

## ALSTON MOOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Alston Moor Parish Council held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 7pm in Samuel King's School.

**Present:** Cllrs: T. Haldon (Chair), B. Aves, J. Glendinning, A. Green, P. Godwin, C. Harrison, R. Miller, A. Hewison, H. Ho, A. Martin.

**Apologies:** Cllrs: E. Grew, M. Shepherd, G. Wright

**Absent:** none

**Declarations of interest:** dispensations were granted to Cllrs: PG, TH, BA, AM, CH.

### **1. To discuss with Cumbria Association of Local Councils options that may enable the parish council to sign the Signature Fund applications from the three projects: High Mill, Alston Old School and Nenthead Chapel**

th authority to sign three applications to sig fund app between 10k and 100k . rule parish councils act as accountable body for funds. Have to account for them and report back to edc clause to enable edc to claw back funds, pc liable. Need to be sure to minimise risk, invited calc to give advice. Must be back by 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Sb only been asked to advise on ampc. There are other parish councils working with third party groups. Have to assess from own point of view. Calc not consulted until mpc contacted. Item 2 document from edc concern about how the grant fund had been set up. Not project manager but do expect to repay any unspent money. Approached edc 10k plus have to have greater clarity. Is there funding to administer process, financial regulations, very specific about managing finances to comply are responsible for the sum of money so have to work closely with successful projects. Need to be close enough to understand how the funds are being spent. Define clawback, what is properly spent pc responsible and have to decide if being appropriately spent. Fin regs based on nalc. Entering into agreement is a big decision with edc. Keen to attract investment to community. In everyones interest. View is must be careful. Inherent risk as asked to be accountable. If money is spent that can't be clawed back. Asked edc to be responsible for third party bodies. Not willing. Obligation to assess risks. Could employ a project manager, consultant. Who could spend time with the project, would have to come out of council funds.

Is about minimising risk, look at ways of being able to put signature if work carried out and paid for retrospectively specific projects, money legally obliged to get three quotes. Edc have transferred the risk to parish councils without any funds to assist. Don't need risk assessment now.

Dh information exec makes final decision 18-19 applications, prior to sf being drawn down,

Risk ass th severity of risk, could be major sev to pc, chance of risk actually happening, projects overseen by various other bodies, do not have to draw down funds until assured it will be used appropriately.

Am edc said not up to them to work out if support each application , think too onerous to put on parish councils think unreasonable.

Would have to ensure funds are correctly spent. Would need to enter into agreements so different would have to be different agreement project managers get the three quotes, they produce paperwork. If need be could employ someone.

Ch three projects will take place regardless, might make easier if they receive funding. Concerns about the projects going wrong. Pg looking that funds are appropriately spent. Am demonstrate can use public funds without failure track record of ability.

Th minimise risk of grant funding being misapplied. Judging whether money is correctly spent. Not judging success or otherwise eg judge if install kitchen. Risk is not long term success of project , can insist work is done and invoiced before funding is handed over. Funding has to go through accounts and reflect in accounts. Puts pressure on resources.

Ampc have get out until signed calc recommend appointing a solicitor to look over contract. Will cost some funds but potential investment. Pg difficult to put funds together projects could bring great value to alston moor, will need extra investment from pc, do have reserves if spending some to bring back. Good use of tax payers money.

### **2. Signing of applications**

It was confirmed that Eden District Council will not allow a time extension for applications and the deadline for receipt remains the 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Propose resolves to authorise chair to sign all three applications. Th ba 4 6- 1 abs.

Propose clerk write to edc express concern about how sf is put together and is disprop ally unreasonable givent he lack of capacity not fair to parish councils. Disappointed not prepared am rm 7+ 3 abs.

*The meeting closed at pm*

Signed: .....

Dated: .....