



## Colton Parish Council

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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2010 in Finsthwaite Village Hall at 7.30 p.m..

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

**Also present:** Cllr Wilson (CCC) Cllr Davies (SLDC) and 3 members of the public

### 101/10 Apologies

Cllr Robinson (family bereavement) Cllr Watson (working) PC Baldwin PC Wilcock

**ACTION**

### 102/10 Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2010 as a true record.

### 103/10 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Fishwick declared an interest in item 8 Accounts and signed the register.

### 104/10 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

- Community Plan: Cllr Fishwick gave a summary of Community Plan activities and reminded Councillors that the 2<sup>nd</sup> 'Community Event' was to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> Oct at Finsthwaite Village Hall.

### 105/10 Public Participation

Mr Roger Layfield spoke about flooding at Plum Green, Finsthwaite, in November 2009: He had contacted the Environment Agency who had notified him of an 'Open Flood Forum' meeting in Ulverston - this meeting proved extremely helpful and various teams had visited Finsthwaite as a result. (The Parish Council had not been notified about this meeting.) The Flood Prevention Officer had used base maps to record the location of drains in the area, and Capita had visited to assess gully drainage. A grant of £500 had been received from SLDC's flood-recovery fund. Along with other affected properties, the community was setting up a Local Flood Action Group under the auspices of the National Flood Forum. It was suggested that affected properties in Lakeside be included in the group. Mr Layfield and the Clerk would keep in touch with developments. The Chairman thanked Mr Layfield for his useful information.

Cllr Wilson explained that there was no detailed map of drainage, which was a problem for County Highways. Cllr Cunliffe had heard that grants were available to householders for floodgates.

### 106/10 To Fill a Vacancy on the Council

Four candidates had come forward for the vacancy in central ward. It was agreed that they could be nominated by the Chairman en-bloc. Voting was by signed ballot. Vanessa Champion from Finsthwaite was co-opted, receiving an overall majority. Cllr Fishwick commented on the high standards of the applications and the Chairman thanked all candidates for their interest.

### 107/10 Comments from District and County Councillors

- Cllr Davies (SLDC): i) the Cumbria Green Build Festival ([www.cumbriagreenbuild.org.uk](http://www.cumbriagreenbuild.org.uk)) was holding events throughout the County during September. ii) The SLDC Housing Policy Advisory Group had highlighted the serious lack of social housing; a conference was to be held early next year on this issue. 30 years ago there were 7000 Council houses available in South Lakeland, whereas now there were only 3500, with a waiting list of 3500 people.
- Cllr Wilson (CCC): i) Speed limits: Cabinet would announce County policy shortly. ii) Green Roads: Cllr Wilson and Cllr Barr should meet before the next meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. iii) Bouthrey Bridge: Awaiting response from the EA on extension of the 'window' during which work could take place; the Clerk would contact the engineer. iv) Highway Maintenance Review: The current structure was not working well; new, more streamlined and officer-driven working arrangements would begin in December, with a 2-man 'find and fix' team which pilot studies had shown to be better at fixing problems the first time around. v) 'Pig Field' near Ealinghearth: flooding onto the road remained; Cllr Wilson would contact Highways again. vi) Swan Hotel Bridge: Cllr Potts asked about the unsightly pointing on the bridge. Cllr Wilson would investigate.

**Cllr  
Barr**

**Clerk**

**Cllr  
Wilson  
Cllr  
Wilson**

### 108/10 Accounts

It was resolved that the following payments be made:

- Cheque number 000509: Service of Remembrance wreath, 7<sup>th</sup> Nov: **£15.00**
- Cheque number 000510: Clerk, for Community Plan film-making prizes: **£10.00**
- Cheque number 000511: Oxen Park Cinema Club: Community Plan film-making wkshops: **£90.00**
- Cheque number 000512: BDO Auditors - audit fee for 09/10: **£141.00**
- Cheque number 000513: Water Park, hire of room for green roads meeting, 26<sup>th</sup> July: **£15.00**
- Cheque number 000514: Registration fee Rural Broadband Conference, Penrith, 18<sup>th</sup> Sept: **£15.00**

It was resolved to accept the successful conclusion of audit for 09/10.

It was resolved to approve the bank reconciliation Apr-Jul 2010.

It was resolved to authorise a change of signatories on the bank account: Cllr Dean to be added, Cllr Lovegrove to be deleted

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Fishwick as Community Plan coordinator, at £8 per hour up to 50 hours

## 109/10 Planning

Responses to the following planning applications were noted:

- 7/2010/5382 Thwaite Head Farm, Rusland, new attached garage. *No objection.*
- 7/2010/5380: Lakeside Hotel, Lakeside: Replacement jetty, like-for-like. *No objection*

The following grants of planning permission were noted:

- 7/2010/5251: Oxen Park Farm, Oxen Park: minor alterations to windows and vehicle access.
- 7/2010/5232: Sinder Hill, Finsthwaite: Addition of second bathroom and fire escape.
- 7/2010/5297: Colton Beck Cottage: Extensions to side and rear, and new windows.

