

Bowness-on-Solway Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th July 2016 at 7.00pm in Anthorn Village Hall.

Present:

Councillors: Graham (Chair), Bradshaw, Carruthers, Coates, Harrington, Hinks, Hodgson, Hutton, Knowles, Reay and Wills.

In attendance: Borough Councillor Hodgson.

County Councillor Markley

Public attendance: None

Clerk: M Abbs

1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

The clerk to report any requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

An on-going dispensation is in force in respect of the Precept.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting.)

Members may, however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to contact the clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

2 Minutes (previously circulated)

2.1 To approve the draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting and the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th of May 2016 - **approved and signed.**

3 Report on action taken

3.1 Report on action by members of the Council.

No action was reported.

3.2 Report from the clerk.

Including: road signage, grant applications.

The clerk advised that where appropriate grant payment had been made. Issues surrounding road signage had been reported and were being investigated by County Cllr Markley.

All the required actions under the Transparency Code had been made.

3.3 Public participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

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The County Cllr and Borough Cllr were not present at this point.

Cllrs Hutton, Wills and Hodgson arrived.

4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 AON – Confirmation of insurance renewal.

The clerk confirmed that confirmation had been received. – **noted**.

4.2 Connecting Cumbria Broadband update.

Cllrs were aware that cable laying was still in progress in some areas of the Parish.

See also item 4.5.

4.3 Footway Lighting - Current situation.

Cllrs were pleased to report and **note** that no lights had been removed recently.

4.4 Rural Payment Agency and Council Agent.

Latest situation on submissions, entitlements and related correspondence.

The Chairman and the clerk confirmed that the latest claim had been submitted ahead of the deadline by the Agent. The invoice had been authorised and paid under the Standing Order procedure – see item 6.2.5

4.5 Sue Hayman MP – Broadband and Telephone coverage in her constituency.

Cllrs responded to the enquiry to the Council by instructing the clerk to point out that Broadband speed was still poor in much of the Parish. ‘DNA’ dropouts were frequent and some areas of the Parish were not yet connected to Superfast Broadband.

4.6 Environment Agency / NFU - Newsletter June 2016.

The clerk advised Cllrs of the latest situation concerning the proposed Internal Drainage Board and the possible further consultation. – **noted**.

4.7 Letter via Cllr Markley from a parishioner concerning Bus Service Number 93.

The clerk read out the correspondence and informed members that he had just been advised that a limited provision was to be made to Cardurnock.

4.8 North of England Civic Trust – survey of traditional farm buildings.

Cllrs were aware of this on-going survey and were aware that some Parishioners had responded. The situation was **noted without action**.

5 New business

5.1 **To receive** Community reports:

Cllr Hinks informed the meeting that the Pre School Group at Bowness on Solway School was to be disbanded, as the School believed that it was no longer viable. Cllrs were concerned about the lack of consultation with interested parties along with the impact on those affected and the clerk was instructed to write to the County Council Cabinet member for Schools and Learning expressing its concerns.

5.2 Police report.

The clerk gave the report which was **noted**.

5.3 Glasson playground and grass cutting update.

Cllr Carruthers confirmed that there were no matters which need to be addressed.

5.4 Condition of benches and possible purchase of replacements.

The authorised installation of the two benches purchased recently was progressing. As requested one of the old benches had been delivered to Glasson Community Association for refurbishment.

Cllrs **agreed** to the purchase and installation of a further four benches. The clerk was instructed to arrange the purchase (see item 6.2.6) and obtain a quote for their installation from a local contractor. The four locations chosen are Port Carlisle, Pottery House West, Port Dock and Slipway, and Bowness Hall.

Cllr Hutton raised the possibility of a plaque being placed on a recently purchased bench in memory of a deceased local resident. Following discussion there was no approval for this due to the precedent this could set in future instances. The alternative possibility of a telescope at Bowness Banks may be discussed with the Bowness Community Group.

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County Cllr Markley arrived.

5.5 Possible consideration of BDO Audit documents and examination of any matters arising.

The clerk confirmed that all the required documents had been delivered to the audit company but to date no communication had been received from them.

5.6 Audit and Transparency Regime / Parish Website – requirements and consideration of options.

Cllrs Bradshaw and Knowles updated Cllrs following their meeting with the Kirkbride Energy Group.

Following discussion Cllrs **agreed** to a proposal to develop a basic website (with no 'app' provision) with Mr and Mrs Lewis and Angelfish. The clerk was instructed to notify Mr and Mrs Lewis. Detailed costings would be made available at the September meeting. The clerk would make enquiries as to the possibility of obtaining 'drone' footage for the website.

5.7 Defibrillator Provision in the Parish.

Correspondence / application from Mrs and Mrs Lewis.

The clerk outlined the correspondence from Mr and Mrs Lewis and reminded Cllrs of a forthcoming Public Information Meeting which was to be held in Newton Arlosh. Cllrs discussed many of the issues and the clerk was instructed to include the item on the September Agenda.

5.8 Possible revision of the Parish Plan.

Cllr Knowles raised the possibility of updating the Plan. Cllrs **agreed** that no action was necessary until the new website was functional.

Borough Cllr Hodgson arrived.

The Chairman invited the Borough and County Cllrs to give their reports.

Cllr Markley confirmed that the road signage issue was being investigated by the County Council.

The on-going roadworks were mentioned.

He confirmed the change of bus route to include Cardurnock.

Allerdale BC is conducting a boundary review of constituencies but Parish Council boundaries were not under consideration.

Further staffing reviews were taking place at the County Council.

Cllr Hutton asked about the possibility of a cattle grid at the bus turning point. Cllr Markley said he would make enquiries into the specification used/required by the County Council.

Borough Cllr Hodgson then gave his report.

He confirmed the situation concerning the Internal Drainage Board – see also 4.6.

The 'Flood Partnership' was holding meetings across the County.

He advised that in future Parish Councils would be required to pay for any required grit bins and possibly also pay for them to be filled. Cllr Markley offered to make enquiries if this proved to be the case.

A development close to Port Carlisle was being investigated by the Planning Authority.

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Cllr Hinks gave her apologies and left the meeting along with the Cllrs Markley and Hodgson.

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 **To approve accounts** to 31st May 2016 and 30th June 2016 (available at meeting).

The accounts were examined and **approved**.

6.1.2 To note - Rural Payment Agency - Bridging Payment **£923.21 – noted**.

6.1.3 **To note** HMRC VAT repayment **£736.86 – noted**.

6.2 **Payments: to approve** the following payments:

6.2.1- Clerk's salary **£643.50 -approved**.

6.2.2 – Expenses:post etc £6.88, telephone £6.00/broadband £10.66 = £23.54, travel 26 miles@36p=
£9.36 **Total £32.90 – approved**.

6.2.3 – Cllr Graham: chairman's allowance **£30.00 – approved**.

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6.2.4 - CGM Grass cutting – VAT (£173.40) inclusive Invoices: **£1040.40 – approved.**

6.2.5 – H & H Land & Property Ltd – Professional Services – (£200 + £40 VAT) **£240.00 – approved.**

6.2.6 – Solway Direct – Bench purchase (£1336.00 + £267.20 VAT) **£1603.20 – approved.**

6.2.7 - Port Carlisle Village Hall - grant **£1000 – approved.**

The clerk having confirmed that the required planning approval for the interpretation board had been given. See item 8.2.1.

7 Highways

7.1 – Any local developments.

Cllr Hodgson confirmed that the Easton road was now open.

The clerk reminded Cllrs of the ongoing roadworks on the Whitrigg to Bowness road.

No response had been received from Cumbria CC via Cllr Markley with regard to the possible illegal road signage.

8 Planning

8.1 Applications outstanding with Allerdale BC

8.1.1 – PB/2015/0037/0003/0041/0042/0043 – Removal of telephone and replacement of defibrillator in phone boxes, Glasson/Drumburgh/Cardurnock/Bowness/Port Carlisle.

The clerk updated Cllrs on the report that Allerdale BC had published which had raised no objection to the requested change of use. – **noted.**

8.1.2 - 2-2016/0053 Conversion of agricultural building into dwelling, Kirkland House, Port Carlisle, Wigton (Mr and Mrs Hogg). – **noted.**

8.2 Applications dealt with under standing order

8.2.1 – 2/2016/0262 Siting of an Interpretation Board for the Solway Coast, Land and Foreshore, Port Carlisle. (Ms Rosemary Lord / North of England Civic Trust).

The clerk confirmed that no objections had been raised to this application. – **noted.**

8.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC

8.2.1 – 2/2016/0262 Siting of an Interpretation Board for the Solway Coast, Land and Foreshore, Port Carlisle. (Ms Rosemary Lord / North of England Civic Trust) – permission granted.

8.4 Applications for discussion by this meeting

8.4.1 – 2/2016/0366 Listed building consent for tanking of walls and floor to cellar, repair ceiling, replacement of window and door like for like (retrospective), Harbour View, Port Carlisle (Mr and Mrs Pattinson).

The papers were examined and the clerk instructed to notify Allerdale BC that the Council had **no objections.**

9.1 Documents received for comment

None – **noted.**

9.2 Documents received for information (available on request to clerk)

9.2.1 CALC Circulars.

9.2.2 Centenary Fields Information.

9.2.3 Glasdon Product Information.

9.2.4 Gviews Product Information.

9.2.5 NALC – Responsibilities of Councils as Landowners.

9.2.6 War Graves Commission Living Memory project information.

9.2.7 Solway Firth Partnership newsletter.

The above were **noted.**

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10 Any items of information...

10.1 brought by members

Cllr Graham notified members of a fundraising 'race night' that was to be held at the Lindow Hall. Cllrs were aware that a bathing warning sign had been removed at Port Carlisle. The clerk understood that this had already been reported to Allerdale BC. Cllr Wills advised that a finger post had fallen off the road sign at Whitrigg.

10.2 brought by Borough Councillor Hodgson

The report had been given earlier.

10.3 brought by County Councillor Markley

The report had been given earlier.

10.4 brought by the clerk

The clerk advised that a letter of thanks and photograph had been received from Anthorn tennis club following the recent refurbishment.

10.5 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 14th September 2016 at 7 p.m. in the Lindow Hall Bowness. Please note the November meeting will be on Wednesday 9th November 2016 at 7.00p.m. in the Bower, Port Carlisle.

The dates were **noted**.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10p.m.