



## 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 Annual Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2011 in Bouth Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

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

**Also present:** Cllr Wilson (CCC) Cllr Davies (SLDC) Mr J Osborn (Bouth Village Green Chair) PC Deborah Murray, PC David Proctor and 2 members of the public.

### **ACTION**

#### **047/11 Election of Chair for Council Year 2011/2012**

Cllr Barr was elected Chair by unanimous vote.

#### **048/11 Appointment of Vice-Chair for Council Year 2011/2012**

Cllr Potts was elected Vice-chair by unanimous vote.

#### **049/11 Apologies**

Cllr Robinson (other engagement) Cllr Watson (working)

#### **050/11 Minutes of Last Meeting**

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011 as a true record.

#### **051/11 Declarations of Interest**

None

#### **052/11 Public Participation**

PC Deborah Murray reported that intelligence received of illegal off-road activity was being acted upon. There had been three crimes reported in adjacent parishes: a break-in at Penny Bridge Hall, a delivery of lead stolen at Greenodd, and the theft of £1000 worth of tools from the Satterthwaite school site for which suspects were being investigated.

Jake Waller from Colton asked whether the Council could help find a suitable location for young people to cycle safely off the road and make BMX tracks. Cllr Barr asked Clerk and Councillors to come up with ideas for possible locations in the Parish for consideration at the next meeting.

**Cllrs/  
Clerk**

Mr Roderick Smith expressed appreciation for the professional way in which the Council was run. Cllr Barr thanked him for his comment.

#### **053/11 To Appoint any Representatives to Working Groups and Outside Bodies**

Representatives to working groups and outside bodies were appointed as follows:

##### Internal Working Groups:

- Affordable Housing Working Group - Cllrs Potts-Chair, Barr, Clerk
- Bouth Village Green & Playground Advisory Committee - Cllr Dean
- Newsletter & Website Working Group - Cllrs Potts-Chair, Barr, Fishwick, Hoyle, Clerk
- Community Plan Working Group - Cllrs Fishwick, Barr, Hoyle, Clerk
- Standards Working Group - Cllrs Barr and Dean
- Finance and Budget Working Group - Cllrs Dean-Chair, Potts, Barr, Clerk
- Highways Liaison - Cllrs Cunliffe (Lengthsman), Clerk (Highways)
- Green Roads Working Group - Cllrs Barr-Chair, Fishwick, Robinson, Wilson (CCC)
- Green Energy Working Group - Cllrs Fishwick, Champion, Davies (SLDC)

##### External Bodies:

- Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) - Cllr Dean (reserve: Cllr Barr)
- High Furness Local Area Partnership (LAP) - Cllr Barr (reserve: Cllr Dean)
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum (CCC) - Cllr Cunliffe
- Coniston Water Association (LDNPA) - Cllr Fishwick
- Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership - Cllrs Fishwick and Barr
- Grizedale Project Consultative Group - Cllr Robinson
- Rusland Valley Informal Liaison Group - Cllr Barr Cllr Robinson Clerk
- Rusland Reading Room Committee - Cllr Robinson
- Finsthwaite and Lakeside Village Hall Committee - Cllr Champion

- Bouth Village Hall Committee - Cllr Cunliffe
- Green Roads Task and Finish Group (CCC) Cllrs Barr and Wilson (CCC)
- Illegal Use of Countryside by Motor Vehicles WG (LDNPA) Clerk

#### 054/11 To Record any Changes to the Register of Members' Interests

Members recorded changes to the Register of Interests and completed the appropriate forms.

#### 055/11 Update on Ongoing Issues and Actions from the Last Meeting

- Notice Boards: The four small notice boards made in 2006 by a Kendal firm were falling apart:
  - Nibthwaite: Funds had been set aside for a replacement; a response was awaited from the owner of the barn next to the phone box for permission to attach it to the wall.
  - Lakeside: Cllr Potts would speak to the owner of the Lakeside Hotel with a proposal for a new notice board to be placed outside the Boaters Hotel.
  - Colton: one door had been blown off by the wind; this had now been repaired by a local joiner at a cost of £40; Cllr Barr had reattached the door.
  - Rusland: Cllr Hoyle reported that this was leaking and warped; he would be willing to try to repair it. In Bouth, the very old notice board was in a very poor state and the board on the Green was also leaking. Funds would be sought for a new large board to be attached to the wall of the White Hart, if the owner was agreeable.
- Community Plan: Cllr Fishwick reported that a children's event had been held at Rusland, and a display of photographs: 'the highs and lows of Colton' had been shown at the Rusland Spring Show. An editorial meeting for the Plan would be held shortly.

Cllr Potts

Cllr Dean

#### 056/11 Bouth Village Green (BVG) and Playground

Mr Osborn (BVG Chairman) read out his Annual Report delivered at the BVG Committee AGM on 18<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Barr thanked him and the Committee for all their efforts. It was noted that the Committee had decided not to pursue Village Green registration any further. The land had been designated as open space by the National Park for which the Parish Council had formally expressed their support.

#### 057/11 Comments from District and County Councillors

Cllr Wilson (CCC): A grant had been made to the County Council for rural transport for use on schemes other than public bus services. All were asked to send ideas to the Clerk.

Cllrs

Cllr Davies (SLDC): reported the results of the recent District elections. Cllr Dean asked why SLDC bin collections had been so haphazard over the bank holidays; there had been no information on changes to collection days; Cllr Barr asked Cllr Davies to take this message back to SLDC. The Clerk would also write a letter of complaint.

Cllr Davies

Clerk

#### 058/11 Accounts

The accounts for 2010/11 were approved and signed.

Sections 1 & 2 of the Audit Return for 2010/11 were approved and signed.

The internal audit report for FY 10/11 and plan for FY 11/12 was noted.

Arrangements for this year's external audit were noted.

The insurance cover for 11/12 and the increased premium of 25% was noted. The payment was approved up to the stated premium, but the Clerk was asked to see if it could be reduced.

Clerk

The requirement to review the Financial Regulations was noted; the Clerk would arrange a meeting of the Finance Working Group.

Clerk

It was resolved that the following payments be made:

- Cheque no. 000550 - Finsthwaite and Lakeside Village Hall Hire for 09/10 and 10/11: **£60.00**
- Cheque no. 000551 - A. Lane, Clerk, Salary Jan-Mar 2011 - **£1156.62**
- Cheque no. 000552 - A. Lane, Clerk, Stationery (ink cartridges, paper, stamps): **£154.87**
- Cheque no. 000553 - Community First, Zurich Municipal Insurance Policy Renewal: **up to £582.07** (subject to any reduction in premium that could be arranged)
- Cheque no. 000554 - D. Oldham, Oxen Park phone box refurbishment: **£18.37**
- Cheque no. 000555 - R. Dove, repair of Colton Notice Board: **£40.00**

The following receipts were noted:

- SLDC payment of precept: **£9475.00**
- Overpayment of travel expenses FY 10/11 - refund: **£14.20**

#### 059/11 Planning

The following planning application was discussed and a resolution made:

- 7/2011/5188: Old Hall Cottage, High Nibthwaite: Change of use of land and outbuilding to domestic curtilage. The accompanying letter was confusing; it was not clear what was intended and so a decision was deferred. The Clerk would seek clarification.

Clerk

The following grant of planning permission was noted:

- 7/2010/5646: Fall Stile Cottage, Bouth: Kitchen extension

The following refusals of planning permissions were noted:

- 7/2009/5774: Land at Mill Farm, Newby Bridge: 14 affordable housing units
- 7/2010/5602: The Old Post House, Low Stott Park: New garage with dayroom above.

## 060/11 Highways

Lengthsman: Five good applications had been received as a result of the advertisement. Four were interviewed by the panel consisting of Cllr Cunliffe, Cllr Potts and the Clerk; all were very good candidates. **It was resolved** to accept the panel's recommendation to appoint Mr Tony Atkinson as Lengthsman at a rate of £13 per hour, for 14 hours per month. The Clerk would write to Mr Atkinson with a formal offer. A response was still awaited from Highways on issues concerning the contract, insurance over and the agreement with the Parish Council. The Clerk would forward a list of jobs received from residents to Cllr Cunliffe for the Lengthsman.

Clerk

Field of Pigs: It was noted that the large pothole had been repaired during the dry weather, However, the main problems concerning flooding and pollution remained. Cllr Wilson had raised the matter again with Highways. The Clerk would write to the Environment Agency and copy it to the other agencies concerned.

Clerk

Clerk

Bouthrey Bridge: The road closure notice from 23<sup>rd</sup> May for bridge re-building was noted. The Clerk had written to the Chief Executive to remind her of the urgent need to complete repairs during the summer 'window' allowed by the Environment Agency.

Green Lanes Pilot Project Working Group: Mr Keith Masser (Highways) was seeking funds to repair at least one of the green roads, followed by monitoring to see how it fares under the pressure of off-road traffic. He is exploring the possibility of Traffic Regulation Orders being placed on one or more of these routes and/or the implementation of a permit system. Cllr Fishwick reported a lot of 4x4 activity on the Parkmoor track recently, with a number of off-road tourism firms now using the route for their businesses.

Bouth speed limit: Cllr Wilson reported that a speed monitoring exercise had been conducted, which found that there was a case for a 30mph limit to be imposed. A site visit with the traffic engineer would be held shortly. However, the total cost was likely to be in the region of £5000, for the necessary 8 signs to be installed, plus repeater signs.

## 061/11 Meetings

The following meeting reports were received:

- Broadband Meeting with BDUK, 21<sup>st</sup> April: Cllr Barr reported that he had met with Councillor Ted Walsh (Cartmel Fell PC), Cllr Mike Pye (Haverthwaite PC) and a representative from BDUK. It was hoped that the High Furness LAP and the Grange and Cartmel LAP might together form a pilot study area.

