

Bowness-on-Solway Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 18th September 2019 in the Lindow Hall, Bowness on Solway at 7pm.

The meeting had been originally scheduled for the 11th September 2019

Present: Chairman Carruthers (Chair)

Councillors: Birkett, Coates, Graham, Harrington, Hutton, Martin and Wills.

County Cllr Markley.

Members of the public: Mrs L Tomlinson – Allerdale BC.

Clerk: M. Abbs

1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Hinks, Evans and Borough Cllr Hodgson.

The family related reason notified to the clerk by Cllr Hinks was accepted as a fair reason for absence.

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.

No dispensation requests were received.

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.

Cllrs Martin and Birkett declared an interest in item 5.6

County Cllr Markley arrived at this point.

2 Minutes (previously circulated)

2.1 To approve the draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th July 2019. – **approved and signed.**

The Chairman requested the Allerdale Monitoring Officer to speak at this point.

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3 Report on action taken

3.1 Report on action by members of the Council.

Cllr Martin advised members that she and Cllr Birkett had attended a CALC training course consisting of two modules which she had found beneficial. See item 5.6.

3.2 Report from the clerk.

3.2.1 Response to Port Carlisle Community group concerning grant request.

A response had been sent. - **noted.**

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

None

3.4 Contribution from Allerdale BC Monitoring Officer.

Mrs Tomlinson explained her role at the Authority and gave advice and guidance on the Code of Conduct and Cllr Interest Declarations. The Complaints procedure was covered, and the role of dispensation requests clarified. The subject of Predetermination was explained, and subsequent questions answered. Cllr Carruthers thanked her for her contribution, following which Mrs Tomlinson left the meeting.

4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 Cumbria CC – Working Together initiative.

The received correspondence was examined and discussed **without action at this point** as further correspondence giving more details was anticipated.

4.2 Gold Star & Rocket Gold Star Owners Club – Wal Handley Memorial.

Cllrs were informed by the clerk of a forthcoming event in November to unveil the memorial – **noted.**

4.3 H& H Land and Property – Re-branding as H&H Land and Estates.

The clerk provided details which were **noted without action.**

5 New business

5.1 **To receive** Community reports:

Cllr Graham gave details of the next film night in Bowness.

There was to be an 'Auction of Promises' in the Lindow Hall at the end of October and a 'Race Night' in March 2020.

Skiff boats would be visiting from Annan in the near future.

Cllr Martin provided details of a meeting called by the Bowness Community Group in October to discuss the condition of the 'Banks' area in Bowness.

The information was **noted.**

5.2 Police report.

A report had not been received – **noted.**

5.3 Grass Cutting specification for 2020 season.

Review of the current tender procedure and possible action.

The existing specification was examined and discussed. It was **agreed** that no changes were necessary to the Anthorn specification but a minor change to that for Glasson was required. Contractors to be approached and invited to submit tenders were discussed. The clerk would consult Cllrs as to the suitability of other applicants if the Council was approached by other contractors wishing to submit tenders for the work. He pointed out to Cllrs that references were awaited from one potential new contractor which he would discuss with the Chairman when they arrived.

Cllr Markley asked the Chairman for permission to give his report at this point.

The poor state of the road near Pasture House had been reported the Authority. He was still pressing for the installation of the Cattle Grids. Cllr Coates commented that cattle had entered Bowness village recently. The condition of the road outside Bowness Hall was still a concern and the clerk added that it had been reported on a number of occasions in recent months.

The Allerdale waste collection operation was to be brought back 'in house'.

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Cllr Hutton asked a question about grit bins and signage.

Cllr Markley was thanked for his contribution then left the meeting.

5.4 Bench/Seat Noticeboard update – progress on the Cardurnock request.

The clerk provided an update concerning the situation at Cardurnock. Further details needed to be checked and Cllrs **agreed** that, if these proved to be satisfactory, a bench could be purchased and installed up to an authorised (VAT inclusive) expenditure of £750

The new noticeboard at Bowness had now been installed. The replacement of noticeboards at Fingland and Glasson was discussed; Cllrs agreed to replace the existing freestanding noticeboards at Fingland and Glasson, up to a combined total expenditure of £2000, including VAT.

5.5 Parish Assets – current position concerning the legal review and previously authorised actions.

The clerk advised that documentation had just been received and would be examined and reported at the next meeting.

Cllr Birkett confirmed to the clerk and Chairman that documentation requested from the Glasson Community group would be supplied along with confirmation as to the future intentions of the group – **noted without action.**

5.6 Repayment of Cllr training costs to Cllrs Birkett and Martin.

Cllrs Martin and Birkett left the room for this item.

Following discussion Cllrs **declined** the requested repayment.

