

ALSTON MOOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Alston Moor Parish Council held on Monday 15th January 2018 at 7pm in Alston Town Hall annex to set the precept for 2018/2019.

Present: Cllrs: T. Haldon (Chair), D. Athey, J. Glendinning, P. Godwin, E. Grew, C. Harrison, H. Ho, A. Martin, R. Miller.

Apologies: Cllrs: S. Hill, E. Stewart, B. Aves, A. Green, D. Phillips.

Absent: G. Wright

Declarations of interest: JG (director Alston Gym), RM (member of the Gala Committee, Fairhill Recreation Grounds Trustee and a relative of the Community Warden), AM (director of AMP), (TH director of AMP, Garrigill Village Hall Trustee), EG (related to a director of AMP).

1. Precept 2018/2019

Resolved to set **establishment** costs at £15,500 (1 abs)

Resolved to set **annual donations** to village halls, playareas and Tyne Willows pavilion at £3,500. (nem con) A motion to increase this by £20 per organisation was not carried on the chairs casting vote.

Resolved that **Penrith and Eden District CAB** would not be allocated a specific grant, but could apply to the Community Grant Fund. (nem con)

Resolved to pay £500 towards cleaning out the **Mill Race**. (nem con)

Resolved to set aside £500 for **Christmas lights**. (nem con)

Resolved to pay £320 to the **Fairhill Recreation Grounds** toward the car park lease.

Resolved to set aside £1,100 for the **community toilets** in Garrigill and Nenthead. (nem con)

It was reported that there were complaints about the cleanliness of the toilets in Nenthead. It was agreed to refer this to the ward meeting. **Action.**

Resolved to allocate the **Townscape Heritage Initiative** (THI) £2000. (nem con)

Resolved to allocate £3,000 for the **Community Warden** (1 abs)

Resolved to set aside £500 for **Nenthead Community Works**. (nem con).

Noted that the annual report and accounts are outstanding.

Resolved to allocate £500 for **Alston Gala**. (1 abs)

Resolved to set aside £50 for the **Alston Moor newsletter**. (nem con)

Resolved to allocate £5,000 towards **Alston Town Hall**. (nem con)

Cllr PG, who sits on the grants panel at Eden District Council, pointed out that they always look to see if applications are supported by the local parish council, and that this makes a difference to whether the application is successful.

Resolved to allocate £2,000 to **Property Management**. (nem con)

Resolved to set aside £4000 in **General Purposes and S137**, to include funding for the Community Grant scheme. (nem con)

Resolved to set aside £500 for the **Nenthead Gala**. (nem con)

Resolved to contribute £2,000 to **Alston Moor Historical Society** for the archives. (1 abs)

An e-mail from a local resident was sent in support of this application. Cllrs were reminded of the benefits to residents and visitors of safeguarding the history and memories of the community. Visitor surveys show that tourists come to the UK to enjoy culture, historic sights and the local history of an area. The archives are an investment for the future, and have proved popular with both local people, and those who have moved into the area wanting to find out more about it. Having the office in the town hall enables the curators to open out documents, and set up permanent displays.

Resolved to contribute £500 towards **Alston Youth Club**. (nem con)

The request was for funding towards technical equipment. D Cllr LS explained that around 18 – 22 young people attend the Friday sessions regularly, and that this is around the maximum number the annex can hold.

Resolved to allocate £600 to the **PTA Fireshow** in November. (1 abs)

D Cllr LS explained that the PTA hopes to hold an annual fireshow, and to improve the lantern workshops. It was suggested that the group also asks local organisations and businesses for a contribution.

Resolved to allocate £4,875 for a **Volunteer Organiser**. (carried with the chair's casting vote).

The request from Alice Bondi (a director from Alston Moor Partnership) was for funding to appoint someone to co-ordinate voluntary activities, doing the tasks that volunteers are reluctant to do. Work on the Community Plan has identified that there will be an increasing need for volunteers to help out with activities such as group litter picks, footpath maintenance, evening classes run by those willing to teach others their skills, and the distribution of a regular flier to all households. AMP did not necessarily want to manage the project, but would be willing to work alongside the parish council on a steering group.

Members noted that there is a constant need for people to do things, and it is usually the same people volunteer. There is a big concern amongst organisers that no new younger people are coming through to volunteer to replace aging members. Another concern is that as soon as someone is paid to do something, the volunteers melt away. It would not be an easy job as the organiser would have to be clear about their role of finding recruits without doing the job themselves.

Resolved to allocate £4,000 towards new services, £2,000 for footway lighting and £2,000 for the public toilets in Alston. (5+ 3-, 1 abs).

It was reported that Eden District Council intend to delay handing over footway lights for a year, but no further information is available.

Resolved to request £50.945 for the precept for 2018/2019. Proposed by Cllr TH and seconded by Cllr EG. (6+ 1- 2 abs)

Establishment	£15,500
Annual donations – Village halls, playareas	£3,500
Property management	£2,000
General purposes _ S 137	£4,000
Mill Race maintenance	£500
Christmas lights	£500
Fairhill Car Park	£320
Nenthead/Garrigill public toilets	£1,100
Townscape Heritage Initiative	£2,000
Community Warden	£3,000
Nenthead Community Works	£500
Alston Gala	£500
Alston Moor Newsletter	£50
Alston Town Hall	£5,000
Nenthead Gala	£500
PTA Alston Fireshow	£600
Alston Youth Group	£500

Alston Moor Historical Society archives	£2,000
Volunteer Organiser	£4, 875
Devolved services – footway lights	£2,000
Devolved services – Alston public toilets	£2,000
	£50,945
Less council tax reduction of	- £958
TOTAL	£49,987

The council tax base is £730.52 so a Band D property will pay £68 per year in 2018/2019

2. Items for next month’s agenda and urgent business

None.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed:

Dated: