



## Colton Parish Council

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Clerk: Ms Mandy Lane  
Lilac Cottage  
Oxen Park  
Ulverston LA12 8HG

The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009 in Bouth Village Hall at 7.30p.m..

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

**Also present:** Cllr Wilson (CCC) Cllr Davies (SLDC) PC Diana Wilcock and 5 members of the public

### 119. Apologies

**ACTION**

Cllr Robinson (other engagement) Cllr Lovegrove (ill health)

### 120. Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2009 as a true record.

### 121. Declarations of Interest

None

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

- Training: Neighbouring parishes had no interest in a locally run CALC 'Essentials for Local Councillors' course. Cllr Taylor was asked to attend one at Gilpin Bridge on 4<sup>th</sup> February.
- Hydro Schemes: Cllr Taylor had visited Heron Corn Mill, attended a Climate Change lecture and met with the Clerk of Satterthwaite Parish Council, which had completed a feasibility study for a local Parish Council-owned hydro system on Forestry Commission land. Electricity would be sold to the Grid, bringing an estimated profit of £10,000 for the Council. It was agreed that a Colton PC working group be set up (Cllrs Taylor, Fishwick and Davies) to continue informal meetings about possible cooperative hydro schemes. Councillors were reminded that the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting would include a presentation from Elizabeth Bruce Sustainable Energy Consultants on potential green energy solutions for Colton Parish. **Clerk**

### 123. Public Participation

- PC Diana Wilcock gave a presentation on Smart Water forensic fingerprinting of property. This service was free and any item of value could be smart-watered, uniquely identifying the property it belonged to. She asked anyone interested to notify the Clerk.
- Mr John Osborn (Chair, Bouth Village Green Advisory Committee) asked about progress with Bouth Village Green registration as it was over 18 months since submission. The Commons Registration office had told the Clerk that it was moving up the priority list.
- Mr W Phillipson and Mr J Johnson expressed concerns about the lack of use of the cinema at Manor Cottage, Oxen Park (planning permission granted in 2006) and also whether the present use of the building as a whole was within the conditions of the planning consent. Mr Phillipson had written to object to the development during the consultation period. The Chairman explained that this would be discussed under item 126. Planning (correspondence on planning compliance) and he would bring the item forward to follow the public session.
- Mr W Phillipson: expressed concern about the overhanging and encroaching roadside vegetation between Springfield and Bent Hawes and would like this to be dealt with in the same way as the excellent work on Colton Hill. **Clerk**
- Mr Roderick Smith: asked i) PC Wilcock about a police visit to a local farm, rumoured to be concerning drugs. PC Wilcock was not able to provide further information, but explained that suspicion of illegal drugs was dealt with by a special task force who would arrive with a search warrant without warning; ii) whether the Council was aware of the consultation on release of Red Kites at Grizedale; the Council was aware but had not yet been consulted; iii) whether Bouth could have a village sign similar to Oxen Park's encouraging drivers to slow down; iv) if the gravel wash-out at the top of the Colton Church road could be dealt with; and v) whether flooding at High Nibthwaite could be dealt with. The Clerk would add these to the list for Highways. **Clerk**

### 124. Planning Compliance

The Clerk reported the following information regarding planning compliance:

- The Council had been sent contact details for the LDNPA Planning Compliance Officer for the local area: Ms Julie Birkett, 01539 792602, email: julie.birkett@lakedistrict.gov.uk. Ms Birkett had been helpful in responding to compliance concerns, for example Haycote Barn at Bridgefield, which had been advertised for holiday let when it was subject to a local occupancy clause. The property had now been withdrawn from the letting website.
- Manor Cottage, Oxen Park. The Clerk (a member of the Oxen Park Cinema Club Committee) had

investigated the concerns and was able to provide the following information: i) The building had been funded wholly from the owner's private means. ii) Conditions of planning consent included: a) that the cinema "shall be used as a cinema and for no other purpose" in order to "safeguard the amenities of the area" (e.g. Village Halls), and b) that the remaining part of the building "shall not be used otherwise than in association with the adjoining dwelling, Manor Cottage"; this meant that the owner could offer B&B, provided that it was in association with her adjoining dwelling. iii) The Cinema Club was currently bidding for sufficient grant money to fit out the cinema part of the building (currently just a shell), which would then be formally leased to the Club; this was the only reason it was not yet being used. The Clerk was asked whether the parking arrangement with the Brewery was still in place; she would check.

