

Bowness-on-Solway Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 9th September 2015 in the Lindow Hall Bowness on Solway at 7.00 p.m.

Present:

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

Public attendance: Dr R Armstrong and Mr R Howard.

Clerk: M Abbs

Cllr Graham opened the meeting with a minutes silence in remembrance of Mr Peter Hunter, recently deceased, who had been a member of the Council for many years.

Cllr Graham welcomed Cllr Hutton to his first meeting.

1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

Apologies had been received from: County Councillor Markley and Borough Councillor Hodgson.

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.

Dispensations to speak were received in respect of item 5.4 and approved from the following:

Cllr Carruthers for Glasson Community Group

Cllr Knowles for Bowness Community Group.

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.

Cllr Knowles Carruthers and Graham in respect of item 5.4

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)

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2.1 To approve the draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th July 2015. – **approved and signed.**

3 Report on action taken

3.1 Report on action by members of the Council.

No matters were reported.

3.2 Report from the clerk. Including the following items

3.2.1 Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust latest.

The clerk advised that there were no further developments to report on the monument.

The Allerdale BC Site Allocations and Internal Drainage Board responses had been submitted.

3.3 Public participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

Mr Howard raised his concerns about the conservation/amenity lighting in Port Carlisle. He had raised the issue of lights in poor lighting conditions with Allerdale BC who had failed to respond to his satisfaction. Following questioning by Cllrs the Chairman asked the clerk to include the matter on the November agenda.

Dr Armstrong provided information to Cllrs on the proposed sale of a section of Port Carlisle Dock and foreshore. He pointed out the significance of the area in terms of Wildlife and Historical interest and the current condition of the site. He commented on the sale process and asked the Parish Council to offer its support to a Local Trust, which might be formed, to ensure a safe future for the site.

He then responded to questioning by Cllrs who had concerns about the condition of the site.

Cllr Graham thanked both members of the public for their contribution after which Dr Armstrong left the meeting.

4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 Connecting Cumbria Broadband update.

The clerk advised that no written update had been provided but work was ongoing locally.

Cllr Reay confirmed that ENW workers had been seen carrying out connection work in Anthorn. – **noted.**

4.2 Natural England - reminder of planned restoration work on Bowness Common.

The clerk reminded Cllrs of the details he had supplied them by e-mail as the set consultation date was prior to the meeting. No comments had been received or submitted. – **noted.**

4.3 Rural Payments Agency – latest information.

The clerk advised that there were no significant developments to report but it was hoped that notification of a payment would be received soon.

4.4 Allerdale BC – Final Claim Form for precept for year ending 31st March 2015.

If form received in time.

The clerk confirmed that no form had been received and under the current funding arrangements may not be required this year. – **noted.**

4.5 Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) - Publication of technical reports and an opportunity to comment.

The clerk had notified Cllrs by e-mail of the availability of online reports which could be viewed. These were **noted with no action or comment.**

4.6 CALC - Executive Committee Vacancy and opportunity to nominate.

The clerk provided details of the vacancy which was **noted without action.**

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4.7 Transparency Code (via CALC) – General briefing note and questionnaire.

The clerk updated Cllrs on recent communications and options available to meet the new requirements. Details were given of the response supplied to CALC in response to their questionnaire. Following discussion Cllrs **agreed** that the service provided by CALC to ensure compliance should be utilised. The clerk was authorised to progress the matter forward with the Chairman.

4.8 Wigton Baths Trust – launch of crowdfunding campaign.

The clerk provided details which were **noted**.

4.9 Allerdale BC – Review of licensing policy.

The clerk provided details of the opportunity to comment as part of the review which was taking place. This was **noted without action**.

4.10 Allerdale BC (Planning) – Consultation on the Draft Local Validation Requirements.

Handled by Standing Order as response date was 7th September.

The clerk advised that no comments had been received from Cllrs. – **noted**.

Cllrs Wills and Hodgson arrived at this point.

