



Colton Parish Council

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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th September 2009 in Finsthwaite Village Hall at 7.30p.m..

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

Also present: Cllr Wilson (CCC) Cllr Colin Davies (SLDC) and 1 member of the public

105. Apologies

None

ACTION

106. Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd August 2009 as a true record.

107. Declarations of Interest

None

108. Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

- Training: It was agreed that Cllr Taylor could attend the CALC course 'Essentials for Local Councillors'. The Clerk would investigate options for a locally run course with other Parishes.

Clerk

109. Public Participation

No issues were raised.

110. Comments from District and County Councillors

- Cllr Davies (SLDC): He had been persuaded to become a member again of the SLDC Planning Committee, despite its remit being outwith the National Park area, on the basis of fringe developments on the boundary (e.g. wind farms). He had attended a LDNPA meeting on the World Heritage Status Project and expressed concern that it was dominated by business interests rather than local needs.
- Cllr Wilson (CCC) contributed during later Agenda items; he had arrived later in the meeting directly from a Haverthwaite PC meeting.

111. Accounts

Successful completion of Audit for FY 2008/09 was noted

The bank reconciliation for April-August 2009 was approved

The following payments were approved:

- Cheque 000464 - BDO Stoy Hayward LLP (Auditors) - **£155.25**
- Cheque 000465 - RoSPA Playsafety: Annual inspection of Bouth Playground - **£72.45**
- Cheque 000466 - NALC - return of Quality Parish portfolio - **£8.82**
- Cheque 000467 - Royal British Legion, purchase of wreath - **£15.00**
- Cheque 000468 - LexisNexis: "Local Government Administration, 8th Edition" - **£53.60**

112. Planning

The following planning application was discussed again in the light of new information:

- 7/2009/5330 - **Black Beck Caravan Site, Bouth.** Application for extended season: 1st Nov to 16th Jan. The Council had objected to this application at its August meeting. The LDNPA had asked whether the addition of a clause restricting the site for holiday accommodation only would alter the position of the Council.

Resolution: to uphold the decision to object as the application would still be contrary to the 'quieter area' policy of the National Park (increase in traffic, recreational use and disturbance) and because of the need for Bouth residents to have a break from the tourist pressures associated with this large site.

The following planning applications were considered and resolutions made as follows:

- 7/2009/5452 - **Stricely Fell Caravan Site, Rusland:** Use of land for the stationing of 2 additional caravans and associated landscape and engineering works.
Resolution: Object for the same reasons as those for the prior application for 6 additional caravans: that the development would be contrary to LDNPA policies on caravan sites, quieter areas of the Park and high visibility of large 'chalet-style' caravans. The application would also contravene an existing Section 52 agreement preventing any more than 4 caravans being located on the site.
- 7/2009/5425 - **Stricely Fell Caravan Site, Rusland:** Upgrading of septic tank to package treatment plant with soak-away.
Resolution: No objection, provided that the size of the plant was consistent with the needs of 4 caravans, and that the proposal was discussed with the Environment Agency.

The following 'no objection' responses to planning applications were noted:

- 7/2009/5334: Bouth Village Hall, Bouth: Replace windows with upvc double-glazed.
- 7/2009/5347: Whitestock Hall, Rusland: Extension and alterations.
- 7/2009/5374: Water Park, Nibthwaite: Sailing equipment store.
- 7/2009/5326: Barn One, Pool Foot Barns: Convert small area of agricultural land into garden.
- 7/2009/5408: Swan Hotel, Newby Bridge: Shed, greenhouse and chicken shed.

The following grants of planning permission were noted:

- 7/2009/5181: High Nook, Spark Bridge - removal of condition from planning permission NL1/4/5907
- 7/2008/5233: 3, New Hall Cottages, Bouth - new external agricultural store.
- 7/2009/5256: Low Ickenthaite Cottage, Rusland - single storey garage/workshop
- 7/2009/5100: The Syke, Rusland: alter farm building to stable/dairy and replace craft/office building
- 7/2009/5249: Arklid Farm: new slurry store.

The following property re-naming was noted:

- 'Dunollie', Low Stott Park to be renamed as 'The Old Post Office'

113. Highways

- Winter Roads Maintenance:
 - The Penny Bridge to Hawkshead road (C5022) had now been confirmed as a 'Priority 2 pre-treatment route'.
 - Salt maps: The remaining salt maps were required urgently (by end September) for forwarding to Highways. There had been some confusion with flood maps carried out at the same time. Cllr Barr would re-print copies of maps for the remaining locations.
- Unclassified Country Roads (UCRs) - actions:
 - The Clerk had written to the LDNPA requesting that i) a temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) be placed on UCR 5051 (High Nibthwaite to Parkamoor) until effective repairs made, and ii) a pilot cooperative scheme be carried out in Colton for Green Roads, analogous to 'Fix the Fells'.
 - The Clerk had approached some suggested participants for the Green Roads Working Group, and would arrange an initial meeting once membership had been finalised.
 - Other UCR actions (listed in minutes of 3rd August meeting) were outstanding.
- Speed Limits in Bouth: Questionnaires had been sent to 65 households in Bouth asking for a response to three speed limit options for the village: no limit, 30 mph or 20 mph. Of the 33 responses received, 3 were in favour of no limit, 2 of a 30 mph limit and 28 of a 20 mph limit. **It was resolved** to ask Cumbria Highways to impose a 20 mph limit at Bouth.
- Finsthwaite-to-Backbarrow quality of re-surfacing work: Cllr Wilson had written to Cumbria Highways who had responded stating that the work would be assessed and remedial action taken. There had been similar concerns in other areas about the quality of contractors' work.
- Lengthsman: Cllr Lovegrove explained that Mr Slater had been out of action for the last 2 months because of back trouble, but was now working again with care. He had submitted invoices for work in May and June. Cllr Lovegrove would compile a new list of works for him.
- Highway Steward (HS): The Clerk was now the official contact; this enabled easy maintenance of a list of works submitted to the Steward and kept up to date on the Parish website along with the HS time-table. The system seemed to be working well, with the HS visiting the Clerk at the start of each of his work sessions in the Parish.

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

**Clerk
Clerk**

Clerk

**Cllr
Lovegrove**

114. Green Issues

Elizabeth Bruce Associates - an independent consultancy on green issues based in Ulverston - had not yet responded to the Council's invitation to speak to the Council; the Clerk would try again for the 7th December meeting.

Clerk

- Workshop 'Acting on Climate Change in Cumbria' 14th July: Cllr Barr reported on some key points: i) local communities were recommended to focus on micro-generation, ii) LDNPA: bids to the sustainable development fund should be linked to Community Plans, iii) the LDF would show support for small-scale community projects. iv) Lowick Hall's photo-voltaic roof was a great success, but had caused much debate in the National Park about its appearance iv) hydro schemes could be difficult to implement because agencies had different attitudes, v) anaerobic digesters were a good way of disposing of slurry. The Clerk would circulate the website address for the conference papers.

Clerk

- Water Power: Cllr Taylor introduced a short paper asking whether the Council would be interested in encouraging the development of water turbines in Colton and in association with surrounding parishes. It was agreed that the subject should be discussed more fully following the possible talk from Elizabeth Bruce Associates, so that the Council could first get an idea of the different green energy options for Colton. Cllr Taylor offered to prepare a more detailed background paper on water power for consideration at a future meeting and would liaise with Satterthwaite Parish Council on their plans.

Cllr Taylor

Cllr Potts would find out about an existing list of potential water power projects/locations in the area.

Cllr Potts

115. Consultations

Responses were noted as follows:

- Cumbria Strategic Housing Market Assessment: Cllr Potts and the Clerk had responded online expressing general agreement with the assessment. They had emphasised i) the need for enforceable local occupancy clauses and ii) the need for rented accommodation for local people and suitable housing for elderly people (key issues arising from the Colton Housing Needs Survey).

New consultations were noted as follows:

- SLDC Local Development Framework Core Strategy (outside National Park): by 23rd October. Cllr Barr would read and respond.
- South Lakeland Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership - priorities: by 16th October. Councillors should respond to the Clerk on the circulated short questionnaire.
- Advance Notice of LDNPA Local Development Framework: final consultation on draft policies: by 30th October. Cllrs Fishwick and Potts would read and draft a response.

