



## Colton Parish Council

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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2009 in Finsthwaite Village Hall at 7.30p.m..

**Members Present:** Cllr Barr (Chair) Cllr Cunliffe Cllr Dean Cllr Watson Cllr Fishwick  
Ms M Lane (Clerk)

**Also present:** Cllr Walsh(CCC) Cllr Davies(SLDC) and 2 members of the public

### 30. Apologies

Cllr Harrington (ill health) Cllr Lovegrove (ill health) Cllr Robinson (ill health) Cllr Potts (holiday)  
PC John Baldwin

**ACTION**

### 31. Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2009 as a true record.

### 32. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda.

### 33. Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

The following action reports were received and noted:

- Bouth playground inspections: a check of the electricity box had been added to the inspection sheet
- Affordable Housing Working Group: no real progress could be made until sites for affordable housing became available; the working group would then reconvene.
- Community Plan 2009: the first meeting of the Community Plan Working Group was held on 24<sup>th</sup> March at Bouth, with representatives from LDNPA and SLDC explaining the importance of these Plans for informing policy at the local level.
- Information on funding sources: Cllr Fishwick had provided information for a new webpage, now published on the website.

### 34. Public Participation

- Mr Roderick Smith: Old Hall Farm, Bouth, was holding an 'open weekend' at Easter.
- From PC John Baldwin: there had been a successful prosecution in Millom for poaching in South Lakeland.

### 35. Comments from District and County Councillors

- Cllr Davies: i) circulated a leaflet on the 'Rural Academy of Cumbria' concerning partnerships of small rural schools. ii) he was conveying to SLDC the widespread concern about closure of public toilets.
- Cllr Walsh explained that County Council elections were to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> June and he would be unable to contribute without specific invitation from 28<sup>th</sup> April during the lead-in period. Cllr Dean asked why County did not publish a balance sheet showing money held in reserve. Cllr Walsh would find out why, and where this information could be found. He explained that £6M was currently held in reserve - the minimum level permitted; there was also a maximum level allowed. He was not aware of any financial losses due to the current economic climate, though the local government pension scheme was currently falling behind.

**Cllr Walsh**

### 36. Accounts

The following payments were approved:

- Cheque 000448: C.Slater (Lengthsman) salary for Feb 09: **£308.00**
- Cheque 000449: CALC subscription for 2009/2010 - **£187.00**
- Cheque 000450: A.Lane – Clerk's stationery and postage - **£48.99**
- Cheque 000451: Open Spaces Society training fee: **£35.00**
- Cheque 000452: SLDC Bouth Village Green inspections: **£85.54**
- Cheque 000453: North-west Air Ambulance: **£50.00**

### 37. Planning

- The following planning application was discussed and a response agreed:
  - 7/2009/5064 - Buck Yeats Coach House, Lakeside. Replacement dwelling house with detached garage (resubmission). **Resolved:** no objection, but concerns to be expressed on Local Planning Policy grounds on the need for an additional building and its size.
- Noted: responses given to planning applications as follows:
  - 7/2009/5040 - 5, Cragg Brow, Bouth. Extension and alterations. *No objections.*
  - 7/2009/5045 - Calderbank, Lakeside. Erection of double garage with associated hard-standing and widening of vehicular access. *No objections.*
  - 7/2009/5041 - Frazel Steps, Oxen Park. Alterations to existing house, first floor extension, new windows and front door. *No objections*
  - 7/2009/5099 - The Peat House, Nibthwaite: new conservatory on reading room. *No objections.*
  - 7/2009/5088 - Yew Tree House, 11 Landing How, Lakeside. First floor extension to dwelling over existing conservatory to first-floor bedroom and en-suite. *No objections.*
- Noted: planning permission granted for the following:
  - 7/2008/5607 - School House, Finsthwaite. Demolition of porch, erection of 2 extensions.
  - 7/2008/5655 - Old Hall Farm, Bouth - Extension and alterations.
  - 7/2008/5622 - Waterside House, Newby Bridge - conversion of barn for office use.
  - 7/2008/5660 - Burn Knott Bungalow, Bouth - demolition of bungalow to replacement timber-farmed house, car-port and store.
  - 7/2008/5608 - The Bungalow, Newby Bridge - demolition of dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling and garage.
- Noted: property re-named as follows:
  - Burrow Croft, High Stott Park to be renamed Stag Lodge.
- Noted: planning application withdrawn as follows:
  - 7/2009/5033 - Water Park, Nibthwaite: Building to house teaching, changing and storage facilities.
- Noted: that high wall at The Lodge, Ridding Bay, Lakeside (7/2007/5588) had now been lowered, following the enforcement order.