Attendance at the following meeting was approved:

- LDNPA Parish Tour, South Distinctive Area, 5<sup>th</sup> July. Cllrs Dean and Hoyle would attend. The Clerk would reserve places.

Clerk

## 062/11 Consultations

To decide how to respond to the following new consultations:

- Boundary Commission - consultation on new pattern of electoral divisions, by 20<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr Barr would draft a response.
- Cumbria County Council - Library service, by 30<sup>th</sup> June. All were asked to send views to Cllr Champion who would compile a response.

Cllr Barr

Cllr  
Champion

To receive a report on responses made to the following consultations:

- County consultation on timber haulier routes through the parish. The Clerk had responded from Councillors' comments, the main points being timing, frequency, size and speed of timber wagons, and a request to inform the Council of timber extraction operations and place warning signs on the routes.

## 063/11 Correspondence

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

### CALC/NALC

- Update on Highways and pothole repairs via Amanda McCleery, SL District Assoc.
- 'Our Green Space' - Funding for community projects
- Town and Parish Council survey
- Government guidelines on publicity for local councils during election period
- CALC Circular for April
- Agenda for Lake District Parishes Forum, Keswick, 18<sup>th</sup> April, plus minutes of last meeting.
- NALC - Communities in Action conference invitation, Sheffield, cost: £174.
- CALC Broadband Bulletin

### CCC

- Roadworks on A590 - information from Highways via Haverthwaite PC

- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum - notes from 8<sup>th</sup> March meeting,
- Notification of High Furness LAP meeting, 12<sup>th</sup> April, Greenodd
- Agenda for LAP meeting, 12<sup>th</sup> April, Greenodd
- Timber wagon routes - consultation
- Closure notice for Bouthrey Bridge repairs, 23<sup>rd</sup> May for 19 weeks.
- Cumbria Highways - letter about new contact arrangements since Capita contract ended on 31<sup>st</sup> Jan. All emails now firstname.surname@cumbriacc.gov.uk
- Library service consultation
- Cumbria County Transport Plan - Revised draft
- Cumbria Affordable Warmth Project - correspondence and strategy document

#### **SLDC**

- Notification of Council meeting, 29<sup>th</sup> March, for information
- Standards Committee papers for 12<sup>th</sup> April

#### **LDNPA**

- Meeting on low-carbon transport, Hawkshead, 12<sup>th</sup> April
- News update for Parishes
- Notes from meeting on illegal off-road activity, 21<sup>st</sup> March. (next meeting, 10<sup>th</sup> May)
- Assistance with identifying landowners - play area at Newby Bridge
- Parish Tours - invitation to attend South Distinctive Area tour on 5<sup>th</sup> July

#### **Central Government**

- Local Government Boundary Commission - Electoral Review of Cumbria. Council size recommended: 84 elected members. Next stage consultation to 20<sup>th</sup> June
- Natural England - Lakes to Dales project - further consultation

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

- Northern Flood Conference, Carlisle, 7<sup>th</sup> May
- Cumbria CVS News - April/May

#### **Other**

- NW Ambulance Service - Consultation
- South Cumbria Rivers Trust - Campaign against invasive river species 'Check, Clean, Dry' campaign
- Moss and Height Spring Wood, Bouth - Information from Rebecca Oaks on new 25 year lease from Woodland Trust for Bill Hogarth Memorial Trust
- Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership - call for volunteers to create fish refuges upstream from Bouthrey Bridge, 8<sup>th</sup> April
- Satterthwaite Parish Council - Agenda for 11<sup>th</sup> April
- Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership - publication of leaflets on use of phosphate-free products for delivery to households.
- Friends of the Lake District - request for volunteers for farming, food and landscape project to promote local produce.
- Off-road nuisance and illegal activity reports. Correspondence between Clerk, residents, police and National Park.
- Leaflets and advice from Police Liaison Officer on domestic oil thefts deterrents.
- Coniston Parish Council - Agenda for 18<sup>th</sup> April and minutes of last meeting
- 'Neighbourhoods North-West' Funded certified renewable energy training available for community practitioners. 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> May - Kendal
- Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust - invitation to local people to become a member
- Kendal Arts - travelling artists itinerary during May
- Cumbria Police Authority - volunteers required for Custody Visiting Scheme. Posters for NBs.
- Friends of the Lake District e-message, April 11
- NW Air Ambulance - letter of thanks for grant
- Forestry Commission: Old Hall Wood, Forest Design Plan
- Cumbria Police: Invitation for volunteers for independent Custody Visiting Scheme
- Coniston Parish Council - minutes of meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April
- Haverthwaite PC - request for site visit with Colton PC and Highways for deterioration of the Causeway.
- Haverthwaite PC - Agenda for 9<sup>th</sup> May

#### **064/11 Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting was confirmed for Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June in Colton Church Hall, 7.30 p.m.