The Cllrs re-joined the meeting and on hearing the decision Cllr Martin asked for her disappointment to be recorded.

5.7 Sustrans Interpretation Panel update.

The clerk advised that Sustrans had almost completed the panel and awaited news of the cattle grid installation, which would affect the installation of the panel. **-noted.**

5.8 Recording of Parish Council meetings.

Cllr Hutton explained why he felt it could be beneficial to explore this option. Following information from the clerk and discussion **no action was taken.**

6 Finance

6.1 Information

6.1.1 **To approve** accounts to 31st July and 31st August 2019 (available at meeting) - **approved.**

6.1.2 Allerdale BC – receipt of second Precept payment **£9392**

Anticipated figure shown. Clerk will confirm.

The clerk advised that no notification of payment had been received from the authority up to that point. He would monitor the situation closely and keep Cllrs updated. – **noted.**

6.1.3 - Rural Payments Agency - ES treasury payment **986.50 -noted.**

6.1.4 **The acceptance and approval** of the Audit Annual return and certificate. – **accepted and approved.**

6.2 Payments: to approve the following payments:

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

6.2.2 - Expenses: post etc £15.95 Telephone & broadband = £25.48, travel *39 miles@36p*= £14.04

Total £55.47 – approved.

6.2.3 - CGM Grass cutting – VAT (£353.76) inclusive Invoices: **£2122.44 – approved.**

6.2.4 - Pearson Sand Blasting Services Ltd – Sandblasting of seat. **£120.00 – approved.**

6.2.5 - PKF Littlejohn LLP – Audit (£40 VAT) **£240 – approved.**

6.2.6 - Chris Turner Fencing Services – Bench Installation **£130.00 – approved.**

6.2.7 - XMA Ltd – Print cartridges. (VAT £14.39) **£83.34 – approved,**

6.2.8 - W.S. Read – New Bowness notice board (VAT £164.00) **£984.00 – approved.**

7 Highways

7.1 – Bowness cattle grid update.

Cllr Markley had updated Cllrs earlier.

7.2 – Anthorn traffic survey findings.

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The clerk provided a summary of the findings which indicated that there was not a serious problem. – **noted without action.**

7.3 - Grit bins and gritting.

Following discussion, **no action** was taken at this point.

7.4 – Signage in Bowness.

The poor condition of a sign in Bowness had been reported by a parishioner to the Authority but the clerk was unaware of any subsequent remedial work – **noted without action**

8 Planning

8.1 Applications outstanding with Allerdale BC

8.1.1 – HOU/2019/0027 Single storey rear extension, Hazeldene, Port Carlisle

(John and Anne-Marie Loizou & Weller)

8.1.2 - LBC/2019/0005 Listed building consent for single storey rear extension, Hazeldene, Port Carlisle

(John and Anne-Marie Loizou & Weller)

8.1.3 – HOU/2019/0133 Change of use of agricultural land to caravan park extension including associated drainage infrastructure. Cottage and Glendale Caravan Park, Port Carlisle. (Mr Andrew Warnes, Callaly Leisure Ltd).

The above were **noted.**

8.2 Applications dealt with under standing order

8.2.1 – FUL/2019/0193 Change of use of a former agricultural building 'The Barn' to two residential units.

(Mr S Cunningham BBM)

The clerk clarified that this was at Campfield Marsh RSPB and that the Council had expressed support subject to key conditions being met. – **noted.**

8.2.2 – HOU/2019/0133 Change of use of agricultural land to caravan park extension including associated drainage infrastructure. Revised Mitigation Plan and Revised Mitigation Report.

Cottage and Glendale Caravan Park, Port Carlisle. (Mr Andrew Warnes, Callaly Leisure Ltd).

There had been no objections. – **noted.**

8.2.3 – Removal of tree, Foxley Field View, Port Carlisle. (Mr K Heslop).

There had been no objections. – **noted.**

8.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC

8.3.1 – FUL/2019/0122 Retention of existing office structure for use as an A1 shop, Bowness House Farm.

(Hunter Contracts North East Limited) – permission granted. – **noted.**

8.4 Applications for discussion by this meeting

None – **noted.**

9.1 Documents received for comment

None – **noted.**

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

9.2.1 CALC Circulars.

Noted.

10 Any items of information...

10.1 brought by members

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No matters were reported.

10.2 brought by Borough Councillor Hodgson
Absent.

10.3 brought by County Councillor Markley
His report had been given earlier.

10.4 brought by the clerk

The clerk advised that the resignation of Cllr Walker had just been received. Due process would now need to be followed.

10.5 **Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 13th November 2019 at 7.00p.m. in the Bower, Port Carlisle.

Please note the January meeting will be on Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 7.00p.m. in the Bower, Port Carlisle.

The dates were noted, and the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.