



## 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> June 2011 in Colton Church Hall at 7.30 p.m.

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

**Also present:** Cllr Wilson (CCC) Cllr Davies (SLDC) Paula Allen (LDNPA) PC Johnston, PCSO Harris and 3 members of the public.

### 065/11 Apologies

None

**ACTION**

### 066/11 Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2011 as a true record.

### 067/11 Declarations of Interest

None

### 068/11 Update on Ongoing Issues & Actions from Last Meeting (not covered elsewhere on Agenda)

- **Notice Boards:** i) Nibthwaite: The Clerk had asked Mr Helme for an updated quote for a notice board at Nibthwaite; the owners of the barn next to the phone box had confirmed they were happy with siting it there. ii) Bouth: Mr Ron Mein had made a new notice board for the Village Green and was willing to make a replacement one for the Parish Council, for the cost of materials; this was approved, with thanks. iii) Rusland: Cllr Hoyle had replaced the pin board inside - it was now much easier to use. iv) Lakeside: Cllr Potts had spoken to the owner of the Lakeside Hotel and was awaiting his response.
- **Lengthsman:** Mr Atkinson and the Clerk had signed the new contract and work would start shortly. The Clerk was still waiting for a response from Highways about an updated agreement between County and the Parish Council for working on the highway.
- **BMX Cycle area:** The Clerk had put an appeal into the Spring newsletter asking for anyone willing to provide a small area for this activity. It was suggested that the Forestry Commission might be able to help; the Clerk would contact them.

**Clerk**

### 069/11 Public Participation

Paula Allan from the National Park Policy team gave a presentation on housing policy within the new Core Strategy. The new strategy addressed both local housing need and local affordable housing need. It was difficult to find suitable sites in the National Park that were of sufficient size to make development economically viable for building contractors. Also, local communities were more tolerant of small-scale in-fill developments. The Core Strategy's 'localities' approach attempted to reconcile these issues and seek viable sites within larger villages and service centres. Public subsidy for Housing Associations was drying up; funds would need to be supported by the recently introduced government policy of allowing affordable rent to be charged at 80% of the market rent. The Council expressed concern about how truly affordable these rents would be for local people in need

Police: PC Johnston reported that there had been an increase in thefts of copper in Cumbria. Locally, a lap-top had been taken from a house with an open window, and there was evidence of some poaching near Bouth. Cumbria had the lowest burglary rate, but was highest for livestock crime.

### 070/11 Planning

The following planning applications were discussed and resolutions agreed:

- 7/2011/5140 - Mill Gate, Greenodd: Detached garage with home office over, boiler room, detached wood processing store and new gravel track, with request for this to be used as temporary accommodation whilst a replacement house is built. **Resolution:** Objection on grounds of overdevelopment, specifically its large size in relation to the existing bungalow.
- 7/2011/5238 - Roe Deer Lodge, Finsthwaite: Provision of 100mm external insulation and roughcast finish, open porch to side and front and stained timber garden shed, and solar panels. **Resolution:** No objection.

The following responses to planning applications were noted:

- 7/2011/5188 - Old Hall Cottage, Nibthwaite, change of use of land and building to domestic curtilage. *No objection.*
- 7/2011/5210 & 5211 - Whitestock Hall, Rusland: Installation of roof-mounted solar panels. *No objection.*

The following grants of planning permission were noted:

- 7/2011/5079 - Boaters Restaurant, Lakeside. Construction of replacement hotel.
- 7/2011/5046 - Kiln Cottage, Bouth: Replacement timber outbuilding to form garden room/store.

The following approval of agricultural/forestry development was noted:

- 7/2010/5596 - Hill Park Farm, Colton: General purpose steel framed farm building.

## 071/11 Highways

- Traffic Speed, vehicle size, 'sat-navs' and signage: Mrs Hodgson from Tottlebank Farm expressed her strong concerns about the speed and size of traffic using the road past her farm. There had been several near-misses when moving stock along the road and walls had been knocked down. The Clerk also reported near-misses with traffic and stock on the road at Rusland. Mrs Hodgson had spoken to Highways asking that width limit signs be installed. She also asked whether a 'no sat-nav' sign similar to that at Lowick could be used. The Parish Council had asked for speed tests to be carried out on this road about 4 years ago; Mr Mallet (traffic officer) had done so, but had explained that nothing could be done as average speeds were found to be < 30 mph. However, it was suggested that Mr Mallet be contacted again to look at the situation; the police would follow this up and would report back at the meeting on 25<sup>th</sup>. Cllr Wilson explained that there was no funding for new signage this year, and that unfortunately his budget had already been allocated. Police
- Bouth speed limit: Traffic speed tests conducted by Highways had shown that Bouth was eligible for a 30mph speed limit. However, the cost of installing signs was estimated to be around £5K and there was limited funding at present. Cllr Wilson suggested that the Council try asking for '20's plenty' signs. The Clerk would explore this option, but it was agreed that the 30 mph limit be pursued. The police explained that they could only prosecute speeding traffic where a limit was in force. Clerk

## 072/11 Accounts

A request from Blawith & Subberthwaite PC to share the cost of NALC publication: "Standing Orders for Local Councils" (total cost £35) was considered. It was decided that it was not necessary to hold a reference copy of this annual publication; CALC were helpful in providing information on updates.

It was noted that Mr Oldham had sent the Clerk a copy of the accounts for refurbishment of Oxen Park phone box.

The following payment was approved:

- Cheque 000557 - A.Lane (Clerk) for cash imprest to Bouth Village Green Committee: **£100**

## 073/11 Comments from District and County Councillors

Cllr Davies (SLDC): would meet with Paula Allen (LDNPA) shortly to discuss the proposal for the National Park to become a pilot area for change of use requirement on second homes.

Cllr Wilson (CCC): i) Mr Keith Masser now had a permanent position as Area Engineer for South Lakeland. ii) The 'Better Highways' programme liaison with Parishes would be delayed until 2012 iii) Evidence had been submitted to the Environment Agency in relation to the pollution by the field of pigs at the 'Shive of Cheese'. iv) There was to be a major review of gritting routes in 2012. v) Further funding was being sought for green roads repair to match that provided through Cllr Wilson's own budget. vi) It was looking more likely that Colton would be included in the Broadband pilot study by BDUK vii) Cllr Wilson would speak to the traffic engineer about the cost of a speed limit at Bouth. ix) Cllr Wilson would ask Highways about the loan of a scissor shovel for the new Lengthsman. Cllr Wilson

## 074/11 Meetings

The following meeting reports were received:

- CALC South Lakeland District Association (Cllr Dean attended): Presentations had been received by SLDC on i) land allocation outside the National Park, and ii) Litter collection and recycling: 43% of all waste was now recycled; collection of plastic and cardboard was being considered; there was no intention to return to weekly bin collection. CALC had now become involved in the Cumbria Broadband project.
- Red Kite Liaison Group meeting (7<sup>th</sup> June, Grizedale, Cllr Barr had attended): Iain Yoxall (Forestry Commission) gave a presentation on the status of the Red Kite release programme. It was agreed that Cllr Barr should continue to attend this group.

## 075/11 Consultations

Reports on the following consultations were received:

- Boundary Commission (Cllr Barr): He had made the general point that the number of Councillors should be decided on the basis of geography as well as population.
- Cumbria County Council Library service (Cllr Champion): A response was due on 20<sup>th</sup> June. The consultation proposed that 30 of the 48 libraries in Cumbria would be maintained, it expressed concern about the cost of maintaining the library vans which were reaching the end of their lives, and raised the option of using village halls as access points. Cllr Champion would collate comments and submit a response.

Cllr  
Champion

## **076/11 Correspondence**

It was noted that Cumbria Rural Housing Trust was to conduct a repeat housing survey in Colton this year. Judith Derbyshire was to meet with the Affordable Housing Working Group.

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

### **CALC/NALC**

- CALC Circular for May
- NALC Conference - Sheffield, 19<sup>th</sup> July, £174.
- NALC - Notification of revised First Edition of 'Standing Orders for Local Councils'
- Agenda for next SL District Association meeting, 9<sup>th</sup> June, Kendal, and minutes of last meeting.
- Notification of election of Parish members to LDNPA - Allerdale & Copeland Districts
- CALC Circular for June

### **CCC**

- Local News and Views - May 2011
- Additional Funding for Community Transport in 2011/12 - ideas to be submitted
- Highways - revised road closure notice for Bouthrey Bridge repair (footbridge will be removed, as expected)
- Notification of LAP meeting 28<sup>th</sup> June, Lowick Hall
- Notification of High Furness Neighbourhood Forum meeting, Spark Bridge, 20<sup>th</sup> July
- Response from Jill Stannard, Chief Exec, to letter about Bouthrey Bridge repair.
- Cumbria Library Service - consultation events

### **SLDC**

- Annual Council Meeting Agenda, 17<sup>th</sup> May, for info
- Notification about housing survey to be conducted during June

### **LDNPA**

- Invitation to second workshop on transport planning - 26<sup>th</sup> May.
- Notes of meeting Illegal Use of Countryside by Motor Vehicles WG plus draft signage

### **Central Government**

- Communities and Local Government - Community Right to Build flyer
- Natural England - Implementation of Coastal Access in Cumbria

### **Cumbria CVS and ACT**

- ACT Gazette - Summer 2011
- CVS - offer of financial services - payrolls

### **Other**

- Clerks and Councils Direct - May 2011
- Forestry Commission: Red Kite update event, 7<sup>th</sup> June, Grizedale
- Blawith & Subberthwaite PC - Notification of Annual Parish meeting/Annual Council meeting and Parish Council meeting 12<sup>th</sup> May
- Coniston PC - Notification of Annual Parish meeting/Annual Council meeting and Parish Council meeting 16<sup>th</sup> May
- Friends of the Lake District - Notification of another planning application for zip-wire at Honister Mine, Borrowdale
- Haverthwaite PC - Agenda for 23<sup>rd</sup> May
- Coniston Water Association, minutes of meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April
- Cumbria Rural Housing Trust - notification of new housing needs survey in Colton Parish - request for visit to Council meeting
- Coniston Parish Council - minutes of meeting 16<sup>th</sup> May
- Environment Agency - request for records/photos concerning ongoing issues at Pig Field, Shive of Cheese
- Mrs J Hodgson - letter of concern about speed of traffic past Tottlebank Farm and sat-navs directing large lorries on this route
- Haverthwaite PC - Minutes of meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> May
- Mr P Evans - repeat request for clearing of debris wash-out from Parkamoor Track. (Clerk will put on Lengthsman's list).

- Society for Local Council Clerks - notification of re-opening of Cumbria branch. First meeting, 21st June, near Carlisle
- Mr D Oldham - accounts for refurbishment of Oxen Park phone box to information point - now completed.

**077/11 Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting was confirmed for Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July in Rusland Reading Room, 7.30 p.m.