5 New business

5.1 **To receive** Community reports:

Cllr Graham advised that the memorial seat for Gilly Walton had been galvanised and was now ready for installation.

A 'race night' was being arranged at the Lindow Hall to raise funds for local projects.

There was a possibility that art work by Gilly Walton would be utilised in the Lindow Hall.

Cllr Hinks reported that after some difficulty Allerdale BC had agreed to continue funding for the Lindow Hall toilets. The importance of keeping a good paper trail was emphasised as being important.

She thanked Cllr Knowles for his work and foresight in having the bunk beds installed in the Lindow Hall which were now providing a significant income contribution towards the Hall running costs. A report was given on the successful Fruit and Vegetable show at the Hall which raised £540 which will be split between the Hall and Cancer Research.

The reports were **noted without action**.

5.2 Police report.

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

5.3 Grass Cutting specification for 2016 season.

Review of the current tender procedure and possible action.

The existing specification was reviewed and **approved** along with the contractors to be approached and invited to submit tenders. The Chairman was authorised to work with the clerk in considering the suitability of other applicants if the Council was approached by other contractors wishing to submit tenders for the work.

5.4 Consideration of outstanding grant applications for local groups including Glasson Community Group, Bowness on Solway Community Group and Kirkbride and Anthorn sports/tennis club.

Cllr Carruthers provided information pertaining to the revised application from the Glasson Community Group for £1680.54 then left the meeting whilst the Cllrs discussed and voted on the matter.

The requested amount of £1680.54 was **agreed**.

Cllr Carruthers returned and took the Chair.

Cllr Knowles provided information pertaining to the revised application from the Bowness Community Group for £600 then left the meeting along with Cllr Graham whilst the Cllrs discussed and voted on the matter.

The requested amount of £600 was **agreed**.

Cllr Knowles returned to the meeting along with Cllr Graham who re-took the Chair.

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5.5 Whitrigg Bridge – Safety equipment and sign.

The imminent installation of a warning sign by Allerdale BC near to the Whitrigg Bridge was confirmed.

5.6 Co-option of new Cllrs to fill existing vacancies.

Review and discussion of applicants and possible decision.

The clerk confirmed that paperwork relating to the co-option of Cllr Hutton had been completed and sent to Allerdale BC.

The clerk had recently met with the Anthorn resident who wished to serve on the Council but she did not currently fulfil the necessary criteria to enable her to be considered. She had been asked to notify the clerk should her circumstances change.

5.7 Condition of benches and update on purchase and installation of replacements.

The clerk confirmed that two benches had been ordered with fittings and lettering with the Council's name.

Cllr Will advised that the benches had just been delivered to him and would be checked.

The clerk was instructed to contact a local contractor to obtain a quote for their installation.

5.8 Port Carlisle dock and foreshore proposal.

Cllrs examined and discussed the documentation supplied to them prior to the meeting also taking into account the earlier submission from Dr Armstrong.

Following discussion Cllr Knowles proposed the following resolution which was accepted and put to the vote by the Chairman: That the support of the Parish Council be given to a suitable Charitable Trust wishing to purchase the land up to a maximum contribution of £7500.

The resolution was **rejected**.

Cllr Hinks gave her apologies and left the meeting.

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 **To approve accounts** to 31st July and 31st August 2015 (available at meeting). – **approved**.

6.1.2 Allerdale BC – receipt of second Precept payment £9392 + CTRS grant £274.14 = **£9666.14 – noted**.

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

6.2.1- Clerk's salary **£620.82 – approved**.

6.2.2 – Expenses: post etc £9.26, telephone £4.00/broadband £10.66 = £23.92, travel 33.3 miles @ 36p = £12.00 **Total £35.92 – approved**.

6.2.3 - CGM Grass cutting – £709.00 + VAT (£141.80) inclusive Invoices: **£850.80 – approved**.

Further invoices to be advised at the meeting.

The clerk advised that the additional invoices would be carried forward to the next meeting.