Cllr Barr

All Cllrs

**Cllrs
Fishwick &
Potts**

116. Reports of Meetings

The following meeting reports were received:

- CALC South Lakeland District Association AGM, 3rd Sept - Cllr Dean had attended. The meeting included reports from 5 Sustainability Working Groups, and an SLDC review of allotments revealing a high demand. There was also discussion about management of public toilets, tourist information centres and grass-cutting.
- Coniston and Crake Partnership Conference, 11th Sept - Cllr Barr had attended. All 9 parishes were represented. Ben Lamb (South Cumbria Rivers Trust) and colleagues spoke about the decline in fish stocks and habitat, and the growth of algal blooms due to disturbance and pollution. A strategy and action plan would be drawn up; he asked for volunteers to monitor waterways.

Attendance at the following meetings was considered:

- CALC/CIEP: "How Parish Councils can Win Friends and Influence People", 23rd October (free event). It was decided not to attend this event.
- High Furness LAP initial meeting to be held between Oct and Dec: It was agreed that Cllrs Dean and Barr would attend.

**Cllrs Barr
and Dean**

117. Correspondence

Invitation to British Legion Service of Remembrance, 1st November, Rusland Church: It was agreed that Cllr Watson would attend.

The following correspondence was noted:

CALC

- Invitation to free event on how to influence principal authorities. Cumbria Improvement & Efficiency Partnership and CALC. 23rd Oct, Gilpin Bridge.
- Agenda for South Lakeland District Association AGM, 3rd Sept.
- CALC Circular Sept 09

CCC

- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum - notes from 8th July meeting
- Low Furness and Ulverston Neighbourhood Forum - notes from 13th July.

- List of Neighbourhood Forum dates for remainder of FY 09/10
- Minutes of Grange and Cartmel Community Board 7th July meeting
- Cumbria Housing Group: Consultation on Strategic Housing Market Assessments. Deadline 11th Sept.

SLDC

- Review of Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy consultation.
- New Community Engagement Officer/Parish Liaison Officer: Emma Nichols
- Corporate Plan 2009-2012
- SLDC Local Development Framework Core Strategy (outwith National Park). Deadline 23rd October
- SLDC Local Development Framework Core Strategy - erratum
- Invitation to attend initial High Furness LAP Meeting during Oct-Dec

LDNPA

- Local Access Forum - Annual Report
- LDF - Advance notice of consultation on draft policies in the core strategy of the LDNPA LDF from 21st Sept to 30th Oct.

Cumbria CVS and ACT

- Cumbria CVS newsletter Aug/Sept 2009, plus Annual Review

Other

- Coniston Water Conference - invitation to attend - 11th Sept.
- Invitation to attend opening of refurbished Coniston Playground, 15th Aug
- Forestry Commission - Grizedale - invitation to opening of new visitor centre, 18th Sep
- Via Coniston PC - Road Closure NE Coniston Water, 16th - 17th Sept
- Ulverston Neighbourhood Policing Team - monthly newsletter
- Coniston PC Agenda for 17th August
- Invitation to buy 8th Edition of Local Council Administration @20% off
- Minutes of Coniston PC Meeting 17th August
- Rural Services Network call for evidence of any innovative community ICT technology projects used to improve services in rural areas
- Information Commissioner: CD on FOI and EIR legislation on handling requests for information.
- Resource Cumbria (Recycling) newsletter August 2009
- Backbarrow and District Branch, Royal British Legion: Invitation to attend Remembrance Service at Rusland Church, 1st Nov and purchase wreath.
- Clerk and Councils Direct - Newsletter Sept 09.
- Local Councils in the Sustainable Communities Act - invitation to campaign for local councils to be included
- English Heritage (via COI) - Cumbria Heritage Open Days 10-13 Sept - includes Tottlebank Baptist Church.
- Funding advice for Play areas - Proludic Ltd.
- Rural Services Network - 'rural services manifesto' - consultation on need for better services in countryside. Deadline 30th Sept.

118. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Monday 26th October in Bouth Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.