

KIRKLEVINGTON AND CASTLE LEAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Annual meeting held on Thursday, 25th May, 2023 at 7.00 pm, in
The Small Hall, Kirklevington Village Hall, Kirklevington

Present: Mr. N. DeBadgecoe (NDB) (Chair)
Mr. D. Hadfield (DH) (Vice Chair)
Mrs J Smith (JS)
Mrs. R. Mazonas (RM) (Clerk) (PC)

Also in attendance: Borough Councillors Mrs Elsi Hampton (EH) & Mr. Andrew Sherris (AS),
Dr. A. McLee (AMc), Mrs J. Beaumont (JB), Mr. A. Alton (AA)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Mr. D, Fagan, PCSO Racheal Shephard, Sally Aitchison

2) MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 16th May, 2022 were duly read, approved and signed. Proposed NDB and seconded by DH

3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

None.

4) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

NDB welcomed Parish Councillors, Borough Councillors and members of the Public to the meeting.

NDB read out his report to the meeting and a copy was signed to be included in the Minute book. NDB also duly signed the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 16th May, 2022 which were approved by JS and DH

5) FINANCE REPORT

The Clerk and RFO read out the report for the Year 2022/23

END OF YEAR UPDATE 2022/23

PRECEPT – The full precept of £21,000 plus £348.00 - Indicative Funding – Local Council Tax Support was credited to the Charitable Account with HSBC

VAT – A sum of £2,425.53 was credited to the Community Account with HSBC – This amount was for the year 2021/22 (The claim is always a year in arrears.)

INTEREST – Total interest received for the year was £58.70 (including Tucker Bequest Interest of £0.76.)

CLOSURE OF KIRKFEST ACCOUNT – A sum of £15.64 was returned to the HSBC Charitable Account following the closure of the Kirkfest Account which was necessary as it was subject to a monthly fee of £5.00 from HSBC which was dwindling remaining funds.

GRANT RECEIVED – William Hall Trust gave a grant of £5,750 towards the cost of Gym Equipment at the Play Area which was greatly appreciated and enabled the Parish Council to take advantage of an offer which was exceptionally low and within the limited time that it was available.

BALANCES AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR WERE AS FOLLOWS:

HSBC – Charitable Account (Previous known as Community Account)	£22.91
HSBC – Business Money Manager Account	£5,493.04
TOTAL	£5,493.05
NS&I Account – Tucker Bequest (including interest of £XXX)	£816.31
Petty Cash (Amount still held)	£9.44
TOTAL	£6,341.70

BALANCES AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR WERE AS FOLLOWS:

HSBC – Charitable Account	£77.09
HSBC – Business Money Manager Account	£5188.80
TOTAL	£5265.89
NS&I Account – Tucker Bequest (including interest of £0.08)	£817.07
Petty Cash	£14.24
TOTAL	£6,097.20

BREAKDOWN OF FINANCIAL REPORT

RESERVES

The Parish Council continue to hold reserves to fund the following:

- 1) To fund and support projects within the Parish
- 2) Replacement and the repair costs for play area equipment.
- 3) Insurances, Play area Inspection Contract

EXPENDITURE

VILLAGE EVENTS

QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE

This event, which included a Scarecrow Competition, Best Dressed House and Best Front Garden, Cream Tea, Children's Competitions, Treasure Hunt, Children's Sports on The Green, Children's Fancy Dress, Flower displays in The Church with Memorial book to sign and Church History Display, Children's Tea Party with entertainment, Lighting of The Beacon on The Green, Live Music Event on The Green and party which was extremely well supported. The total cost of all the events was £2,952.50. A budget of £5,000 had been approved.

HALLOWEEN COMPETITION

The now very popular Halloween Competition saw many houses and gardens decorated at a cost of £50 given in prizes.

CHRISTMAS EVENT: Once again in December the annual Christmas Event was held, organised and run by the Parish Council with lots of help by other residents who put up decorations and Grotto. Carols were sung in the Play Area by members of the Village Choir with residents joining in. Refreshments were provided in the village hall and, as is now a tradition, a visit from Father Christmas who gave out selection boxes to children. The total cost for the event was £288.14. A budget of £500.00 approved.

INSURANCES & PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS

The Annual Play Area Maintenance Agreement with SBC at a cost of £1,168.13 2022/23. Insurance cover provided by BHIB Insurance cost £1067.03 for the year June, 2022 to June 2023. An additional Insurance Policy was arranged that covered the events during the Queen's Golden Jubilee at a cost of £305.04.

PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT

In the year 2022/23 a sum of £15,268.80 has been spent refurbishing the Play Area. New gym equipment was purchased at a cost of £13,800.00. This cost was offset by a grant from The William Hall Trust of £5,750.00 towards the cost of the new Gym Equipment which was greatly appreciated and allowed the Parish Council to purchase at a limited period offer from the company Freshairfitness. The installation of a new Christmas Tree at a cost of £829.00 which has now been sited closer to the northern hedge to allow for it to be seen from various directions. Fencing and an electrical supply were installed by SBC. Extra bases have been installed together with additional warning signage at the road side on Pump Lane.

GRANTS

A grant of £50.00 was given to The Church of St. Martin and St. Hilary to fund the cost of refreshments following the Remembrance Day Service which was held in Kirklevington. Finally a grant of £200 was given to Messy Church to fund the renting of the Village Hall.

BANK ACCOUNTS

BUSINESS MONEY MANAGER ACCOUNT- HSBC – This account holds the Parish Council Reserve Fund – Money is transferred over the financial year to the Community Account as and when required. Interest of £57.94 was received on this account for the year 2022/23. Interest rates have improved recently on this account.

CHARITABLE ACCOUNT- HSBC (PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS THE CURRENT ACCOUNT)– This account is credited with all income – Precept, Grants and VAT. It is used to manage the day to day expenses of the Parish Council by BACs, direct debit and cheque payments. The amount retained in this account is kept to a minimum at all times and any excess amounts transferred to the Business Money Manager Account where it can gain interest. Unfortunately, we are now liable for bank charges with the fee being a monthly amount of £5.00 plus 40p for every cheque. Whilst we have considered changing our bank, it is clear that it is the policy of most banks to no longer have high street branches but conduct business on line. If necessary we can still deposit cheques at The Post Office but this is a very rare as most transactions are conducted on line.

POST OFFICE SAVING ACCOUNT – This account is managed by the Parish Council and holds the Tucker Bequest together with interest accrued on the balance. An amount of £0.76 was received up to 31st December, 2022

The Account provides for donations to Kirklevington Primary School for books as stated in the terms of the bequest. Donations had, in the past, been made up from the interest accrued over the intervening 5 year period but, due to the very poor interest rates over the last few year it was agreed that an amount be given to the school and this will be organised in September at the start of the new school year when the new Head of School will take up her post. A sum of £250.00 has already been approved.

6) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Non received

Circulation: Parish Councillors Mr N. De Badgecoe (Chair), Mr. D Hadfield (DH), Mrs. J. Smith, (JS),

Borough Councillors Mrs E. Hampton (EH), Mr. A. Sherris,(AA) Mr. D. Fagan,(DF)

PCSO Rachel Shepherd, PC Andrew Hampson Engagement Team

Tees Valley Mayor B. Houchen, Mr. Matt Vickers, MP

Post approval: Margaret Waggot (Stockton Borough Council Monitoring Officer)