**Clerk**

## 125. Comments from District and County Councillors

- Cllr Davies (SLDC): i) The Lake District World Heritage Status bid came from a consortium body, not just the National Park; the joint statement begins with the economic benefits rather than heritage. ii) The SLDC were not obliged to provide public toilets and would consult the community on finding other means to keep them open. iii) SLDC were offering free parking on Sundays in December.
- Cllr Wilson (CCC) summarised his progress on green-road repairs with CCC Local Committee on behalf of the Council under the item on Highways (see 129. below).

## 126. Accounts

The budget for FY 2010/2011 and precept of £9475 was approved and precept form signed.

The following payments were approved

- C.Slater (Lengthsman) salary for May & June: **£308.00**
- Bouth Village Hall Hire for FY08/09: **£32.00**
- Clerk - Stationery, postage, Colton Hall hire: **£85.78**
- Clerk's salary, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 09/10: **£1068.00**
- LexisNexis: postage for book 'Local Gov. Administration': **£5.45**

## 127. Planning

Parish Council responses to the following planning applications were noted:

- 7/2009/5484: The Peat House, Nibthwaite Grange - new conservatory on front of reading room. *No objection*
- 7/2009/5322: Tanglewood, 4 Brown Howe, Water Yeat - Alterations to house, new underground garage, boat store, jetty, new greenhouse and shed. Colton PC had been consulted because of visibility from the east side of the lake. *No objection but concerns had been expressed about over-development, the size of the planned jetty and light pollution.*
- 7/2009/5531: The Bungalow, Burn Knott, Bouth - New field gate at revised location. *No objection (the Council had expressed concerns about the previous location of the gate).*

The following grants of planning permission were noted

- 7/2009/5300: Black Beck Caravan Park, Bouth - Extension of season. The Parish Council's objections had been partially taken into account in that permission had been granted subject to conditions which included the use of caravans for holiday purposes only and limits to the number and type of caravans to be sited at any one time. The withdrawal of policy T10 (winter occupancy period) from the Lake District Local Plan in 2007 and the publication of the Regional Spatial Strategy in 2008 meant that tourism was now being encouraged year-round. With respect to the 'Quieter Areas' policy NE5, the Planning Board had felt that the increase in traffic and disturbance during the winter period would not be significant enough to warrant refusing permission.

## 128. Bouth Village Green and Playground

The annual RoSPA inspection had been carried out during August and the report received. There was just one medium risk identified which was the slippery play surface. Mr John Osborn would arrange for this to be pressure-washed.

The Village Green Committee had noticed that the play surface was coming away again where repairs were made last year. The Clerk had been in contact with Abacus, the firm who had made these repairs, who were to visit to inspect shortly. She would follow this up.

**Clerk**

## 129. Highways

- Green Roads: The following activities had taken place since the last meeting:
  - Cllr Wilson (CCC): The CCC South Lakeland Local Committee: Highway and Transportation Working Group had considered Cllr Wilson's briefing note on green roads. From 2010/11, some funding for UCR maintenance was planned for distribution to local committees. Cllr Wilson's recommendation was accepted - that a Task Group be formed to include Members, a CCC officer, a representative from the LDNPA and from Colton Parish Council to consider issues and propose solutions, using an exemplar green road in Colton Parish. The Friends of The Lake District had surveyed UCR 5051 and would send a report to Cllr Wilson. The Chairman thanked Cllr Wilson for his efforts.
  - Cumbria Highways had finally responded via Tim Farron on Colton's May letter asking specific questions about UCR surveys and responsibilities. The letter did not address any of the questions, but simply referred to Cllr Wilson's progress with the Local Committee.

