

# Bowness-on-Solway Parish Council

**DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in the Lindow Hall, Bowness on Solway at 7.00 p.m.**

Present:

Councillors: Hinks (Chair), Birkett, Coates, Evans, Graham, Harrington, Martin, Reay and Wills.

County Cllr Markley

Borough Cllr Hodgson

Public attendance: One

Clerk: M Abbs

## **1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.**

Apologies for absence had been sent to the clerk by Cllr Carruthers.

### 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.

Cllrs Martin and Graham declared an interest with regard to item 6.2.7

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 Parish Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020. – **approved and signed.**

**2.2 To approve** the draft minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – **approved and signed.**

## **3 Report on action taken**

3.1 Report on action by members of the Council

Cllr Coates advised that a streetlight at Port Carlisle had now been fixed and a dog waste bin replaced.

3.2 Report from the clerk

Attendance at pre-application planning meeting at Cottage and Glendale Holiday Park.

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The clerk provided a summary of the meeting that Cllr Carruthers and he had attended. He anticipated that a planning consultation, with the Council as a consultee, would follow in due course.

### 3.3 Public participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

The parishioner understood that another parishioner was interested in carrying out a flower arrangement with the church in relation to VE Day.

A question was asked as to whether the woodland development scheme was still in operation. Cllr Hinks confirmed that it was.

Cllr Wills arrived.

## 4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

### 4.1 Rural Payment Agency / Natural England –

Correspondence including Environmental Stewardship (ES) agreement extension 2020 and Notification of updates.

The clerk summarised recent developments and confirmed his belief that all required documents to extend the agreement had been submitted to the RPA by the Council and NE to extend the agreement. Confirmation of this had yet to be received. – **noted**.

### 4.2 Hopes Auctioneers & Land Agents – Offer of willingness to provide Basic Farm Scheme handling service. Response to clerk query.

Following discussion of information provided by the clerk and Cllr Graham, Cllrs **agreed** to remain with the existing land agent.

### 4.3 VE Day Celebration – suggestion from parishioner.

The clerk provided details of a submission from a parishioner. Cllrs **agreed** to consider any funding application from a suitable local group for a suitable event/programme. It was **agreed** that the decision on such an event needed to be made ahead of the usual May meeting; the clerk would keep Cllrs posted.

### 4.4 Footway Lighting – Electricity Costs April 2021

The clerk provided an update on the latest positions and correspondence. Cllrs **agreed** to reject the proposal by Allerdale BC to transfer electrical costs to the Parish Council with effect from April 2021.

The clerk was instructed to write accordingly.

Cllr Markley arrived.

## 5 New business

### 5.1 To receive Community reports.

Cllr Graham and Cllr Martin provided details of a planned 'Race Night' at the Kings Arms, Bowness.

A Skiff launch event was scheduled, the required trailer had arrived.

Cllr Martin explained that the Movie Night had been tried in an alternative location in the Parish but that licencing was an issue outside Bowness Village. – **noted**.

### 5.2 Police Report.

The clerk advised that the anticipated newsletter had not been received. – **noted**.

### 5.3 Arrangements for the grant meeting in April 2020.

The Cllrs **confirmed** the planned details for the grant meeting and the clerk distributed the previously updated grant application forms and asked Cllrs to distribute these to local organisations.

### 5.4 Arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting.

The previous and planned arrangements remained unchanged and were **agreed**.

### 5.5 Parish Council Auditor and arrangements/requirements for the 2020 Audit.

The clerk confirmed that he had been in contact with the internal auditor to arrange a date for the audit. No communication had been received from the external auditor at this point. – **noted**.

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5.6 HSBC – New terms and conditions. Update of business details required.

The clerk explained that new terms and conditions had been received and that the bank had notified the Council that they needed to review the details it held concerning the Council. Cllrs **agreed** that this could be progressed by the Clerk, Chairman and any required bank signatories.

5.7 Parish Assets – legal position, review of current situation.

Cllr Hinks explained the current situation and explained why a meeting had not yet taken place with the Glasson Community Group. It had been recommended by the solicitor that the advice of a land agent be sought and this would now be done. – See also item 4.2

5.8 Consideration of bench and noticeboard repairs and possible replacement.

Cllr Hinks confirmed that a reported leak in the new board at Bowness had been investigated and repaired. Prices had not yet been forthcoming for the remaining noticeboards in the Parish.

The clerk had met a Cardunock resident to discuss a possible site for a bench/seat but felt that further consultations was required prior to approaching the County Council again. - **noted**

5.9 Website development.

Cllr Hinks and the clerk updated Cllrs on problems that had been encountered in uploading documents and information to the website. Cllr **agreed** that these problems should be investigated with the developer alongside exploring other alternative website options.

5.10 Great British Spring Clean – details from Keep Britain Tidy.

Following discussion Cllrs **agreed** that the clerk should contact the AONB with a view to co-ordinating/integrating efforts.

## 6 Finance

### 6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts and bank statements to 31<sup>st</sup> January and 29<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – available at the meeting. – **approved.**

Cllr Hodgson arrived.

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

6.2.1 Clerk's salary **£715.00 – approved.**

6.2.2 Clerk's Expenses: post etc. etc. £28.70, Telephone + broadband £25.48, Software contribution £19.50, travel 39miles@36p= £14.04 **Total £87.72 – approved.**

6.2.3 Information Commissioner: by direct debit **£40.00 - approved.**

6.2.4 Chairman's Expenses (second payment) **£30.00 – approved.**

6.2.5 XMA Ltd – Print cartridges (VAT £20.39) **£122.31 – approved.**

6.2.6 Dean Little Tree Surgery – Tree surgery to two trees (VAT £60.00) **£360.00 – approved.**

6.2.7 Bowness on Solway Community Group re-imburement of insurance costs – **£306.43 – approved.**

6.2.8 W S Reid Ltd – Notice board and installation (VAT £168.00) **£1008.00 – approved.**

## 7 Highways

7.1 Including:

Cattle grids at Bowness – latest situation.

Plans had been circulated to Cllrs ahead of the meeting. Cllrs **noted** that the works would be commencing soon, with resultant road closures.

## 8 Planning

### 8.1 Applications outstanding with Allerdale BC

8.1.1 - FUL/2020/0021 Part change of use to permit the hire of 4 motorhomes for a temporary period of 3 years, Bowness House Farm, Bowness on Solway. (Hunter Contracts North East Ltd).

8.1.2 – FUL/2020/0036 To construct a timber bird hide on the edge of Drumburgh Moss, Drumburgh. (Mr K Scott, Cumbria Wildlife Trust.).

8.1.3 – CAT/2020/0009 Cut off overhanging branches of 1 silver birch and 1 mountain ash, The Nook,

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Bowness on Solway. (Ms Diane Ellis-Jones)  
The above were noted.

### 8.2 Applications dealt with under standing order

8.2.1 – FUL/2020/0036 To construct a timber bird hide on the edge of Drumburgh Moss, Drumburgh. (Mr K Scott, Cumbria Wildlife Trust.).

The clerk advised that there had been no objections. - **noted**.

8.2.2 – CAT/2020/0009 Cut off overhanging branches of 1 silver birch and 1 mountain ash, The Nook, Bowness on Solway. (Ms Diane Ellis-Jones)

The clerk advised that there had been no objections. - **noted**.

### 8.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC

8.3.1 – FUL/2019/0289 Re-concreting of farmyard, Midtown Farm, Fingland, Wigton. – permission granted.

8.3.2 – FUL/2019/0235 Proposed single storey extension to form utility, shower room and stores, Whitrigg Grange, Kirkbride. – permission granted.

8.3.3 - HOU/2019/0244 Re-building of entrance lobby to front, new conservatory to rear and rooflights to Fell View, Bowness on Solway (Mr Roger Golding) – permission granted.

8.3.4 – HOU/2019/0027 Single storey rear extension, Hazeldene, Port Carlisle (John and Anne-Marie Loizou & Weller) – withdrawn.

8.3.5 - LBC/2019/0005 Listed building consent for single storey rear extension, Hazeldene, Port Carlisle (John and Anne-Marie Loizou & Weller) – withdrawn.

All the above were **noted**.

### 8.4 Applications for discussion by this meeting

None -**noted**.

### 9.1 Documents received for comment.

None

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

9.2.1 CALC Circular for February and March.

9.2.2 Glasdon Product Information.

9.2.3 RAF - Battle of Britain Celebrations.

9.2.4 Ian Wrigley - Bowness Peninsula Facilitation Group, Event Information.

### 10 Any items of information...

**10.1** brought by members

CLlr Martin commented on the following:

A concerned resident had spoken to her about the area near to the bus turning circle being used by people as a toilet and resulting problems of waste.

She raised her concern that training for Cllrs had not been forthcoming. Cllr Hinks said she would investigate.

A letter from a resident had been sent to all Cllrs and she wondered if the Council would discuss it. Cllr Hinks commented that it had been sent to all Cllrs individually and they could respond as individuals if they wished to do so.

Cllr Evans expressed concern about the handling of a previous meeting and Cllr Hinks pointed out that this could not be discussed at this meeting.

**10.2** brought by Borough Councillor

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Cllr Hodgson outlined the increases in Council tax that had been passed at a recent Council meeting. Cllr Mike Johnson was now the new leader.

The quality of the blue paper re-cycling bins was being monitored. He explained why a charge was being levied for replacement bins. Garden Waste collections had started again.

The markets in the Borough were being brought in-house.

Investment and regeneration in the area was to be promoted.

He was informed of the Council view concerning footway lighting. – see item 4.4.

Cllr Markley provided additional information on a meeting he had held with CALC about the lighting.

**10.3** brought by County Councillor

Cllr Markley commented on the leadership situation at the County Council and provided details of the planned increase in the Council tax.

Devolution was likely to become an issue locally, once again.

A 'Military Trail' was being planned.

**10.4** brought by the clerk

No additional items of information were forthcoming.

**11.1 Date of future meeting: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020 Grant Meeting at 7 pm at the Lindow Hall.**

**11.2 Date of future meeting: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 6.30 pm at the Lindow Hall.**

**The dates were noted and the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.53p.m.**