The following result of planning appeal was noted:

- 7/2009/5452: Stricely Fell Caravan Site - application for 2 caravans - *appeal dismissed.*

The following withdrawn planning application was noted:

- 7/2010/5237: The Fold, Oxen Park: subdivision of property into 2 dwellings

The following 'Notice of Intention' for general permitted development was noted:

- 7/2010/5281: New agricultural building, Stock Farm, Nibthwaite.

The following Public Path Creation Order was noted:

- Footpath: Skowbarrow Lane & Yewbarrow woods, Rusland

The following compliance queries were noted:

- 'Millstream Cottage' at The Knoll, Lakeside: new property naming - property appeared to have had no previous name and an enquiry was made about residential use.
- Bobbin Mill Cottage, Stott Park: concern that the property had been advertised as having a double garage with one-bedroomed apartment over, but in fact the building had planning permission for a day room only. The compliance officer had been in touch with the owner.

The LDNPA response concerning the development at Buck Yeats was noted.

Private Camping: It was resolved to write a joint letter with Blawith PC expressing concerns about the wording of a private camping business website that appeared to invite poor behaviour, following late-night noise problems from camping near Nibthwaite Grange.

**Clerk**

## 110/10 Highways

- Roadside Verges: The Clerk had received complaints that some verges in Rusland had not been cut and were becoming a hazard. Highways thought that they had been cut. There may have been communication difficulties with the contractors. The Council were pleased, however, that the main route north to the Rusland Showground was then cut the day before the Show. Verge-cutting was to be discussed at a future LAP meeting
- Winter Roads Maintenance: The Clerk had not had any formal feedback on the April survey about grit bins and grit delivery. Cllr Wilson had enquired and Keith Masser (Area Highways Engineer) had explained that Highways were working through the list of new salt bins, and that they would be delivered before the winter, subject to confirmation by Cabinet on 16<sup>th</sup> Sept. There was as yet no grit in the Parish bins; the Clerk would keep contacting Highways to make sure that some was delivered before the cold weather set in this winter.

**Cllr  
Barr**

**Clerk**

## 111/10 Bouth Playground Repairs

It was resolved to approve in principle drainage works and replacement of the safety surface on the Bouth playground, subject to a budget-check by the Finance Working Group.

**Clerk**

## 112/10 Notice Boards

It was resolved to seek funding for replacement of the Nibthwaite notice board with a higher quality product.

**Clerk**

## 113/10 Quality Status

The Clerk was congratulated on gaining the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) qualification. The Council's quality status was due for re-submission in February 2011; a complete new portfolio had to be submitted. A working group would consider the advantages and

disadvantages to quality status, and make a recommendation at the next Council meeting.

Clerk

## 114/10 Meetings

The following meeting reports were received:

- CALC South Lakeland District Association, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept: Cllr Dean had attended: Carl Glynn, Community Assets Advisor from Action with Communities in Cumbria had provided advice on ownership of and funding for village halls, playgrounds, land and other assets. He advised that funding requirements should be included in Community Plans, and that Councils could carry over money year on year as long as it was allocated to a specific project.
- High Furness LAP, 7<sup>th</sup> Sept: Cllr Barr had attended: i) The Highway Steward scheme was to be replaced by a 2-man area team in December, ii) Projects were currently being nominated for LAP-wide funding of between £5K and £10K; purchase of grit bins had been suggested. Cllr Cunliffe suggested funding for notice boards; Cllr Barr would put this idea forward. iii) Cllr Barr had provided a paper on best practice for parish councils in working with their Highway Steward which had been well received by the LAP and by Highways.

Cllr Barr

The following forthcoming meeting was noted:

- Green Energy meeting, 16<sup>th</sup> October, John Ruskin School, Coniston: Cllr Taylor explained that this meeting would concentrate on solar energy and heat pump solutions, following on from the hydropower meeting held in May. The Clerk would be sending out a notice and programme shortly.

Clerk

Attendance was approved for the following meeting:

- Rural Broadband Conference, Penrith, 18<sup>th</sup> Sept: Cllr Barr to attend, lift-sharing if possible.

Cllr Barr

It was decided not to attend the Big Society conference at Newton Rigg on 13<sup>th</sup> October. The Clerk would request a report.

## 115/10 Consultations

The following consultation submissions were noted:

- Community Right to Build, by 24<sup>th</sup> August: This consultation gave only 10 days notice. The Clerk responded, following comments by Cllrs Barr and Potts. A cautious welcome was given for more local input to the planning process, but with concern about how the process would operate within the local democratic process, the balance of development within environmentally sensitive areas like National Parks, and the need for controls to be put in place to ensure affordable housing remained so in perpetuity.
- Cumbria Local Transport Plan, by 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept: Cllrs Barr and Fishwick responded, suggesting that more resources be directed to isolated rural communities, more encouragement be given for people to leave their cars behind, revenue for public transport be raised by charging tourists for access by car, and no encouragement be given for tourism development where access by public transport is difficult.

The following new consultations were noted:

- Windermere Management Strategy, by 4<sup>th</sup> Oct: Cllr Potts explained that this was part of the LDNPA Core Strategy. He noted that: flooding and water quality had a higher profile than in previous documents; the Windermere Waterfront Programme lacked any reference to development at Lakeside, which was welcomed; the round-lake cycle track and footpath plan remained; development opportunities at Backbarrow were highlighted; the Lake Level Steering Group was mentioned, but the South Cumbria Rivers Trust was not, despite all its work on the Windermere catchment. Cllr Potts would respond.
- SLDC Review of Polling Districts, by 13<sup>th</sup> October: No comments to submit.
- SLDC Licensing Policy for 2011-2013, by 30<sup>th</sup> Nov: The Clerk had circulated this to village hall committees. She would respond collating comments received.

Cllr Potts

Clerk

## 116/10 Correspondence

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

### **CALC/NALC**

- Agenda for South Lakeland District Association meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum - Summary of meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June
- Invitation to comment on Parish Charters in Cumbria
- Invitation to attend Rural Broadband conference, Penrith, 18<sup>th</sup> Sept.
- NALC - Free seminars on Quality Councils 'delivering Quality Services' - Berkshire and Staffordshire. (Clerk asked if any to be held in the north - responded suggesting we attend Staffordshire seminar).
- Lake District Association meeting, 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. Invitation for Agenda items.
- Agenda and papers for South Lakeland District Assoc. meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept.
- Fire and Rescue service - consultation from NALC

- NALC - Community Right to Build consultation - deadline 24<sup>th</sup> August
- CALC - Advance notice of Big Society Seminar - Penrith - 9<sup>th</sup> Oct
- New Guidance on Assessing Land for Designation as an AONB or National Park - Natural England
- CALC training programme - Sept 2010 - July 2011
- CALC Call for nominations for co-option onto the Executive Committee
- CALC Circular for Sept

#### **CCC**

- Minutes of High Furness LAP meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> July, and associated documents.
- High Furness LAP - Highways exercise feedback
- Correspondence with Highways on 20mph speed limits and zones
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum - 8<sup>th</sup> Sept meeting POSTPONED
- Highways - request for verge-cutting in Rusland - correspondence
- Highways - Pig field at Ealingheath - flooding and over-stocking correspondence
- High Furness LAP - Agenda for next meeting, Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Sept, Torver
- Grizedale Stages Rally (3/4 Dec) and Malcolm Wilson Rally (5 Mar 2011) - temporary rights of way closures
- Changes to local bus services - 538 - Lakeside to Ulverston (Thursday only). Now operated by Lecks Travel of Backbarrow.
- LAP funding guidelines and procedures

#### **SLDC**

- Developing play areas in South Lakeland - information and events
- Agenda for Council meeting, 12<sup>th</sup> August
- 'Talk Toilets' consultation response
- South Lakeland Strategic Partnership briefing - August 2010
- Audit of leisure 'opportunities' for children and young people
- Review of polling districts and polling places
- Licensing Act 2003 - Review of Statement of Licensing Policy - consultation by 30<sup>th</sup> November

#### **LDNPA**

- Public Path Creation Order: Rusland - Skowbarrow Lane and Yewbarrow Woods - formal notice.
- Lake District Local Access Forum - annual report
- Windermere Management Strategy Review - consultation - by 4<sup>th</sup> October.
- Camping on private land: Correspondence with National Park, Colton and Blawith Parish Councils and Mr Toby Hubbard about complaints at Nibthwaite about noise from Mr Hubbard's 'private camping' initiative [www.privatecamping.co.uk](http://www.privatecamping.co.uk)
- Lake District World Heritage Bid Update. Open meeting in Kendal 26<sup>th</sup> Oct, 1.30.
- Telegraph poles at Barkhouse Bank - response to query about size and permitted development rights.

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

- Cumbria CVS News Aug/Sept 2010
- Parish Profile report for Colton
- Cumbria CVS AGM - 16<sup>th</sup> Sept

#### **Other**

- Coniston and Crake Partnership - Core Group Meeting minutes for 13<sup>th</sup> July
- Cumbria Rural Housing Trust: Conference on 'Churches, Housing and Rural Communities', Penrith,
- Friends of the Lake District - e-Newsletter
- Satterthwaite PC - Agenda for 16<sup>th</sup> August and minutes of last meeting
- Cumbria Community Energy Trust - summary of recent progress
- Friends of the Lake District - Flora of the Fells Festival events in Sept
- 'No Need for Nuclear' campaign for early day motion on whether or not new nuclear power stations were needed. Call for support.
- Clerks and Councils Direct - newsletter Sept 2010
- Haverthwaite PC - Agenda for 13<sup>th</sup> Sept.

#### **117/00 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010 in Bouth Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.