



## Colton Parish Council

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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009 in Rusland Reading Room at 7.30p.m..

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

**Also present:** Cllr Wilson (CCC) PC Diana Wilcock Police Sergeant Stuart Flett and 2 members of the public

### 88. Apologies

Cllr Cunliffe (urgent matter) Cllr Lovegrove (other engagement) Cllr Davies (SLDC)

**ACTION**

### 89. Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Additional Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009 as a true record.

### 90. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Mr John Taylor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor.

### 91. Declarations of Interest

None

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

None.

### 93. Public Participation

- Police Sergeant Stuart Flett: introduced himself as head of Neighbourhood Policing for south Cumbria. He explained that the new policy pledge to meet with the public more regularly was more difficult in a rural area of scattered communities, but that they were doing their best to attend meetings and forge links. To make the most efficient use of resources, the police would now be identifying a single priority issue in each neighbourhood area; in the area that included Colton Parish, the issue was speeding traffic through Broughton linked to the Sellafield commuting routes. Once tackled, then another issue would become a priority.  
Cllr Barr asked how such priorities were decided; PS Flett explained that this was based on analysing the location of clusters of phone calls split by demographic categories. Cllr Barr reminded him that Colton also had a speeding traffic problem linked to Sellafield over Tottlebank and through Spark Bridge.  
PS Flett was asked whether the new Local Area Partnerships would have a bearing on neighbourhood policing structures; he thought this was possible.
- Mr and Mrs Rigby attended with an interest in the planning application for Black Beck caravan site and expressed a wish to be able to stay in their caravan over the winter period.

### 94. Comments from District and County Councillors

- Cllr Wilson (CCC): A resident at Spark Bridge had written to him about non-observance of width-restriction signs and Highways had replied suggesting additional signage. Cllr Barr explained that the Parish Council had previously voted against more signage of this sort as almost all Colton's roads were narrow and a proliferation of signs at every junction was not thought desirable.

### 95. Accounts

The following payments were approved:

- Cheque 000461 - Clerk's quarterly salary for April-June 2009 - **£1057.50**
- Cheque 000462 - Hawkshead PCC - photocopying of newsletters: **£47.28**
- Cheque 000463 - SLDC election costs for 2008 - **£170.00**

## 96. Planning

The following planning application was discussed and a response agreed:

- 7/2009/5330 - **Black Beck Caravan Site, Bouth.** Application for extended season: 1<sup>st</sup> Nov to 16<sup>th</sup> Jan. **Resolution: to object** on policy grounds that this extension would allow the occupation of caravans for all but 6-weeks of the year, with the potential that this large site could become permanent or semi-permanent accommodation. The site was also within a 'quieter area' of the National Park and an extension of season would lead to increase in traffic, recreational use and disturbance which the policy was designed to restrict.

The following responses to planning applications were noted:

- 7/2009/5249 - Arklid Farm, Nibthwaite. New slurry tank. No objection
- 7/2009/5331 - Water Park, Nibthwaite. Re-submission: Building to house teaching and changing facilities. No objection
- 7/2009/5299 - Black Beck Caravan Site, Bouth. Use of land for display and sale of static caravans. No objection.

The following refusal of planning permission was noted:

- 7/2008/5668 - Stricely Fell Caravan Site, Force Mills, Rusland

The following property re-naming was noted:

