**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of BORWICK PARISH MEETING –**

**Held on Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 7.30pm - at Borwick Hall**

**Attending:**  Dave Smith (Chair), Dave A Scott (Clerk), Joyce Tombs (Treasurer),

Tom Harvey, Ken Howson, Alison Halhead, Dave Mosedale, Lynne Cook, Sue Dowdall

In attendance; Phillippa Williamson (LCC), Simon Percy (Borwick Hall)

1. Apologies for absence were received from Richard Mellor, Maureen Thomas, Maldwyn Buckland, Peter and Sally Sharp, Steve Thorns, Tony Collinson, Liz Mackay
2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The previous AGM was 4 January 2022 and the previous meeting was 11 October 2022. The minutes, which had been circulated in advance, were approved and signed by the Chair.

Matters arising – JT reported that the Poors Land gave the requested grant to St Mary’s church to run Winter Warmer lunches twice a month for 4 months and that these were being well attended and enjoyed. The Chair reported that he has heard no more about the bench on the canal but that the old one had been removed.

1. Chairman’s report

Dave Smith gave his report including:

Village green project - The plugs planted on the village green are surviving. He is to ask Erica Sarney to come back and review progress and hopefully come to the next meeting of the Borwick Parish Meeting to talk to those present (ACTION Chair)

Noticeboard – the decorative edge of the village green noticeboard is damaged. DS to put together a small working party to undertake the minor repairs and painting. (To ask for volunteers at the next meeting.)

1. Clerk’s report

Dave Scott (DAS) gave his report as follows:

1. The state of Borwick Lane between Borwick and Priest Hutton is causing concern. He has submitted a fault report, No W734161, to Lancashire County Council regarding the narrowing of the road due to soil and other debris and the blocking of drains, etc. The road carries school buses and in places the road is too narrow for a car to pass. He has also asked Phillippa Williamson to try to progress on an urgent basis.
2. The biennial Tree survey had in fact been carried out on the Village Green last autumn. No problems found.
3. Planning applications
	1. Kingfisher Lodge- 22/00469 – long history of stealthy progressive development. Awaits decision. The proposal to use as a holiday letting may increase traffic flow on a narrow farm track, used by hikers, cyclists and horse riders. There are few passing places apart from the grass verge.
	2. LCC is currently in the process of registering the route from Borwick canal bridge to New England as a DMMO (definitive map modification order) where the route is legally registered with defined access to the public.
	3. Sheepfold – 22/00055 - an appeal submitted concerning final finish of side extension.
	4. Lorries at Netherbeck – 20/00912 – Application refused, and appeal has yet to be scheduled.
	5. Stone bridge – repaired and traffic flow returned to normal.
	6. Netherbeck roundabout – plans have changed, and the roundabout construction scheme has been ditched. The bridge will be repaired/refurbished and the A601M is to be declassified as a Motorway. It will become a 50mph dual carriageway with cycle tracks.
	7. Borwick Hall coach parking caused fewer problems than in the summer – as one would expect. Apparently the cost of utilising the large car park on Borwick Lane is high.
4. Treasurer’s report and setting the Parish Budget and related Precept request.
5. Joyce presented the accounts for the 9 months ended 31 December 2022 (as attached). Currently the deficit stands at £281 and the cash at bank is £861.92. The deficit for the year to 31 March 2023 is expected to be £527 by the end of the year compared with a budget deficit of £587. This will leave the bank balance at £616.
6. She presented a proposed budget for 2023/24 based on current categories and levels of expenditure. She proposed an allowance of, say, £50 be included to purchase seeds or plants, etc., for village green planting if needed.
7. It had been agreed last year that because £1,000 was paid for the benefit of the War Memorial Hall in 2022, no contribution / donation would be made in 2023. The Meeting was asked to confirm whether they were still in agreement with this. The Meeting discussed this and agreed the budget as drafted. See attached.
8. Based on the discussion JT suggested that a Precept of £1,000 should be adequate to restore reserves to an appropriate level (ie in the order of one year’s precept). DS proposed and Lynne Cook seconded a motion to approve this and the meeting voted to approve it. The clerk agreed to submit the necessary claim to Lancaster City Council.
9. Election of officers.

No new nominations were received and so the current officers indicated their willingness to continue in office for a further year. Tom Harvey proposed that Dave Smith, Dave Scott and Joyce Tombs be re-elected as Chair, Clerk and Treasurer respectively. This was seconded by Lynne Cook and approved by the meeting.

1. Date for annual Litter Pick

This was set for Saturday 4 March 2023, commencing at 10.00am on the village green. Dave Scott explained the arrangements and that he would provide the necessary equipment and bags. A reminder to be sent out in advance.

1. AOB
2. Joyce told the meeting that the current vicar is retiring (technically at the end of March) but in effect from 5 March 2023. There will then be a “Vacancy” until a new vicar can be appointed but services will continue in the meantime.
3. The Chair and Clerk, as Trustees of the Poors Land, said they would visit the Parish / Poors Land to check the drainage, etc. before the next meeting.
4. It was noted that the gate to the canal from the bridle path has dropped off its hinges. The Chair said he would log the problem with the Canal Trust and express the concern over safety.
5. In response to a query about what the speed limit is on the “restricted byway” the Clerk said he would ask the person dealing with the legal aspects of the new designation. He stated that there should be no vehicles except for access but it was pointed out that there is a Land Rover that goes down the lane at speed and is a potential danger to dogwalkers. The Clerk is to give Ms Halhead the contact details of the local police officer. (ACTION DAS)
6. There was further discussion about the speed limits in the village and Mr Howson suggested the 30mph limit should be taken back to the “Borwick” sign. It was noted that there are a significant number of cars that have to exit Borwick Mews and that the absence of a lower speed limit makes this potentially dangerous. Phillippa Williamson said she would let the Meeting have the contact details of the “Lancaster Road Safety Partnership”. It was suggested that a number of people could write letters in support of the need to extend the 30mph area. (PW, DAS and AH all volunteered to do so).
7. The Over Kellett Jubilee Bells Project – Simon Percy drew the meeting’s attention to this project to install a ring of 8 bells in the St Cuthbert’s Church Tower in Over Kellett in commemoration of the Late Queen Elizabeth’s Platinum Jubilee. The Project is seeking donations and Simon provided a number of leaflets to circulate to anyone interested. DAS agreed to put one on the village noticeboard and thanked Simon for making the Meeting aware of the Project.
8. Date of next meeting This was set for 16 May 2023 at a location to be confirmed. **HOWEVER since the meeting the date has been moved to THURSDAY, 25 May 2023 and will take place at Borwick Hall at 7.30pm.**

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

Approved by the Meeting and signed on its behalf by

D Smith

on…25 May 2023…………………….