

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ARTHURET PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
8th APRIL 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, L Mason, C Johannsen, M Irving and Cumberland Cllr. T Pickstone
<u>Apologies Minute No 419</u>	Apologies and reasons for absence were received from Cllrs. R Graham and C Adams
<u>Declaration of Interest Minute No 420</u>	Cllr M Gunson allotments.
<u>Co-option to Council Minute No 421</u>	Following correspondence received, it was agreed unanimously that M Irving , meeting the qualifying criteria, is co-opted onto the council. Being present, as a member of the public, he was invited to join the meeting, the Declaration of Office was signed.
<u>Members of the public Minute No 422</u>	<p>The Chairman welcomed 2 members of the public to the meeting a third arrived at 7.40p.m.</p> <p>Resident 1 raised concerns regarding Planning Application 23/0297 and the following was noted,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exiting from the garage, onto the A7, has been a longstanding problem, poor visibility in both directions, not helped by vehicles parking, and the bridge that is on a bend and is in close proximity to the exit, regularly causing congestion in the area. This development would exacerbate these problems. • The narrowness of the bridge doesn't allow 2 HGV vehicles crossing at the same time, leading, regularly, to a build-up of queueing traffic on the A7 outside the Esso Garage. • Delivery by HGV vehicles, who regularly park on the A7 across from the garage, on yellow lines, restricting access to the pavement (the narrowest part on the A7) for wheelchair, pushchair access, as well obstructing, at times, exit for a business and residents. This is a safety issue, if this proposal were to go ahead this could become more problematic. • The proposed car park has not allowed for delivery vehicles to access safely, if the car park is full, as there is no turning circle. • There is no provision in the proposal for safe pedestrian access over a busy road, to the proposed development. The majority of properties are sited on the other side of the A7. • This is in a Conservation Area, has the proposal to demolish buildings in this area been considered? • Although not material matters, the Parish Council are supportive of concerns raised by residents that the developers purchased the HSBC Bank 8 years ago and have allowed this to go into disrepair.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident 2 attended to observe the meeting. <p>Resident 3, asked councillors to address, as a tenant of the allotments, the state of the fence adjacent to their plot. The Allotment Committee were aware of this and would address the issue.</p> <p>Cllr M Gunson reported litter on fencing between the Medical Centre and the bus stop.</p> <p>Cllr G Routledge reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Litter on Netherby Road near the bridge. Acknowledged that although the ride on sweeper visited Longtown, vehicles encroaching over the white lines prevented access to clean all areas. <p>Cumberland Cllr. T Pickstone to address the issues raised by councillors.</p>
<u>Police matters</u> <u>Minute No 423</u>	No police were in attendance. Cumbria Police Carlisle and Rural newsletter received and circulated to all prior to the meeting. The clerk reported that following further discussion with Riverside Housing, as the resident who damaged the grassed area to the rear of Lochinvar Close could not be confirmed, no action could be taken to recover the cost to reinstate.
<u>Cumberland Cllr</u> <u>Minute No 424</u>	<p>Cumberland Cllr. T Pickstone reported the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The official opening of Eskdale House Residential Care Home was the 9th April. Cllr Pickstone confirmed that Moot Lodge Residential Care Home, Brampton would be closing and residents transferred to Eskdale House. It was confirmed by Cllr Pickstone, that community consultation with Brampton residents had been undertaken. The clerk raised concerns that there was no direct bus route between Longtown and Brampton, a potential problem for visitors to those transferred. Cllr Pickstone made the council aware that Government funding had been made available to Cumberland Council for additional bus services. Although Brampton/Longtown had been suggested by Cllr Pickstone, it was also proposed to reinstate the service Cargo/Rockcliffe/ Carlisle, this option had been prioritised and agreed. Additional funding from Central Government in 2025 would be available when the Brampton/Longtown service route could be considered although the route had to be viable long term. Cllr M Gunson asked that Cumberland Council reinstate the white lines at the Disabled Parking bays on Esk Street, Swan Street, Netherby Street, and the Bus Parking bays. That the 2 bollards on Swan Street are reinstated. Times of the Sandysike diversion route during roadworks has been amended due to residents' concerns.
<u>Representatives on other bodies</u> <u>Minute No 425</u>	<p><u>Community Centre Management Committee</u></p> <p>Cumberland Cllr T Pickstone gave a brief update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £56,000 grant funding had been secured to upgrade the gym and