6.2.4 – Solway Recycling Ltd – Bench Purchase £668.00 + VAT (133.60) - **£801.60 – approved. – approved**.

7 Highways

7.1 – Any local developments.

Cllr Reay reported that he was not aware of any remedial work being carried out in Anthorn to remove surface water following heavy rain. Cllr Hodgson reported on the road repairs that had been carried out at Easton. The clerk notified Cllrs that the poor condition of the road near the Whitrigg Bridge, just into Kirkbride Parish, was being reported frequently.

8 Planning

8.1 **Applications outstanding with Allerdale BC**

None – **noted**.

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8.2 Applications dealt with under standing order

8.2.1 – 2/2015/0427 Change of use from haulage/coach business to firewood. Easton Bridge, Easton. (Mr M Bell).

The clerk advised that no objections had been raised but a comment had been made concerning the retention of the hedges on the site. – **noted.**

8.2.2 – 2/2015/0463 Construction of clay dabbin interpretation centre, RSPB North Plain, Bowness (Mr C Spencer)

The clerk advised that no objections had been raised. – **noted.**

8.2.3 – 2/2015/0486 Erection of livestock building, Anthorn Farm, Anthorn. (Mr R. Irving)

The clerk advised that no objections had been raised. – **noted.**

8.2.4 – 2/2015/0501 Proposed new viewing platform, End of access track leading to Glasson Moss Nature Reserve, Port Carlisle.

The clerk advised that no objections had been raised. – **noted.**

8.2.5 – 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 advised that no comment had been submitted had been made following the consultation to the Cllrs by e-mail. This had been confirmed to Allerdale BC following a phone request from the Authority. – **noted.**

8.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC

8.3.1 - 2/2015/0352 Enlargement of existing rooms to form dining room, larger kitchen and WC. Kings Arms Bowness on Solway (Ms P Vehan) – permission granted. – **noted.**

8.3.2 – 2/2015/0395 Proposed alterations and extensions to existing dwelling house, The Binnacle, Port Carlisle (Mr P Johnson). – permission granted. – **noted.**

8.3.3 – 2/2015/0427 Change of use from haulage/coach business to firewood. Easton Bridge, Easton. (Mr M Bell). – permission granted. – **noted.**

8.4 Applications for discussion by this meeting

None – **noted.**

Mr Howard left the meeting.

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 Marmax products catalogue.

9.2.3 Allerdale BC – Grants for better broadband for businesses in Allerdale.

9.2.4 United Utilities – Reservoir safety campaign.

9.2.5 CALC – Advance notice of Annual General Meeting on 14th November.

9.2.6 Cumbria CVS Training and Events update.

9.2.7 Solway Firth Partnership August 2015 Newsletter.

9.2.8 CVS News.

9.2.9 WCH Hospital Open Day on Thursday 24th September.

9.2.10 SLCC – Notice of AGM on 16th October 2015 in Hinckley.

9.2.11 North West Connections Project details of public meetings.

All the above items were **noted.**

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10 Any items of information...

10.1 brought by members

Cllr Hutton raised a Parishioner's concern about a light that was attached to a building in Bowness. The Chairman commented that this could be discussed at the next meeting when the wider issue of street/ heritage lighting would be on the agenda.

10.2 brought by Borough Councillor Hodgson

Absent

10.3 brought by County Councillor Markley

Absent

10.4 brought by the clerk

Cllrs were informed about a letter had been received from the St Michael's Church Council Magazine Committee. Details were given and the clerk instructed to include it on the November Agenda.

Details of an Art Course being run by an Anthorn resident were given. The clerk pointed out that he had been unable to e-mail Cllrs with the full details due to the local Broadband difficulties.

10.5 **Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th November 2015 at 7.00p.m. in the Bower, Port Carlisle. – noted.**

Please note the January meeting will be on Wednesday 13th January 2016 at 7.00p.m. in the Bower, Port Carlisle.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05p.m.