



ALSTON MOOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Alston Moor Parish Council held on Monday 11th January 2021 at 7pm, held remotely on Zoom.

Present: Cllrs: A. Holt (Chair), M. Denoual, A Green, E. Grew, H. Ho, Z. Robson, L. Seaton.

Apologies: M. Hanley

Absent: C. Harrison

Declarations of interest: Cllr LS – Nenthead toilets, Cllr MD – director of Nenthead Community Works, Cllr HH – Alston Bowling Club, Cllr AH – Nenthead Playarea, Cllr EG - CRF packs.

1. Review of Contracts

Contracts list circulated and noted.

2. Precept 2021-2022

Establishment

It was decided to take out the provision for an assistant clerk, as the immediate priority is to find a bookkeeper for the town hall, which can be paid for by the charity.

Agreed at £21,000

Annual donations

The donations would be kept at the same level as last year at £510 for the village halls, playareas and pavilion maintenance.

Agreed at £3,570. Cllr Green asked that it be minuted that he voted against this.

Land/property management

Noted that reserves have been used to pay for essential tree works, and that the council intends to phase in replacing this cost over a couple of years.

Agreed at £11,000

Community grants/General purpose

Agreed at £1,000

Alston Mill Race

Agreed at £500

Christmas lights

It was noted that the contractor has mentioned that the Market Cross lights are coming to the end of their life. Agreed to discuss the share formula at a future meeting.

Agreed at £750

Alston Recreation Grounds car park

Agreed at £320

Garrigill and Nenthead public toilets

Agreed at £550 each - £1,100

Nenthead Community Works

Agreed at £750

Alston Moor newsletter

Agreed at £50

Alston Town Hall

It was noted that the building requires major maintenance works.

Agreed at £5,000

Alston Moor Historical Society archives

Members noted that the archives enable many documents of local interest to be held locally instead of stored in the County archives; volunteers have spent a lot of time archiving documents and are hoping to continue to make improvements.

Agreed at £2,000

Devolved services - Alston toilets

The chair reported that he had received many of e-mails in support of keeping the toilets open.

Agreed at £5,000

Devolved services – footway lights

Agreed at £4,000

Chairman's Allowance

Agreed at £100

Alston Fitness Club

A request was received for funding towards a fully automated computer-based entry system that will monitor active memberships to allow members access to the gym.

Agreed at £1,000

CFR packs

Cllr Grew reported that the 6 Community First Responders have had two weekends of training and thanked them for volunteering. NWAS have provided 2 lifepacks, but ideally all 4 should have a pack. The packs cost £2,000 each or £2,600 for an enhanced pack. One CFR will shortly become an ECRF. NWAS will replenish the packs so there will be no ongoing costs.

Agreed at £7,000

Nenthead fountain

The council does not as yet have costings to restore the fountain but are considering setting aside a sum with a view to seeking grant funding.

Agreed at £500

Alston Recreation Grounds – Bowling Club application

A request was received for funding to be put towards extending the Bowling Club pavilion to house equipment in a secure building.

Agreed at £750

A second request was funding towards a cycle pump track feasibility study.

Agreed at £750

Elections

Agreed at £1,000

A number of organisations have been unable to spend the grant allocated this year including Alston Gala, Alston Youth group, and Alston Live, so have stated that they do not need grant funding next year. AMF did not receive their allocation of £600 but have asked that it be carried forward.

The estimate came to £67,140, but at the time of the meeting the information that would allow the cost to a band D property had not been supplied by Eden District Council. Members noted that as the council had been asked to take on the public toilets and had already taken on many of the footway lights the cost of these would have to be paid for out of the precept.

Resolved to set the precept for 2021-2022 at £67,140. Proposed by Cllr Seaton and seconded by Cllr Grew. (nem con) Cllr Robson lost connection so was unable to vote.

EDC later confirmed that the Council Tax Reduction is £954 and the Council tax base rate £717.30 so the cost to a band D property for 2021-2022 is £7.69 monthly or £92.27 for the year.

Precept 2021-2022

Establishment	£21,000
Annual donations	£3,570
Land/property management	£11,000
General purpose/community grants	£1,000
Alston Mill race maintenance	£500
Christmas lights	£750
Alston Recreation Grounds car park	£320
Garrigill and Nenthead public toilets	£1,100
Nenthead Community works	£750
Alston Moor Newsletter	£50
Alston Town Hall	£5,000
Alston Moor Historical Society archives	£2,000
Devolved services – Alston public toilets	£5,000
Devolved services – footway lights	£4,000
Chairman’s allowance	£100
Alston Fitness Club	£1,000
CRF packs	£7,000
Nenthead fountain	£500
Alston Recreation Grounds – Bowling Club	£750
Alston Recreation Grounds – Bike feasibility study	£750
Elections	£1,000
TOTAL	£67,140

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed:

Dated: