

# QUERNMORE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2024

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Present: Councillors: G Kelsall (Chair), J Townley (Vice Chair), J Alexander, B Carter, J Fox, J Pye, D Whitaker,  
District Councillor: J Jackson, J Pritchard.  
Clerk: Gareth Catterson

Action

### 24/001 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors: A Johnson,  
County Councillor: Matthew Maxwell-Scott

### 24/002 OPEN SESSION

No members of the public were present. Mark Hothersall attended to brief the Council on the item 24/011 North West Stages Rally – March 2024.

### 24/003 MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were confirmed and signed as a correct record and the Clerk was asked to upload them to the website.

Clerk

### 24/004 MATTERS ARISING & REVIEW OF ACTIONS

The Clerk reported:

1. He had contacted Lancaster Police Station to raise the issue of parking at Highwood. The PCSO for Quernmore, Hannah Mason, had been very helpful, visiting Highwood to assess the situation and raise the issue with the Duty Manager. He had requested the Council contact Cherish UK, the operators of the home, to raise their concerns directly with the management. The Clerk had emailed Cherish UK detailing the Council's concerns but had no response at the time of the meeting.
2. He had emailed the Planning Department expressing the Council's general concern about Old Parkside Farm which it thought may being used mainly for industrial purposes. The reply from the Planning Department had been forwarded to all Councillors.

*The following item was moved up the agenda to allow Mark Hothersall to make his presentation and take questions so that he could leave as early as possible.*

### 24/011 NORTH WEST STAGES RALLY – MARCH 2024

Mark Hothersall, Event Director for Legend Fires North West Stages, provided the following information.

1. The event was organised by Motorsport NW
2. 2018 legislation brought in the motor race act which allowed road closures for motor racing.
3. The event is highly regulated.

4. 130 cars are expected with only around 70 likely to finish.
5. The circuits are completed once in the morning and once in the afternoon.
6. Lancashire County Council take a £35k bond to cover possible damage.
7. Insurance covers claims up to £100m.
8. 3 police motor cyclists will be in attendance.
9. There will be designated spectator enclosures – see <https://www.northweststages.co.uk/>
10. The route is not publicised till later to stop 'boy-racers' trialling the route.
11. On the purple route shown on the map, residents will get stickers for their cars allowing them access during non-race times that other members of the public will not have.
12. On the red route there will be no access except for:
  - a. emergency vehicles and,
  - b. badge holding residents between 12-18pm and 13.23pm
13. All cars are fitted with radio trackers.
14. Full radio coverage is in place except for one 100m section where there is no signal.
15. In an emergency dial 999 as usual, however if it is a medical emergency for a resident on the red or purple routes, the ambulance and medical team provided for the race will attend the emergency themselves.
16. Footpaths adjacent to the route will be closed with two weeks' notice.
17. Arrangements have been made with S J Bargh for any milk collections, which will have been rescheduled.
18. A fencing contractor is on stand-by to make repairs where required.
19. The race 'safety chain' has a 'flock master' who will check for stray stock and make them safe.
20. Motorsport UK will check all aspects of the race to see that everything is compliant. If there is any non-compliance, the race will not go ahead.
21. Last year £15,000 was given to local charities and Parish Councils to benefit the local area.
22. In place of a £2500 carbon off-set which would go to planting trees in Scotland the money was going to Lancashire County Council specifically for restoration work to the banks of the R. Wyre.
23. 6-10k spectators were expected to attend over the total of 5 stages.
24. Information booklets will be posted to local residents at the end of February.
25. All potholes over 25mm deep along the route will be filled in.
26. There will be a ceremonial start at Garstang on the evening of Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and a finish celebration on the evening of Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Access to designated spectator areas will cost £5/person but where access is only available to cars this will be £20/car.
27. Time schedules were provided for members.

Councillors questioned whether there would be a problem with congestions at the race start which could affect the Little Fell Road/Langthwaite Road crossroads. They were informed that 50-60 cars could be accommodated between the start line and the crossroads and because cars should only be arriving every minute there should be no problem. If there were delays of more than 45 minutes the stage would be closed.

**24/005 POLICE AND COMMUNITY**

No reports received.

**24/006 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The Clerk reported the current bank balance was £1,842.82.

It was **resolved** to pay the following: -

1. Krystal Web Hosting, 1 year @ £ 84.00 (paid by the Clerk, refund to be added to Clerk's office expenses)
2. Bruce Alexander £178.99 (reimbursement for cost of the tree guard to protect the Coronation tree)

Clerk

**24/007 CLERK'S SALARY**

The Clerk drew the Council's attention to the fact that between 2008 and 2023, the Clerk's salary had risen by 5% (increase awarded in 2015) i.e. a reduction in real terms of approximately 41% over 15 years when considered against public sector pay (or 46% against inflation as measured by the Consumer Prices Index). There had been no increase in office expenses allowance over that time i.e. a reduction in real terms of 51% over 15 years against inflation as measured by the Consumer Prices Index (CPI).

*The Clerk left the meeting while Councillors discussed the matter.*

Councillors **resolved** to increase the Clerk's salary by 41% (i.e. in line with increases in public sector pay) and increase the Clerk's office expenses allowance by 51% (i.e. in line with increases in the CPI).

*The Clerk rejoined the meeting.*

**24/008 BUDGET AND PRECEPT**

The Clerk presented 4 options for the 2024/24 Budget for discussion. It was **resolved** that: -

1. In accordance with Section 50 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 this Parish Council hereby makes the following calculations in respect of the year 2022/2023

a. Budget Requirements for Function	£3,613
b. Contingency Allowance	£ 250
Total	£3,863
c. Income generated	£ 0
d. Balance brought forward	£1,580
Total	£3,863
2. Accordingly, the Budget requirement for the Parish for the year 2024/2025 being £ 3,863, the Clerk was authorised to Precept Lancaster City Council for that amount.

Clerk

23/00324/FUL	<b>Land Adjacent to Grab Lane Lancaster</b> - Demolition of Oatlands Farmhouse and associated outbuildings and erection of 232 dwellings with associated open space, landscaping, car parking, access and supporting infrastructure.	Awaiting decision
23/00627/FUL	<b>Lune Aqueduct Car Park Caton Road Lancaster</b> - Reconfiguration of existing car park, installation of 12 electric vehicle charging stations, construction of an area of hardstanding for associated infrastructure including substation and cabinets, construction of internal access road, new parking area and relocation of existing container, and erection of boundary fencing, gates, and lighting columns.	Awaiting decision
23/00584/LB	<b>Dam Head Farm Procter Moss Road Ellel</b> - Listed building application for the demolition of existing outbuildings to the rear, removal and relaying of stone flag floor, re-roofing of the barn, rebuilding of the shippon, erection of a double garage and high stone wall, installation of new window/door openings, rooflights, concrete yard, planting and new gate access to field.	Awaiting decision
23/00583/FUL	<b>Dam Head Farm Procter Moss Road Ellel</b> - Partially retrospective application for the conversion of existing barn and shippon to a dwelling (C3) and holiday cottage including reroofing of the barn, rebuilding of the shippon and erection of a double garage to the rear.	Awaiting decision
23/00746/LB	<b>Quernmore Old School Bay Horse Road Quernmore</b> - Listed building application installation of a package treatment plant, vent to the front elevation, insertion of pod to form bathroom/ kitchenette and associated landscaping.	Application Permitted
23/00746/FUL	<b>Quernmore Old School Bay Horse Road Quernmore</b> - Change of use of former school (f1) to a holiday let (sui), installation of a package treatment plant, vent to the side elevation and associated landscaping.	Application Permitted
23/00748/FUL	<b>Stanley Farm Quernmore Road Quernmore</b> - Change of use and conversion of agricultural building to 2 residential dwellings, including vehicular access works, parking provision, landscaping and boundary treatment, refuse storage, and package treatment plant.	Application Permitted
23/00904/FUL	<b>Quernmore House Littledale Road Quernmore</b> - Change of use of two dwellings (C3) and office (use class E) into one dwelling (C3) including demolition of conservatory and porch, erection of a two storey side extension, construction of a raised roof, installation of rooflights to the front and rear, conversion of detached building to create two storey ancillary accommodation, erection of detached garage, alterations to land levels, installation of sewage treatment plant, ground source heating system, creation of associated access and parking area.	Awaiting decision
23/01101/FUL	<b>The New Bungalow Quernmore Road Quernmore</b> - Installation of an air source heat pump to the rear.	Application Permitted
23/01202/FUL	<b>Moorside Farm Grimeshaw Lane Quernmore</b> - Demolition of existing farmhouse and link buildings to the attached stone barn, demolition of garage, erection of a replacement dwelling (C3) incorporating balcony, change of use of attached agricultural barn to ancillary domestic use (C3) and erection of a garage .	Awaiting decision
23/01312/FUL	<b>Old Parkside Farm Denny Beck Lane Quernmore</b> - Retrospective application for engineering works to form alterations of land levels.	Awaiting decision