- Park Barn, Oxen Park Farm, Oxen Park to Park Barn, Oxen Park

## 97. Highways

- Winter Roads Maintenance: The Clerk reported that i) Mr Rob Lawley of Cumbria Highways had informed her that Cumbria County Council's Cabinet had agreed to include the Penny Bridge to Hawkshead road (C5022) in its priority pre-treatment routes. This was yet to be ratified by the full Council. ii) that Mr Lawley responded on the question of potential volunteer liability for salt-spreading, explaining that that Highways Act 10980 (amended) stated: 'A highway authority is under a duty to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that safe passage along a highway is not endangered by snow or ice.' This duty did not extend to anyone else spreading salt. Also, the nationally adopted 'Well Maintained Highways' code of practice advocated 'the use of salt bins to assist the local community in those areas not on priority routes'. He would seek further confirmation from his legal department.
- Salt bin maps: The Clerk asked if those Councillors who had not yet completed their map of salt bins and heaps could do so by the end of August.
- Speed Limits in Bouth: Tim Farron MP had forwarded to the Council a letter from a Bouth resident expressing concern about the lack of a speed limit in Bouth Village, particularly past the playground. (Cllr Barr explained that a survey of Bouth residents' opinion on speed limits had been conducted two years before; the results were inconclusive and the Council had decided therefore not to pursue the matter.) The Council was now unanimous that a speed limit was desirable, but agreed that a second survey of residents should be conducted. The Clerk would include it with the summer newsletter.
- Unclassified Country Roads (UCRs): A table summarising possible actions from the Additional Parish Council meeting on unsealed UCRs ('Green Lanes') on 6<sup>th</sup> July was circulated. It was resolved that the Council take the following actions:
  - to concentrate on the worst case Green Lane (Nibthwaite to Parkamoor) and request that the LDNPA place a temporary Traffic Restriction Order (TRO) on the track until effective repairs made.
  - to write to the Environment Agency requesting that The Strands at Rusland be dredged again.
  - To write to County requesting that Green Lanes be formally inspected annually. The Clerk would write to Cllr Wilson requesting a report on the Nibthwaite to Parkamoor track.
  - To write to Cumbria Police asking for officers to be stationed at the start or finish of some Green Lanes during a weekend or bank holiday.
  - To write to the LDNPA and CCC to encourage a cooperative strategic level approach on initiatives like 'Fix the Fells' for Green Lanes

*Cllrs  
Robinson,  
Fishwick,  
Watson,  
Barr,  
Cunliffe,  
Lovegrove*

*Clerk*

*Clerk*

*Clerk*

*Clerk*

*Clerk*

*Clerk*

It was resolved to set up a Green Lanes Working Group, with members as follows: Cllrs Robinson, Fishwick, Barr, Wilson (CCC), with local farmers and residents invited to join as follows: Mr John Atkinson, Mr John Milburn and Mr Peter Morton.

*Clerk*

- Finsthwaite-to-Backbarrow re-surfacing: Cllr Taylor expressed his concern about the poor preparation work carried out by contractors at this location. The road was already beginning

to sink; no attempt had been made to solve the underlying problem with the pipe-work under the road. Cllr Wilson agreed to take up the issue with Cumbria Highways

**Cllr Wilson**

## **98. Local Area Partnerships (LAPs)**

The Clerk had received a report from the South Lakeland Strategic Partnership on the outcome of the consultation on LAPs. This report had placed Colton in its preferred LAP of High Furness. A multi-agency Project Board was being established to determine operational arrangements.

## **99. Community Plan**

Cllr Fishwick reported on recent meetings of the Community Plan Working Group. It had been decided to design a poster for display at the Rusland Show, encouraging people to participate in the 'Colton 2020' project. She had spoken to Debbie Binch, the County's Neighbourhood Development Officer about funding opportunities.

## **100. Training**

CALC had produced its new list of training courses for 2009/2010. The Clerk would seek information on a New Councillor course for Cllr Taylor.

**Clerk**

## **101. Consultations**

Responses were noted as follows:

- Commission for Rural Communities: Impact of the Recession on Rural Housing: Due to the short deadline the Clerk had responded on behalf of the Council. Main points included the still high price of housing despite the recession, remaining out of reach for local people, and the impact of second-home ownership on prices and local communities.
- Commission for Rural Communities: Primary Health Care and Social Exclusion: Cllr Robinson had responded on behalf of the Council. A key issue was the long distance of travel for ambulance services (sometimes 50 miles), potentially putting lives at risk.

New consultations were noted as follows:

- North-west Regional Strategy: draft of the North-West Partial Plan Review. Cllr Barr would draft a response (deadline 19<sup>th</sup> October).

**Cllr Barr**

## **102. Reports of Meetings**

The following meeting reports were received:

- Grange and Cartmel Community Board 7<sup>th</sup> July - Cllr Dean had attended. Cllr Ted Walsh remained as Chair in his capacity as Chairman of Cartmel Fell Parish Council. The main debate had been about Local Area Partnerships. There would be only a half-time coordinator per LAP. Cllr Walsh had suggested that Colton remain a member of the Board until the High Furness LAP had been established; this was agreed.
- Workshop: 'Acting on Climate Change in Cumbria' 14<sup>th</sup> July - Cllr Barr had attended. He would report at the next meeting.

Attendance at the following meeting was approved:

- Coniston and Crake Partnership Conference, 11<sup>th</sup> September - Cllr Barr

## **103. Correspondence**

The following correspondence was reported in particular:

Mobile Library: The Clerk had been in correspondence with Barrow Library about the confusion over the mobile library service and when it was due on its rounds. The driver had expressed concern at the low level of use. The Clerk felt that this was because no-one knew when to expect it. The flyer provided had various inaccuracies which didn't help. The Clerk offered to produce notices and a web-page on its route and stopping times.