Clerk

### 38. Highways

- Off-road Vehicles and Unclassified Country Roads: There were two issues that required urgent attention: i) Problems with off-roaders – trail bikers in particular – had escalated in recent months with damage to fields and fells, plus intimidation and threats of violence when challenged, and ii) The issue of repairs to off-road routes remained unresolved with a most unhelpful letter received from the Chief Executive of Cumbria County Council on the matter. County maintained that the routes were LDNPA responsibility and vice versa. Tony Hill (LDNPA Ranger) had suggested that Colton consider holding a special meeting on the topic, inviting representatives from County and from the ‘Motor-propelled Vehicles’ (MPV) sub-group of the Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership.  
**It was resolved:** that a meeting be held. However, the Clerk should seek information and advice about realisable objectives, participants, possible inclusion of other parishes, format and venue, and bring a proposal to the May meeting.
- Highway Steward (HS): The Clerk had temporarily taken over liaison with the HS during Cllr Lovegrove’s ill-health. A new HS programme of visits had been received and was now up on the website, together with a list of whom to contact for which issues. The Clerk had prepared a progress table for priority flooding trouble-spots (also on the website) and was in liaison with the HS on these – good progress was being made.
- Requests from Egton PC: i) Width-limit signs: **It was resolved not to support** Egton’s request for width-limit signs on roads between Egton and Colton parishes, as most of Colton’s roads were narrow and a proliferation of signage was considered undesirable. Also, although the lorries and coaches using the route from Penny Bridge to Grizedale was a cause for concern, there was no other possible route for these vehicles. ii) 30mph speed-limit at Greenodd: **It was resolved to support** Egton in pressing for a 30mph limit on the A5092 through Greenodd and Penny Bridge; the Clerk would respond.
- The permitted path between Stott Park Bobbin Mill and High Dam car-park entrance had now been closed due to liability issues.
- The Rusland Beeches road would be closed for 1 week from 20<sup>th</sup> April during engineering works at Skowbarrow Beck; this was the Council’s highest priority trouble-spot for flooding and Cumbria Highway’s early response demonstrated how well the Highway Stewardship programme was operating.

Clerk

Clerk

### 39. Local Area Partnerships (LAPs) and Locality Working

The LAP Working Group presented a paper to the Council recommending that Colton join High Furness LAP; the National Park was a key influence for Colton and there were fewer issues in common with the other LAP options centred on Grange and Ulverston. **It was resolved** to support this recommendation; Cllr Barr would complete and submit the LAP consultation questionnaire.

Cllr Barr

### 40. Consultations

- LDNPA: Bluebird Project: (Cllr Walsh declared a personal interest and withdrew from discussion.) **It was resolved** to support the proposal for new byelaw for Bluebird K7 speed trials up to 100mph on Coniston Water, provided that trails were held during Coniston Records Week out of the main tourist season.
- Amey-Mouchel - proposed new roundabout at Greenodd junction with A590: **It was resolved** to support the proposal, with concerns about safety and the need for traffic-calming measured on the approach to the roundabout from both the Ulverston and Newby Bridge directions.

Clerk

Clerk

### 41. Reports of Meetings

- The following meeting reports were received:
  - CALC South Lakeland District Association, 5<sup>th</sup> March: Cllr Harrington and the Clerk had attended. A presentation by the Land Registry was the main item of interest; Cumbria now had 56% of its land registered as opposed to 30% 3 years ago. Registering land with the Land Registry was the 'gold standard' for ensuring legal ownership. A free national help line was available: 0800 432 0432 plus website: [www.landregistry.gov.uk](http://www.landregistry.gov.uk) with a warning on look-alike websites that try to charge fees for free services.
  - Grange and Cartmel Community Board, 10<sup>th</sup> March: Cllr Barr had attended. Main items: i) the role of Parish Councils in the planning process. Colton was now following the proper procedure. Planning authorities would address the 5-point plan put forward by CALC on improved consultation. ii) The Community Board would become a LAP.
  - Open Spaces Society Training Day: Clerk's report deferred until May meeting.
- It was agreed that Cllrs Barr and Fishwick would attend the LDNPA 'Parish Tour' and CALC Lake District Parishes meeting at Brockhole on 17<sup>th</sup> September 3.30-9.30. Cllr Dean would be reserve attendee.