23/01264/AD	<b>Friars Moss Friars Moss Road Quernmore</b> - Agricultural Determination for the replacement of two concrete yards.	Approval not required
23/01255/ADV	<b>14 Mannin Way Lancaster</b> - Advertisement application for the display of 3 externally illuminated fascia signs.	Application Permitted
24/0001/TPO	<b>Stepaside Denny Beck Lane Quernmore</b> - x1 Ash Tree, remove any dead and/or overhanging branches	Awaiting decision

## 24/010 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

District Councillor, Peter Jackson reported:

1. The City Council had held a budget meeting the previous Wednesday evening and the budget process was now underway. Reserves of £6100 would be reduced. Longer term prospects for the finances of the City Council were very dependent on the Heysham power stations as they made a huge contribution to the Council's income from rates.
2. Successful measures had been implemented at the very large fire on the Lonsdale Estate, but these had cost a significant amount of money.
3. Planners had visited Old Parkside Farm recently but they could see no link between the fire reported by the Parish Council after 5th November 2023 and any tipping/infill. Some activities carried out were not in line with planning regulations and retrospective planning permission would be required.

## 24/011 NORTH WEST STAGES RALLY – MARCH 2024

*This item was moved to the beginning of the meeting after Item 24/004*

## 24/012 EMERGENCY PLAN FOR CATON AND QUERNMORE NORTH

Councillors **resolved** to fully endorse the plan and the Clerk and Chair would be put forward as emergency contacts.

Clerk

## 24/013 DOCUMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

The Clerk reported the following had been received since the last meeting up to 12 January 2024: -

1. **Rural Services Network:**
  - 1.1. The Rural Bulletin – weekly
  - 1.2. Rural Funding Digest – December 2023 Edition
2. **Lancaster City Council**
  - 2.1. Letter re Parish Precept (to be addressed under Item 24/008)
3. **Community Connectors**
  - 3.1. Outcome Based Resourcing
  - 3.2. Food Futures, Where the Wildlings Are, Crowd Funder Campaign
  - 3.3. Weekend Events / About Communities Together
  - 3.4. Community Opportunities for January 2024
4. **Jenny Walsley**
  - 4.1. Quernmore Parish Council - Emergency plan (addressed under Item 24/012)
5. **Krystal Hosting**
  - 5.1. Invoice for hosting QPC Website (to be addressed under Item 24/006)

## 24/014 ITEMS INTRODUCED BY MEMBERS (if any)

None

**24/015 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 6th May 2024 at 7.30pm, in Quernmore Recreation Club. Clerk to make necessary arrangements.

Clerk

Certified as a correct record\_\_\_\_\_G.Kelsall (Chair)