The following correspondence was noted:

### **CALC**

- South Lakeland District Association - next meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> September and minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> June.
- CALC Circular for July/August
- Training courses for Sep 2009 - Mar 2010

### **CCC**

- Cumbria Sport Partnership - survey on whether is a need for grassroots sports development
- Cumbria Highways - notice of road closure for repairs - Rusland Cross to Crosslands 14<sup>th</sup> October for 2 days.
- Correspondence with Barrow Library re mobile van - new time-table and no charges for ordering books.
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum, Lowick Community Hall, Wed 8<sup>th</sup> July
- Grange and Cartmel Community Board papers for 7<sup>th</sup> July.
- Cumbria Highways - newsletter Summer 2009

- Landscape Character Review - invitation to comment (for areas outside National Park)

#### **SLDC**

- Standards Committee papers for 23<sup>rd</sup> June.
- Council meeting Agenda - 16<sup>th</sup> July
- South Lakeland Strategic Partnership - Local Area Partnerships - outcome of 2<sup>nd</sup> consultation. Noted that Colton wishes to be with High Furness. To full SLDC Council on 16<sup>th</sup> July.

#### **LDNPA**

- Access to Lakes, Rivers and Coast Project: call for ideas for projects

#### **Cumbria CVS and ACT**

- Cumbria CVS - AGM invitation - 22<sup>nd</sup> July.
- CVS - Third Sector Census briefing - 7<sup>th</sup> July, Penrith
- Cumbria CVS News June/July 2009
- Cumbria CVS News July/August 2009

#### **Other**

- Environment Agency - last minute invitation to workshop on 'Water-related sport and recreation workshops - Penrith. 13<sup>th</sup> July
- Tim Farron - triathlon to raise funds for Cancer Care, South Lakeland. Notice for NB.
- Digital Switchover - schedule for Caldbeck transmitter, 23<sup>rd</sup> June
- Commission for Rural Communities - Call for evidence on rural housing - deadline 10<sup>th</sup> July
- Satterthwaite Parish Council - Agenda for 29<sup>th</sup> June and minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> May
- From Coniston PC - letter from Environment Agency about new flood-risk maps and insurance premium impact following concern expressed by Coniston PC
- Blawith & Subberthwaite PC - Agenda for 2<sup>nd</sup> July and minutes of 30/4 and 21/5 meeting
- Cumbrian Conservation Areas at Risk - English Heritage launches campaign (re 'urban' conservation areas)
- NALC Chief Executive's Report, June 09
- Commission for Rural Communities - impact of the recession on rural housing (respond by 10<sup>th</sup> July). Responded 14<sup>th</sup> July
- Local parishioner - reporting overgrown footpath at The Nook through to Little Dicks, nr Penny Bridge
- NALC - invitation to 'out of London' Clerk's networking lunches - Nottingham, Bristol and Hereford.
- Vitalise - breaks for disabled people and carers - appeal for funding
- NALC - Invitation to Councillors to attend 'Leadership Academy event' - Sept 2009 - Cost £800 !
- Kendal Auction Mart - Invitation to attend presentation of plans for new location at Crooklands, 16<sup>th</sup> July
- Bethacar Moor Commoners ESA Association - notice of bracken spraying during August.
- Coniston PC - Agenda for 20<sup>th</sup> July and minutes of last meeting
- Letter from Tim Farron MP forwarding letter from Bouth resident re speed limits in Bouth
- RoSPA Playsafety - annual inspection notification
- Clerks and Councils Direct - Newsletter July 2009
- Forestry Commission - Grizedale - letter of thanks for support during the developments and offer of use of the Yan for Parish Council meetings, free of charge.
- Cumbria Community Foundation Newsletter Spring 2009
- NALC - Invitation to nominate for Local Council Awards for 2009
- Tim Farron MP - Notice for Advice Surgeries -Sep-Jan
- South Cumbria Rivers Trust Coniston and Crake Partnership - invitation to conference on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Rural Services Network - Call for evidence on primary healthcare and social exclusion
- Coniston Parish Council - minutes of meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July
- Satterthwaite Parish Council - Agenda for next meeting and minutes of last
- Haverthwaite Parish Council - minutes for 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

#### **104. Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September in Finsthwaite Village Hall at 7.30p.m.