### 42. Correspondence

The following correspondence was highlighted in particular:

- 'Lakes for Living' Conference: Parish Councils had been invited to attend, but at a cost of £120+VAT per day. The Clerk had sent a response explaining that this fee was out of reach of parish council and local community budgets; Colton was clearly not the only local organisation to have made this point. The Clerk followed up the suggestion to apply to the Cumbria Community Foundation and was awaiting a response.
- Windermere Marathon Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May - road closure: C5026 from Graythwaite to Roger Ground from 10.30am to 12.15pm except for emergency vehicles.

The following correspondence was noted:

#### CALC

- Locality Working in South Lakeland - Proposals
- Invitation to attend Open Spaces Protection training event, Penrith, 11<sup>th</sup> March. £35 pp
- Fire Safety Volunteer call and notice
- Notes from CALC Conference on Locality Working.

#### CCC

- Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework. Recommencing work on site allocations policies and proposals map. Invitation to comment (*no sites in Colton*).
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum - report of meeting 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 09
- Cumbria Highways - grants for bus shelters - invitation to apply with suitable location.
- Cumbria Landscape Character Toolkit and Guidance - on-line survey. Workshop in April.
- Notice of Engineering work at Tanyards, Rusland to tackle flooding. Road closure 20<sup>th</sup> April for 1 week.
- Grange & Cartmel Community Board - Agenda for 10<sup>th</sup> March and minutes of last meeting
- Grant for Bus Shelters - update of list of requests for a grant.
- Highway Stewards - updated programme of visits and guidance on highway issues.
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum Agenda for 18<sup>th</sup> March
- Cumbria Highways - exchange about chevron mis-placement at Colton
- Cumbria Highways - Temporary road closures for Windermere marathon, Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

## **SLDC**

- Standards Committee papers for 24<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Agenda for Council meeting 26<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Overview and Scrutiny Committee - request for issues for scrutiny review in coming year.
- Agenda for SLDC Council meeting 25<sup>th</sup> March.

## **LDNPA**

- Parish Council Tours - 17<sup>th</sup> Sept at Brockhole. Respond by 7<sup>th</sup> August
- Volunteer conservation work day at Rusland Moss, 25<sup>th</sup> March
- Conference - 'Lakes for Living, Lakes for Life' 18-21 May. Cost prohibitive: non-residential cost £120 + VAT per day.

## **Cumbria CVS and ACT**

- Community Exchanges - offer to apply for start-up funding.
- Cumbria Calor Village of the Year Competition 2009 - invitation to submit a village and win 'a slice' of £40K prize money.
- The Gazette: Community-Led Planning - information on preparing Community Plans
- Cumbria CVS News - March/April 09

## **Other**

- Copy of letter from Lakeside Hotel to CCC re flooding.
- Minutes of Hawkshead Parish Council meeting 20<sup>th</sup> Jan and 17<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Minutes of preliminary meeting of local parish councils on Local Area Partnerships, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb.
- Leaflet by Torver Parish Council on speed limits at Torver
- Rural Services Network - news digest, including 'Cumbria Fells and Dales Rural Development Programme'
- Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter March 2009
- Town and Parish Standard - Feb 2009 issue
- Digital UK - switchover in Colton. Border TV June/July and Granada Nov/Dec. Notices for NBs
- Blawith PC - Agenda for 12<sup>th</sup> March and minutes of last meeting
- Hawkshead PC - minutes of meeting 17<sup>th</sup> February
- "Village SOS" - info about Big Lottery Fund for regeneration of small businesses in villages.
- Coniston PC - Agenda for 16<sup>th</sup> March + minutes of last meeting.
- Notes from joint parishes meeting on LAPs - 11<sup>th</sup> March 09
- Egton Parish Council - request for Colton to write to Highways about speed limits & width restriction signs
- Request for funding from Great North Air Ambulance (via SLDC)
- Haverthwaite Parish Council meeting minutes for 9<sup>th</sup> March
- Underfield pheasant shoot - dates for 2009-2010 season
- Egton PC - request for support for i) 30mph speed limits through Greenodd and Penny Bridge to accompany roundabout plans (copy of letter sent about new roundabout for Greenodd/A590 junction), and ii) request for consideration of width restriction signs on narrow roads from Egton into Colton.

## **43. Date of Next Meeting**

- The next meeting was confirmed as the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 in Bouth Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.