WOODSIDE PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held Monday 14th October 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in Oulton Institute Hall.

**Members Present**

W. Marrs (Chairman) M. Mullett M.D. McCabe (Clerk)

D. Wright J. Mattinson

**Members of the Public Present**

## None.

**Apologies for Absence**

Were received from the following, and accepted. S. Connor – in hospital, Mrs A. Lewis – caring for mother, T. Mattinson, Mrs C. Robinson – recovering from illness.

**The Minutes of the Last Meeting**

These were agreed, and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes**

The first stage of changing the Council’s banking arrangements has taken place. The National Savings account has been closed, and £9,557.19 transferred to the Barclays Business Premium account.

It was agreed to ask Cllr Mrs Lynch about the provision of speed indicators in Oulton. Cost, means of power and siting were all discussed.

Oulton Institute Hall Committee have started work on a partial refurbishment of the kitchen. They ask if money will still be available from the Council, even though they have not got three estimates for the work. Cllr Wright is Chairman of the hall committee, so could not take a part in making any decision. It was agreed that up to £3.000 would be made available for this work.

**Cumberland Councillor’s Report**

None.

**Wigton Burial Joint Committee Report**

The spouts on the cemetery house, chapel and vestry have all been cleaned out and connected to the main drainage system. Cllr Marrs is co-ordinating work to improve the entrance. Complaints have been received about newly dug graves subsiding by as much as eighteen inches. This is thought to have been caused by inadequate soil being used after a burial. The situation is being closely monitored.

**Vacancy for Councillor**

This still needs to be filled.

**Internal Auditor**

The Clerk has been in touch with CALC regarding internal audits. Scott Thornley who works for CALC does internal auditing independently for £75 p.a. It was unanimously agreed to let Scott do the internal audit.

**On-line Banking**

It was noted that On-line banking was becoming more popular, and that inevitably The Council would need to switch to this. After much discussion, it was agreed that three accounts would be needed. 1) A current account for day-to-day transactions, 2) A savings account with instant or very short notice access and 3) A high interest savings account, which need not be instant access. Thresholds and interest rates would need to be looked at, as well as a whole package. The Clerk is to make enquiries. Unity Trust, Barclays, Lloyds, and Cumberland Building Society are all being considered.

**Correspondence**

**Barclays** have announced that the interest rate on the business premium account is to reduce by 0.1% from 1.5% to 1.4% from 19th December 2024.

**C.A.L.C.** acknowledge receipt of £213.41 for the 2024/25 subscription.

**Zurich Municipal** acknowledge receipt of £257.60 for insurance premium for 2024/25.

**Hospice at Home** has sent a newsletter and details of a “Light up a Life service” in Penrith on 15th December.

**Littlethorpe** has sent its latest catalogue.

**The Clerk and** **Clerks & Councils Direct** were made available to the meeting.

**Bank Statements**

Statements from Barclay’s and National Savings were checked and approved by the meeting.

**Applications for Planning**

**New Applications**

None  **Decisions**

None

**Accounts for Payment**

Wigton Burial Joint Committee (2024/25 payment) £1342.78 Chq 100679

M.D. McCabe (Clerk’s ½ year salary) £1223.20 Chq 100680

H.M.R.C. (Employers P.A.Y.E.) £ 305.60 Chq 100681

**Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

The date for the next meeting is to be advised, as the clerk’s shift pattern is due to change.