

Bowness-on-Solway Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 14th November 2018 in the Bower at Port Carlisle at 7.00 p.m.

Present:

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

Borough Cllr Hodgson

Public attendance: None

Clerk: M Abbs

Cllr Carruthers opened the meeting then paid tribute to former County Councillor Fairbairn who had died recently. This was followed by a minutes' silence in his memory.

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.

Cllr Hinks requested a dispensation to speak with regard to item 5.5 – the 70 Plus Committee.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllr J Hodgson had declared an interest with regard to item 8.4.1.

Cllr Hinks declared an interest with regard to items 5.5 and 5.7

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 12th September 2018. – **approved and signed.**

3 Report on action taken

3.1 Report on action by members of the Council

Cllr Knowles reported receipt of an anonymous letter concerning a local land issue – copies were circulated. He also reported a concern from a parishioner he had received about the Bowness House Farm Development which was being investigated.

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3.2 Report from the clerk

Actions carried out would be reported later in the meeting.

3.3 Public participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

No public present.

4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 Pension Regulator – update required.

The clerk informed Cllrs that the regulator had informed the council that an update to the records they held would be required in the forthcoming months. The clerk said he would handle this ahead of the deadline. – **noted**.

4.2 Great North Air Ambulance – request for grant support.

This was **noted without action**.

4.3 BHIB Insurance - details of the Aviva Community Fund.

These were **noted without action**.

4.4 HMRC – new VAT reclaim procedure.

The clerk explained that a new procedure was being introduced which he would acquaint himself with and need to implement for the next VAT reclaim. – **noted**.

4.5 Cumbria CC – Highways Act 1980 Section 119 – Proposed diversion of public footpath NO 214012 Bowness Common Anthorn.

The papers had been circulated to local Cllrs ahead of the meeting. Remaining Cllrs examined the papers and **agreed** that there were no objections.

5 New business

5.1 To receive Community reports.

Cllr Graham advised that a 'Carols around the Christmas Tree' event was being organised in Bowness for the 9th of December. A Ceilidh was being organised for New Year's Eve with Striding Edge performing. The skiff boat was currently under construction.

Cllr Knowles advised that the AONB had inspected the 'Smugglers Path' in Bowness and estimated that repair costs would be expensive. The matter had been raised with the coastal authorities. – **noted without action**.

5.2 Police Report.

No report had been received – **noted**.

5.3 Grass Cutting tenders for 2019 season. Discussion and appointment of contractor.

The submitted tenders for the 2019 season were examined and discussed.

The tender from Colvilles Grounds Maintenance was unanimously **accepted**. The clerk was instructed to write accordingly to the contractors.

5.4 Donation to British Legion Poppy Appeal.

A donation of £100 was **agreed** in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The expenditure, in the opinion of the council, being in the interest of the area and its inhabitants.

5.5 70 Plus Committee – donation and request for support for 2018.

Cllr Hinks provided some information to Cllrs then played no part in the decision taken on this item.

A donation of £200 was **agreed** in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The expenditure, in the opinion of the council, being in the interest of the area and its inhabitants.

Borough Cllr Hodgson arrived.

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5.6 Defibrillators – update.

The clerk advised that he had received no correspondence concerning the outstanding defibrillators to bring to the meeting. He had notified the Anthorn Community Committee that if they were encountering difficulties, he would offer assistance if necessary. - **noted**.

5.7 Request from the Lindow Hall for £400 towards the cost of provision of toilet facilities.

Cllrs Hinks who had declared an interest played no part in the decision for this item.

The remaining Cllrs discussed and **agreed** the request.

5.8 Queens Commonwealth Canopy Project – update and possible decision.

The clerk and Cllr Carruthers updated Cllrs on meetings that had taken place between the Chairman and clerk, the Woodland Trust and RSPB. The Woodland Trust were interested in a joint initiative with the Council and would match fund any contribution made by the Council. The Woodland Trust would administer the scheme and work with landowners to plant suitable trees around the Parish. Allerdale and the AONB had been consulted and it was unlikely that any planning permissions would be required. The RSPB were interested in developing a planting scheme for the Rogersceugh area and would be able to apply to the scheme to do this.

Cllrs **agreed** to a scheme, as outlined above, being set up with the Woodland Trust with the aim of encouraging the planting of trees around the Parish. It then **agreed** to authorise a maximum spend of £5000 over 5 years on condition that this is match funded by the Woodland Trust.

The clerk and the Chairman were asked to take this forward. An article for the Parish Magazine and an application form will be produced.

5.9 Seats and noticeboards – review and possible decision.

Cllrs **agreed** that a number of seats and noticeboards required attention. Cllrs would check on those in their areas and the clerk was asked to put the item on the January agenda.

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts and bank statements to 30th September and 31st October 2018 – available at the meeting. – **approved**.

6.1.2 To note ABC Precept Receipt £9392 + CTRS £122.45 = **£9514.45**

The clerk advised that, following receipt of the bank statement (above) and documentation from Allerdale BC, the amount received had been **£9453.22**. The investigated difference being due to the lower amount of CTRS (Council Tax Reduction Scheme) received. – **noted**.

6.1.3 **Budget** for 2019/20: see prepared sheet

& therefore **precept request to Allerdale BC for 2019/20**

The clerk explained the latest situation relating to the setting of the Precept and reminded Cllrs of their current financial position. Members then considered the estimates for the rest of this year, and at the same time considered the grants usually paid to parish organisations. Together with the anticipated expenditure for 2019/20 and some allowance for possible contingency, the budget **was approved and it was agreed unanimously** that the precept request for 2019/20 should again be £18784. The Clerk was authorised to send the precept to Allerdale District Council.

6.1.4 Rural Payments Agency - payments received **£15.17 – noted**.

6.2 Payments: to approve the following payments:

6.2.1- Clerk's salary **£693.94. – approved**.

6.2.2 - Expenses: post etc £14.20 Telephone & broadband = £25.48, travel 26miles@36p= £9.36

Total £49.04 -approved.

6.2.3 Colville Grounds Maintenance grass cutting invoices (VAT **£115.60**) **£693.60 – approved**.

Additional invoices may be brought to the meeting.

The clerk advised that he thought there was still a further cut to be invoiced.

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6.2.4 Lindow Hall - hall hire **£63.00 – approved.**

6.2.5 Lindow Hall – toilet provision **£400.00 – approved.**

7 Highways

7.1 Any issues arising including updates on cattle grids and streetlighting.

No further issues were raised. See also item 10.3.

7.2 Cumbria County Council – consultation on proposed speed limit changes in the Allerdale area.

Discussion and possible decision.

The consultation **was noted without action.**

8 Planning

8.1 Applications outstanding with Allerdale BC

8.1.1 – 2/2018/0188 Outline application for 8 bungalows, Field adjacent to Millgrove, Glasson. (Mrs Jane Stewart) – **noted.**

8.2 Applications dealt with under standing order

8.2.1 – 2/2018/0188 Response to amendments - Outline application for 8 bungalows, Field adjacent to Millgrove, Glasson. (Mrs Jane Stewart) – the clerk advised that observations had been made and evidence of flooding provided. -**noted.**

8.2.2 – 2/2018/0454 Change of use of utility and storage rooms into a small tea room.

Pear Tree Farm, Bowness on Solway.

Plus opportunity to speak at the Development Panel on 13.11.18.

The council had made no objections and commented on the position of the Highways Agency. Cllr Bradshaw advised that the Development Panel had met recently and approved the application. – **noted.**

8.2.3 - HOU/2018/0199 Proposed single storey extension to create living room and cladding of external walls (resubmission of HOU/2018/0070) Easton Bridge Cottage. (Mr and Mrs Bell)

– no objections – **noted.**

8.2.4 – 2/2018/0446 Erection of agricultural building etc to cover existing sheep handling system as part of existing agricultural enterprise. Anthorn Radio Station Bracken, Cardrunk. (Mr J Irving).

– no objections – **noted.**

8.2.5 – 2/2018/0214 Replacement of rear extension, balcony over garage and associated external alterations. North Plain, Bowness on Solway (BBM).

– no objections – **noted.**

8.2.6 – HOU/2018/0214 Two storey extension to provide additional living accommodation. Paddock Cottage, Glasson. (Miss K Birkett)

The clerk and Cllr Hinks explained that on the basis of the evidence provided by Allerdale BC Cllrs had been unable to take a view on the application. – **noted.**

8.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC

None

8.4 Applications for discussion by this meeting

8.4.1 – 2/2018/0486 Listed building consent for the demolition of a small extension to the stable, Easton Hall, Kirkbride. (Mrs J Hodgson)

Cllr J Hodgson played no part in the discussion for this item.

Cllrs **agreed** to support this application. The clerk said he would notify the authority.

9.1 Documents received for comment.

9.1.1 Allerdale Local Plan – (Part2) Site Allocations. **Noted without action.**

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

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9.2.1 CALC Circular for October and November.

9.2.2 CALC AGM 10th November 2018 at Newbiggin Village Hall.

9.2.3 Playground equipment Information – various suppliers.

9.2.4 Royal Mail – ‘scam mail’ advice.

The above were **noted**.

10 Any items of information...

10.1 brought by members

Cllr J Hodgson advised that the litter bins at Drumburgh had been replaced and the grit bin at Fingland filled.

10.2 brought by Borough Councillor

Allerdale BC had just signed a new eight-year contract for refuse collection and re-cycling. Weekly collection would continue but there would be changes to re-cycling collections.

10.3 brought by County Councillor

Absent – but he had notified the clerk that progress on the cattle grids was ongoing and he would keep pressing the matter.

10.4 brought by the clerk

The clerk circulated a letter from a parishioner concerning the handling of a planning application which would be responded to in due course following investigation.

A payment advice had just been received from the RPA and the clerk would check the next bank statement for it.

Mr R Irving had provided an update on the potential burial ground extension which would be circulated to Cllrs.

11.1 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 9th January 2019 at 7pm at THE BOWER, PORT CARLISLE

11.2 Date of future meeting: Wednesday 13th March 2019 at 7pm at the LINDOW HALL, BOWNESS

The dates were noted, and the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.02p.m.