTHURET PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
4th MARCH 2024 AT 7.00 p.m. AT LONGTOWN MEMORIAL HALL COMMUNITY CENTRE

<u>Present</u>	Cllrs. Sir JFS Graham (Chair), G Routledge (Vice Chair) M Gunson, C Adams, C Johanssen and L Mason.
<u>Apologies Minute No 391</u>	Apologies and reasons for absence were received from Cumberland Cllr T Pickstone
<u>Declaration of Interest Minute No 392</u>	Cllr M Gunson allotments.
<u>Members of the public Minute No 393</u>	1 member of the public was in attendance, who asked for an update on the installation of the Speed Indication Devices in Longtown. The clerk reported that the Assistant Director of Highways had been requested in progressing with the installation. It was agreed the clerk keep the resident up to date on progress. On behalf of a resident the following were raised by Councillors. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work to the footpath between Lochinvar Close and Old Road to improve accessibility, currently a problem with water standing and not being user friendly. 2. Speeding in the town remained a concern.
<u>Clerks' resignation Minute No 394</u>	The Council acknowledged receipt and accepted a letter of resignation from the clerk. As per contract, 3 months' notice to be served. The Chairman thanks to the clerk for 32 years of service. The clerk encouraged the council to start the process to advertise the post, and agree the way forward.
<u>Police matters Minute No 395</u>	No police were in attendance, no update had been received.
<u>County and City Cllrs report Minute No 396</u>	Cumberland Cllr T Pickstone was not in attendance, and had intimated an update on issues relating to the parish would be given at the April meeting.
<u>Representatives on other bodies Minute No 397</u>	<u>Community Centre Management Committee</u> Cllrs Sir JFS Graham, reported, that since the appointment of the new manager the Community Centre facilities were being used a lot more. <u>Allotment</u> Cllr. M Gunson reported <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of annual rents collected, although slower than in previous years. • Concerns of vandalism and in particular a number of tenants

	<p>having their padlocks super glued.</p> <p><u>CAP Initiative</u> Cllr C Johanssen reported that, despite emails sent to the police, no updates had been received of future meeting dates.</p> <p><u>Borderlands project</u> As the representative of Arthuret Parish Council, Cllr M Gunson gave the following update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No response had been received from CAP re the Borderlands project. • Under Green Spaces, youth, young people, and empty buildings were being looked at with safe and attractive corridors. • Online meetings of all sub groups have been held, prior which, each group had submitted plans for consideration, to take forward. These had been assessed to meet the criteria. • The next step was a face-to-face meeting in March. • Following a question of clarification from the clerk, reference the February council meeting, when Cumberland Cllr T Pickstone stated it would be down to 2 projects to take forward, it was confirmed that 1-3 projects, subject to a scoring system, would be taken forward.
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<u>Minutes of 12th February</u> <u>Minute No 398</u>	With the following amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 th February were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record. Reference Minute No that Cllr G Routledge proposed the following, to read "
<u>Multi use Games Area</u> <u>Minute No 399</u>	As requested, from the meeting in February, the clerk displayed the plans for the Multi Use Games Area. It was then considered, and agreed, by councillors, that, before any decision was taken to agree the contractor, further advice would be taken on the dispersal of surface drainage of the site.
<u>Applications to Community Pot</u> <u>Minute No 400</u>	The following applications for a grant from the Beckburn Windfarm Community Pot were received and considered. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Longtown Memorial Hall Community Centre. To purchase Easter eggs for a Childrens Easter Fun Day event. It was agreed to award a grant of £260. 2. Longtown Football Club, to make up the shortfall of £200 to the contractor for the grass cutting of the playing field, agreed. 3. Longtown Memorial Hall Community Centre. Applying for £500 to reinstate the recently closed Senior citizens Thursday lunch club for 5 weeks. There were plans that catering would be carried out by the Community Centre in the long term to make the lunch club more viable. It was noted there were not sufficient funds available in the current year's allocation, and it was agreed, to support this application in principle, to the amount requested. This would be allocated from the 2023/2024 Community Pot.

<u>Clerks report</u> <u>Minute No 401</u>	<p>The following was reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correspondence received from Riverside Housing officer regarding damage to the grassed area between Old Road and Lochinvar Close, this area was Arthuret Parish Council and Riverside Housing land. <p>Costs to reinstate the grassed area had been received from Riverside Housing and confirmed repairs to the Parish Council area was £480.24.</p> <p>Clerk was authorised, in discussion with Riverside Housing, to request the resident who caused the damage, to reimburse the costs to reinstate the area to its original state.</p>
<u>Planning Minute No 402</u>	No planning applications or notifications were received since the last meeting.
<u>Date of next meeting</u> <u>Minute No 403</u>	Date of next meeting Monday 8 th April at 7.00pm at Longtown Memorial Hall Community Centre.
<u>Correspondence</u> <u>Minute No 404</u>	<p>The following was received, circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> CALC news Rural Services bulletin Carlisle and Rural newsletter NALC events CALC update NALC Chief Executives bulletin Notification of temporary road closure U1016 to carry out utility work by BT.

ACCOUNTS MARCH 2024

The following accounts were approved and authorised for payment.

Cheque	Rec	To whom paid	Amount
705554		P Kirkup - Cleaner changing Rooms	41.68
705555		HMRC - N.I. Income tax, Pension contributions	817.62
705556		D Beattie - riverside cleaner, check parks	414.00
705557		Clerk - working from home allowance 4 weeks	24.00
705558		Clerk - salary	2,133.00
705559		A Warwick - repair to allotment taps	150.00
705560		Longtown Community Centre - grant from Beckburn Community Pot towards Easter celebrations for children	260.00
705561		Longtown Football Club - grant from Beckburn Community Pot	200.00

PART B CONFIDENTIAL

Refusal to investigate

Minute No 405

The Council addressed correspondence, from a resident of Arthuret Parish, received by the Chairman, copied to the Vice Chair Cllr G Routledge and Cumberland Cllr T Pickstone. Noted this correspondence was an ongoing grievance.

It was accepted by councillors that the majority of issues raised had already been acknowledged and responded to by the Council to the complainant.

After due consideration by council members the following response was agreed.

- That the resident should raise their concerns at a higher level, as the resident has noted of their intention, due to the fact that the Council have continually responded to the complaints with no satisfactory outcome to the resident.
- That it is acknowledged that there have been continuous efforts to respond to the issues raised by this resident, in specific, responding to the production of Draft Minutes and website information.
- That the Council stand by their decision in investigating and coming to a conclusion of complaints towards the Parrish Clerk.

Minute No 406

Allotments

Councillors were given a report from a meeting of the Allotment Committee to address the installation a large storage container, by a tenant, at the front of their plot, contravening the Allotment Tenancy Agreement and Rules. It was noted that all tenants are issued a copy of these on an annual basis. It was confirmed by Cllr M Gunson the tenant had asked for permission to place the container and had been asked to delay plans to install but had proceeded. Noted the height also exceeds the 9 feet maximum allowed on plots.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the tenant is instructed to remove the container and the large number of stones that have been used for the base.

A copy of the rules, as a reminder, to be enclosed with the correspondence.

Minute No 407

A welfare issue was raised concerning another tenant who was housing a high number of poultry in what was considered by the Allotment Committee, unsatisfactory conditions. Concern was also raised there appeared to be access to this plot by those other than tenants.

Following consideration, it was agreed the Chairman and Cllr M Gunson meet with the tenant to address the concerns and advice is sought from a local veterinary practise regarding welfare issues of the poultry.