**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 9th December 2024**

**at 7.00 p.m. in the Trinity Methodist Church**

**Present:** Cllr. M. Cherrett (Chairman)

 Cllrs. Mrs. J. Sadler, Mrs. Y. Swales and J. Taylor

 Apologies were received from Cllrs. N. Hill and Mrs. K. Iveson

**671 Interests**

 No interests were declared.

**672 Minutes**

The Minutes of the last regular Meeting, held on Monday, 11th November 2024, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed, and signed as a true record after one minor amendment.

**673 Matters Arising**

1. Preston Park Upgrade

Cllr. Taylor reported that he had a meeting arranged with Stockton BC’s chief executive at which he would highlight the poor planning behaviour of the park’s management in starting work without proper planning permission or public engagement,

1. Oak Road Pothole

Cllr Taylor reported that the problems had been resolved.

1. Infrastructure problems

Cllr. Taylor reported that he had a good contact at Stockton BC regarding repairs and wished to try this out if Members could report any problems to him.

**674 Accounts**

1. The following accounts were approved, and payment authorised: -

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BACS | P. R. Joiner | Clerk’s salary & expenses (Nov) | £ 163.82 |
| d/d | Stockton Borough Council | Cemetery waste bin (Dec) | £ 31.88 |
| BACS | TEEC Ltd. | Website fees | £ 194.39 |
| BACS | Society of Local Council Clerks | Annual subscription | £ 80.00 |
| BACS | Association of Local Council Clerks | Annual subscription | £ 50.00 |

1. Budget

It was agreed to request a precept of £5250.

**675 Pending Matters**

1. Casual Vacancy

The clerk reported that a casual vacancy had been declared. If fewer than 10 people had written to request an election by 19 December, the Council would be free to co-opt another Member.

1. Victoria Park

The clerk was asked to try to find out Egglescliffe & Eaglescliffe Parish Council’s ideas about a fair sharing of the ongoing costs of the park. Members felt that a share of 20% might be acceptable.

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**676 Cemetery**

1. Request for multiple CR plots

The Clerk reported that he had allocated the two plots and had received payment. The first interment would take place in the new year.

1. Request for new double burial plot.

The Clerk reported that he had approved the application as the family were well known and had married in the Methodist Church.

1. Drainage

Following receipt of a response from Rail Track expressing a prohibitive cost for culvert work Cllr. Taylor asked for a copy of the message so that he could pursue his own lines of enquiry.

**677 Correspondence**

1. Correspondence received was noted as listed.
2. Eaglescliffe Community Litter Project

Members were pleased to meet the project organiser and fully supported her initiatives.

**678 Any Other Business**

1. Retirement of Former Chairman

The Chairman reported that he had written a letter to Miss Galloway and had delivered it in person.

1. Community Engagement

Cllr. Mrs. Sadler expressed her hope that a Community event might be held on the Primary School playing field in the summer.

1. Back Alleys

Cllr. Mrs. Sadler mentioned the poor state of an accumulation of litter in the back lanes off Myrtle Road. Cllr. Mrs. Symes said it might be as well to contact the Stockton BC employee who regularly performed a litter picking function in the Oak Road area. Cllr. Taylor agreed to mention the matter to his new contact at Stockton BC.

Dated this 13th day of January 2025

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Chairman

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