- The National Park (Bob Cartwright, Director of Park Services) had responded to the Council's letter of 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept.. They were unwilling to impose a temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on the Nibthwaite-to-Parkamoor track (UCR 5051) unless Cumbria Highways could commit to repairs. They were more positive about a Fix-the-Fells approach to repairs.
- Mr Steve Pighills (Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership) had copied Colton's letter to the National Park to the Trail Riders' Federation (TRF), who had then written to the National Park opposing the introduction of a temporary TRO. The National Park's response to the TRF had been copied to Colton.
- Tony Hill (LDNPA Ranger) had met with the Environment Agency and PC Baldwin concerning dredging at The Strands, Rusland Pool. The EA had decided not to dredge because of damage to fish spawning grounds. The seasonal TRO was said to be working well.
- All correspondence on UCRs was now on the website: [www.coltonparishcouncil.org.uk/Off-Road.htm](http://www.coltonparishcouncil.org.uk/Off-Road.htm).
- CAMARM: Correspondence had been received from CAMARM - a voluntary body network of residents trying to prevent illegal activity by 'rogue motorcyclists' on Blawith & Subberthwaite Common. They were taking photographic evidence and working closely with PC Baldwin. They had noticed a definite drop-off of activity since the campaign began and urged Colton to set up a similar system.
- Colton's Green Roads Working Group (GRWG): had not yet met, but members confirmed as Cllrs Barr, Fishwick, Robinson, Wilson, plus Mr Bobbie Dobson, Mr John Atkinson and Mr John Milburn. The Clerk would arrange a meeting shortly. **Clerk**
- Bouth Speed Limits: Cumbria Highways Area Engineer, Keith Masser had responded. He was not optimistic for a short term solution as limited resources meant that it was low priority. A traffic speed survey and analysis of the traffic collision record would be needed to determine if there was a demonstrable road safety problem; he would put this into the schedule. Cllr Wilson would keep an eye on developments.
- Lengthsman: Cllr Lovegrove was not present to give a report so this was deferred.
- Salt mapping: Cllrs were thanked for completing their salt bin/heap maps. Highways were to send the Clerk a map on which to record the locations. **Clerk**
- Flooding: The Clerk had visited Tanyards (below Rusland Cross) during the heavy rain to find that the flooding was just as bad as before the work done there last year. She had reported the matter to Highways.

### 130. Consultations

- LDNPA Local Development Framework: The Clerk would coordinate comments; submission was due on 30<sup>th</sup> October. There were concerns about the proposed development at Lakeside in connection with the Windermere Waterfront Programme, road safety on the Newby Bridge to Lakeside road, and the lack of attention to water quality. **Clerk**

### 131. Reports of Meetings

The following meeting reports were received:

- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum, 12<sup>th</sup> October - Clerk had attended. Items included: i) Notification of changes and charges for those on private water supplies with new regulations from December. Householders would have to provide 5 yearly risk-assessments, for which there would be charged. ii) the Federation of Cumbria Commoners had produced a report to help understanding of common land and commoners' rights: "Trends in Pastoral Commoning in England" published through Natural England.
- LDNPA Parish Tour and CALC Lake District Parishes meeting, 16<sup>th</sup> September - Cllrs Barr and Fishwick had attended. The meeting was disappointing: despite being entitled 'Vibrant Communities', there was little that addressed the concerns of local communities. The Windermere Waterfront Programme dominated; this was a plan for developing a 'world class visitor experience' on the lake. Good points included attention to sustainable transport and developments for disabled visitors. The plans felt as though they were driven by big business and it was hard to see what benefits it would bring to local communities. Formal feedback was provided through the LDNPA evaluation form. Agenda items could be suggested by parishes for the next Parish Tour. **Cllrs Barr and Fishwick**

High Furness Local Area Partnership (LAP): It was agreed that Cllr Dean would attend the first meeting in Broughton on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. **Cllr Dean**

### 132. Correspondence

An invitation for the Council to adopt the Nibthwaite phone box, and a repeated invitation for Oxen Park phone box. The Clerk had checked that the same liabilities did apply regarding cost of electricity maintenance and disconnection. Cllr Fishwick would survey local residents. **Cllr Fishwick**

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

#### CALC

- Meeting of South Lakeland District Association with SLDC on toilets and charges to Councils - 6<sup>th</sup> Oct
- South Lakeland District Assoc. - Minutes of meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. and notice of next meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov.
- Revised NALC Clerk's salary scales from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009.
- CALC Circular for October
- Invitation to CALC AGM, 14<sup>th</sup> November, Cockermouth
- Cumbria Police crime mapping website: [www.cumbria.police.uk](http://www.cumbria.police.uk)
- The 2009 Fyfe Lecture: Partnerships with Government Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. Westlakes 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct.

## **CCC**

- Cumbria Minerals and Waste development Framework (outwith National Park) - Draft Site Allocations Policies and Proposals Map. Comments invited by 15<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- Grange and Cartmel Community Board - Agenda for 29<sup>th</sup> Sept.
- Low Furness Neighbourhood Forum - Haverthwaite Parish Hall, 5<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum - Torver Village Hall, 12<sup>th</sup> October.
- High Furness LAP - notification of first meeting - 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov, Broughton.
- Report from South Lakeland Local Committee: Highways and Transport Group on Green Roads as result of our request via Cllr Wilson.
- Cumbria Highways Newsletter - Autumn 2009.
- Response from Keith Masser, Highways, on speed limits in Bouth.
- Low Furness Neighbourhood Forum - Summary of meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- Response from CCC to letter of May 2009 via Tim Farron on condition of Colton's UCRs.

## **SLDC**

- Publicity for Annual Electoral Registration Canvass - Notices for Boards.
- Notification of Council meeting 22/9/09.
- Invitation to attend 'Local Democracy Week' training event - engaging with young people.
- SL Strategic Partnership - Action Plans- invitation to contribute.
- UCRs - correspondence between Cllr Rod Wilson (CCC) and Highways re funds for maintenance/repair.
- Introduction of BACs payments.
- Kendal Festival of Food poster. 24-31 Oct.
- SLDC Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report.
- Standards Committee meeting papers for 20<sup>th</sup> October.
- Precept request form - to be sent by 30<sup>th</sup> Nov.
- SLDC Parish Remuneration Panel - consideration of issues of allowances and expenses - by 13<sup>th</sup> Nov

## **LDNPA**

- Acknowledgement of Colton PC's letter on condition of UCRs
- Fix the Fells Alignment project - ensuring fell paths are consistent with rights of way.
- Application for temporary closure of rights of way for Grizedale Stages Rally 5<sup>th</sup> Dec, and Malcolm Wilson Rally, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010.
- LDNPA Planning Compliance Officer details (Julie Birkitt 01539 792602 – [julie.birkett@lakedistrict.gov.uk](mailto:julie.birkett@lakedistrict.gov.uk))
- Tony Hill - report from meeting with EA on Strands (Rusland Pool) dredging.

## **Cumbria CVS and ACT**

- Cumbria CV S news - Sept/Oct 2009
- ACT Gazette - Community Led Planning - Autumn 2009

## **Other**

- RoSPA - Annual inspection report for Bouth Playground, 2009.
- Blawith PC - Agenda for 17<sup>th</sup> Sept + minutes of last meeting.
- Vickers Barrow Motor Club night rally 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> October through parish; then cancellation of same.
- Haverthwaite Parish Council - Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> Sept meeting.
- Tim Farron MP - re request to Cumbria Highways for speed limit in Bouth.
- Blawith PC - New clerk - Deborah Middleton [vtcm@nibthwaite.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:vtcm@nibthwaite.fsnet.co.uk) .
- Blawith PC - Letter to SLDC Environmental Health on guidance for new regulations for private water supplies coming into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> December.
- Steve Pighills - copy of letter sent from Trail Riders' Fellowship to LDNPA in response to our letter to LDNPA
- Coniston and Crake Partnership Conference Report.
- Satterthwaite PC - response to Stricely Fell Caravan Site application for 2 additional caravans (objection)
- CAB South Lakeland - asking for donation of £50.
- BT - invitation to adopt a kiosk again - Oxen Park and Nibthwaite.
- Friends of the Lake District E-message.
- Peter Gardner 'CAMARM' - information about local initiative based in Blawith to set up networks of people to record rogue motor-cycling on commons [www.camarm.info](http://www.camarm.info).
- Letter from Dorothy Crabtree of Newby Bridge expressing interest in becoming a Parish Councillor
- Blawith PC - minutes of meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> Sept.
- Via Coniston PC - Consultation on feasibility of trail from Coniston to Foxfield (old railway line) - drop-in events at Coniston Library 19<sup>th</sup> Oct 7.00 and Broughton 20<sup>th</sup> Oct, during the day.
- Satterthwaite PC - Agenda for 19<sup>th</sup> Oct and minutes of last meeting.
- RoSPA - Customer Satisfaction Survey.

## **133. Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December in Rusland Reading Rooms at 7.30 p.m.