	<p>reconfigure the entrance, incorporating a more modern area, with a café open area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was currently being considered that monthly members could access the gym by means of a secure entry mechanism, technical issues were being looked at. • Celebrations for the 100th Anniversary of the Longtown Memorial Hall Community Centre were progressing. To date, there were plans for a Community event, grants were available from Cumberland Council. • <u>Allotment Committee</u> <p>Cllr. M Gunson reported vacant plots were in the process of being allocated. The clerk requested a copy of the waiting list, for internal audit checks, this would be provided,</p> <p><u>CAP Initiative</u></p> <p>Although a number of issues had been raised by residents ,through Cllr C Johanssen, there continued to be no response to e-mails sent to the CAP Initiative, and no information on follow up meetings. In response to a question from a member of the public it was confirmed that the CAP Initiative was noy connected to the Borderlands project.</p> <p><u>Borderlands initiative</u></p> <p>Further update to be given following a meeting scheduled for the 10th April. Community Consultation would be undertaken</p> <p><u>Incredible Edible</u></p> <p>It was reported by Cllrs M Gunson and C Johanssen, that, following a meeting with K Walsh, Brampton and Longtown Rotary Club were pulling out of the Bobbin Mill gardens project. Both councillors committed to continuing for a further 12 months, planting more acceptable plants, and improving the soil. The clerk confirmed the remaining funds available, £300, from the grant to Brampton and Longtown Rotary Club, was to be returned to the parish council.</p>
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<u>Minutes of 4th March</u> <u>Minute No 426</u>	The Minutes of the meeting held on the 4 th March were agreed and signed by the chairman as a true record.
<u>Minutes of 28th March</u> <u>Minute No 427</u>	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 28th March were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.</p> <p>Not being present at the meeting, Cllr L Mason queried why the hours of the role of the Parish Clerk , RFO, had been reduced significantly. over the split of the role by 7 hours weekly.</p> <p>Cllr G Routledge stated this was to save money and would enable the Council office to be utilised 4 days a week with a window each day for public access.</p>
<u>MUGA Minute No 428</u>	As raised at the meeting in March, the clerk, having taken advice, reported, that 2 of the contractors tendering had visited the site, and it was considered the area where the MUGA was to be installed, on an existing site, that the tarmac is porous, the basketball area is slightly raised and there is a natural camber on the site, drainage was sufficient

	<p>and there was no risk of flooding.</p> <p>Cllr M Irving stated he had reservations about the MUGA installation with the following concerns noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reservations regarding the spending of the Section 106 funding on this project, would residents support this project? The justification and Community Consultation was explained. It was confirmed there was lots of evidence to support the community were in support.
<u>Interview for Parish Clerk and RFO Minute No 429</u>	It was agreed, the Chairman, Cllr Sir JFS Graham, Vice Chair. Cllr G Routledge and Cllr M Gunson. with reserve, Cllr C Adams, would interview applicants for the posts.
<u>Installation of Speed Indication Devices Minute No 430</u>	The clerk reported the installation of the Speed Indication Devices was progressing slowly. A potential delay was that Cumberland Council did not have the manpower to install the devices.
<u>Date of next meeting Minute No 431</u>	It was confirmed the next meeting would be held on 13 th May
<u>Planning Minute No 432</u>	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Ref 24/0226</p> <p>Roofing of existing silage pit, Randalinton Farm, Sandysike, Longtown. No observations, supported.</p> <p>Ref 24/0208</p> <p>Erection of 1no. building on existing industrial site, Shed 9, Sandysike, Longtown</p> <p>No observations, supported.</p> <p>Ref 23/0297</p> <p>Erection of replacement petrol filling station and convenience store, fuel canopy and fuel pumps, associated car park, infrastructure and underground fuel tanks., following demolition of existing petrol station, warehouse building, residential dwellings comprising 6a and 6b Bank Street and refurbishment and partial demolition pf 12 and 14 Bridge Street Longtown</p> <p>Esso Bridge Street Garage Bridge Street, 12 and 14 Bridge Street and 6a and 6b Bank Street Longtown.</p> <p>The observations noted under Members of the Public to be submitted to the Planning authority, Cumberland Council.</p>
<u>Correspondence Minute No 433</u>	<p>All circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NALC events Chief Executives bulletin. 2. NALC newsletter 3. CALC update 4. NALC Chief Executive bulletin. 5. NALC events

ACCOUNTS APRIL 2024

The following accounts were approved and authorised for payment.

705562		Clerk working from home allowance	30.00
705563	1	D Beattie- Riverside, changing rooms, parks cleaner	414.00
705564		P Kirkup - changing rooms cleaner	41.68
705565		Longtown football club - community pot towards grass cutting	200.00
705566		HMRC - PAYE, pension contribution	817.62
705567		Clerk salary	2,133.00
705568	2	John Smith Electricals - Christmas light displays	1,333.36
705569	3	Allotment- Cllr M Gunson petty cash	50.00
705570		Clerk March - replacing cheque no. 705558 salary	2,089.00
705571	4	Cllr M Gunson - reimbursements	51.84

PART B**CONFIDENTIAL****Minute No 434**

Complaint from a resident.

Councillors were made aware of the nature of the complaint and the chairman confirmed he had acknowledged receipt.

Cllr. G Routledge reiterated this was being looked at as a complaint and not an investigation.

Minute No 435

It was confirmed that the Chairman and Cllr M Gunson had visited the allotments, spoken with the tenant and been assured by the tenant that the poultry would be removed in the near future.

Regarding the siting of a container on a plot, it was confirmed that, despite a request to remove this, no action had been taken and no correspondence received from the tenant. In addition, 4 large metal shelving units were now on the plot. It was agreed a further letter be sent giving 28 days' notice to remove the units and container.