

## ALSTON MOOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Alston Moor Parish Council held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7pm in the Masonic Hall to set the precept for 2017/2018

**Present:** - Cllrs: A. Green (Chair), B. Aves, A. Martin, D. Athey, E. Grew, T. Haldon, C. Harrison, P. Godwin, R. Miller, D. Phillips, E. Stewart.

**Apologies:** - none

**Absent:** - Cllrs: J. Glendinning, G. Wright., S. Hill.

Declarations of interest: Cllr Aves declared a pecuniary interest in Nenthead Community Works.

### **1. Precept for 2017/2018**

Eden District Council have confirmed that Alston Moor's tax base is £715.79 and the Council Tax Reduction £1,349.

The clerk reported that she contacted the local organisations in receipt of an annual donation to ask for copies of their latest accounts and a short report and everyone had responded with the exception of Alston Fitness Club.

#### **Establishment**

It was agreed that a conversation needs to be held with the Fitness Club, as there has been a suggestion that the parish council take over the insurance of the building. Pending discussions the sum of £500 would be set aside.

**Resolved** to set establishment expenses at £15,200. Proposed by Cllr Green and seconded by Cllr Miller. (2 abs)

#### **Annual donations**

**Resolved** to set the annual donations at £3,000 and to withhold the annual of £500 donation for to Alston Fitness Club for Tyne Willows Pavilion.

#### **Penrith & Eden District CAB**

Noted that the CAB can be contacted by phone, and facilities are available through Local Links to avoid the need to travel.

**Resolved** to contribute £250 to the Citizen's Advice Bureau. Proposed by Cllr Martin and seconded by Cllr Grew.

#### **Land/property management**

**Resolved** to allocate £1,000. Proposed by Cllr Miller and seconded by Cllr Haldon. (nem con)

#### **General purpose/section 137**

It was agreed that this budget heading would be used to fund applications by community organisations.

**Resolved** to allocate £2,000 to general purposes. Proposed by Cllr Phillips and seconded by Cllr Miller. (nem con)

#### **Maintenance of Alston Mill Race at Townfoot**

There is an ongoing maintenance agreement.

**Resolved** to allocate £500.

#### **Christmas lights**

**Resolved** to allocate £500.

#### **Fairhill Recreation Grounds car park**

**Resolved** to allocate £320 towards the car park rental.

#### **Public toilets**

Concerns were raised about the condition of Nenthead toilets. Nenthead cllrs pointed out that the toilets are run by volunteers, and that the funds held in balances are being held for future maintenance.

**Resolved** to allocate £550 to Garrigill and Nenthead public toilets. Total cost £1,100.

#### **Townscape Heritage Initiative**

The grant application to the THI is for an agreement lasting 5 years with £10,000 over the period to be contributed by the parish council. This is now the third year. Noted that local tradesmen have been given the opportunity to upskill in lime mortar work.

**Resolved** to allocate £2,000.

**Community Warden**

**Resolved** to allocate £2,850 to enable the contract to continue for a further year.

**Nenthead Community Works**

*(Cllr Aves declared a pecuniary interest)*

**Resolved** to allocate £500.

**Alston Gala**

**Resolved** to allocate £500 to assist the Gala next year.

**Alston Moor Newsletter**

**Resolved** to allocate £50.

**Alston Town Hall Maintenance**

The report by a former councillor was noted, and agreed that funds should be set aside for maintenance. Staffing would be considered at the next Town Hall meeting.

**Resolved** to allocate £8,776.

**Replacement of Services**

Cllr Godwin reported that Eden District Council are looking to agree the devolution of services by April 2017. It was noted that the funds allocated for the current year have not yet been called upon.

**Resolved** to allocate £2,000. Proposed by Cllr Martin and seconded by Cllr Grew. (5+ 2- 4 abs)

**Young People**

It was agreed that requests for funding could be made through the community grant.

**Community/Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Godwin reported that Eden District Council are still in the process of appointing an officer to lead on the Neighbourhood Plan. AMP representatives are already working on an update to the Community Plan.

**Resolved** to allocate £1,500. Proposed by Cllr Godwin and seconded by Cllr Martin. (3 abs)

**RESOLVED** to accept a precept of £42,046. Proposed by Cllr Haldon and seconded by Cllr Grew. (8+ 1- 2 abs) Cllr Green asked for it to be recorded that he voted against the resolution.

**Precept for 2017/2018**

Establishment	£15,200
Annual donations	£3,000
CAB	£250
Land/property management	£1,000
General purposes + section 137	£2,000
Maintenance Mill Race	£500
Fairhill Car Park	£320
Christmas lights	£500
Public toilets	£1,100
Townscape Heritage Scheme	£2,000
Community Warden	£2,850
Nenthead Community Works	£500
Alston Gala	£500
Alston Moor Newsletter	£50
Alston Town Hall	£8,776
Replacement of services	£2,000
Community/Neighbourhood Plans	£1,500
	<b><u>£42,046</u></b>

**With the Council Tax Reduction of £1,349 the parish will ask for £40,697.**

**The council tax base of £715.79 divided by the precept gives an annual cost of £56.86 for a band D property, or £1.09 per week. A band D property in 2015/16 was £55.85**

The meeting closed at 9 pm

Signed: .....

Dated: .....