



## Colton Parish Council

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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 2011 in Finsthwaite Village 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) and Mr J Sargeant (Clerk of Blawith & Subberthwaite Parish Council)

<b>092/11 Apologies</b> Cllr Davies (SLDC)	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>093/11 Minutes of Last Meeting</b> It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2011 as a true record.	
<b>094/11 Declarations of Interest</b> Cllr Barr declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 8. Clerk's Contract, and signed the register.	
<b>095/11 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Notice-boards:</u> i) Nibthwaite: Mr Helme had made the notice-board and it would be mounted shortly on the barn wall beside the phone box. Cllr Cunliffe had visited Mr D Milburn and the Clerk had also written to him thanking him for hosting the old notice-board which would be removed shortly. ii) Lakeside: Cllr Potts would speak to the owner of the Lakeside Hotel again about placement of a new notice-board, now that the annex had been completed.</li> <li>• <u>BMX cycling area:</u> Cllrs Dean and Fishwick had both spoken to members of the Parochial Church Council about the possibility of using the Colton car-park for this activity; a response was awaited.</li> </ul>	<b>Cllr Potts</b>
<b>096/11 Public Participation</b> The Chairman welcomed Mr John Sargeant, Clerk of Blawith and Subberthwaite Parish Council. Mr Sargeant had been asked whether he would be willing to cover for the Colton Parish Council Clerk for the December meeting. He had agreed and this was approved by the Council.	
<b>097/11 Comments from District and County Councillors</b> Cllr Wilson (CCC) reminded the Council that the Boundary Commission's recommendations for constituency boundaries were due out the next day. (Other items were reported under items 11. Highways and 13. Meetings, on the Agenda.)	
<b>098/11 Accounts</b> <u>The successful conclusion of the 10/11 Audit was noted</u> <u>A review and minor revision of Colton Parish Council Financial Regulations was approved.</u> <u>The bank reconciliation for Apr-July 2011 was approved.</u> <u>It was resolved that the following payments be made:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheque no. 000562 - Mr R Mein, materials, new Bouth notice board: <b>£51.54</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000563 - Mr D Oldham, materials, Nibthwaite phone box refurbishment: <b>£66.20</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000564 - Mr D Oldham, travel expenses, Nibthwaite phone box: <b>£33.80</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000565 - BDO Auditors, Annual Audit for FY 10/11: <b>£162.00</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000566 - Wreathe for remembrance service, Rusland, 6<sup>th</sup> November: <b>£16.50</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000567 - A. Lane, Clerk's office expenses &amp; hall hire (June-Sept): <b>£71.30</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000568 - Mr Atkinson, Lengthsman, June-August payment: <b>£655.00 (inc. VAT)</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000569 - Playsafety Ltd., annual inspection, Bouth Village Green: <b>75.60</b></li> </ul>	
<b>099/11 Clerk's Contract</b> The Clerk and Chairman left the room for this Agenda item. <b>It was resolved</b> to approve the recommendations of the Finance WG for revision of the Clerk's contract as follows: i) to include the statutory requirement for annual leave, according to the model Clerk's contract provided by NALC, and ii) to increase the hours worked from 500 to 520 per annum (10 hours per week for 52 weeks), thus removing the effective 2 weeks' unpaid leave from the contract. The Council also recommended that the Clerk receive back-pay for the last 2 years of unpaid leave; this would be considered at the next meeting.	

<p><b>100/11 Planning</b></p> <p><u>The following responses to planning applications were noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7/2011/5367 &amp; 5368: Low Longmire Farm, Oxen Park: Two new porches, new and replacement windows. Internal alterations. <i>No objection.</i></li> <li>- 7/2011/5387: Roger Ridding Farm, Rusland. New porch, utility room and garden room. <i>No objection.</i></li> <li>- 7/2011/5416: Lands End Farm, Rusland. Variation of planning permission to allow use as permanent dwelling or holiday let. <i>No objection</i></li> <li>- 7/2011/5422: Low Rigg, Lakeside: Replacement jetty (fixed to be replaced by floating) <i>No objection</i></li> <li>- 7/2011/5425: Great Lindeth Wood, Bouth: Upgrade of forestry track and new forestry track and log stacking area (part retrospective). <i>No objection</i></li> <li>- 7/2011/5222: Old School House, Bouth: Extension. <i>No objection.</i></li> </ul> <p><u>The following confirmation of compliance with planning conditions was noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7/2011/5254: Vacant plots at Landing Close, Lakeside. Confirmation of compliance with conditions of 7/2008/5052 no. 7 (sewage disposal) and no. 10 (flood water).</li> </ul> <p><u>The following withdrawn planning application was noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7/2011/5051: Plot 1, Landing Close, Lakeside: Extension of time limit for 7/2008/5052.</li> </ul> <p><u>The following grants of planning permissions were noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7/2011/5238: Roe Deer Lodge, Finsthwaite: External insulation, porch and new shed.</li> <li>- 7/2011/5188: Old Hall Cottage, Nibthwaite: Change of use of land &amp; outbuilding to domestic curtilage.</li> <li>- 7/2011/5280: Barn between The Fold and Greenbank, Oxen Park – conversion to dwelling.</li> </ul> <p><u>The Clerk reported on the status of caravans and site at Stricely Fell Caravan Park, Force Mills:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) the unauthorised additional caravan at the site had now been removed. ii) one of the caravans had been put up for sale on the open market as a permanent residence. The LDNPA had confirmed that this was permitted as no time restrictions applied. iii) the Clerk had contacted SLDC Licensing about various licensing conditions and the removal of the caravan site sign; she was awaiting a response.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>101/11 Bouth Village Green (BVG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) <u>Lease:</u> The SLDC had responded to the Council's request that they register the green on behalf of the community. The SLDC had declined explaining that this would "voluntarily blight its land ... and diminish its value and it has a duty under S123 of the Local Government Act 1972 to obtain best consideration from any sale." However, the SLDC had offered the Council an opportunity to buy a 999 year lease for £5000 plus costs. The Village Green Committee officers felt that £5000 was too much to raise and that the existing 99 year lease to 2067 provided sufficient protection; they recommended that the Council decline the 999 year lease offer. <b>This was approved.</b></li> <li>ii) <u>Annual RoSPA inspection:</u> The annual RoSPA inspection report had highlighted just one item of 'Medium Risk': loose capping stones on the boundary wall. The BVG Committee was already aware of the need for this repair which was in hand.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>102/11 Highways</b></p> <p><u>The following reports were received:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) <u>Lengthsman:</u> Cllr Cunliffe reported on the tasks completed by Mr Atkinson in the last two months, some of which were long-standing drainage issues, now resolved. The Council expressed its appreciation for the high standard of work. A scissor shovel had been donated to the Council by Mr Platt for which the Clerk had written a letter of thanks.</li> <li>ii) <u>Traffic Speed and Signs:</u> The Clerk and Cllrs Wilson and Dean were due to meet officers from County Highways on 13<sup>th</sup> Sept at Bouth and Tottlebank; they would report at the next meeting.</li> <li>iii) <u>Grit bins:</u> The Clerk and the Lengthsman had moved 3 grit bins to their preferred locations. The Clerk circulated an updated list of current locations of grit bins and requirements for new ones. Highways had confirmed that two bins were to be placed at Ickenthaite before the winter. An assessment of priorities for new bins would be considered at the next meeting. The Lengthsman would meet with Cllrs Potts and Champion to decide on a new location for the bin at the 'Shive of Cheese' crossroads.</li> <li>iv) <u>Highway Repairs:</u> County's 'Better Highways' team was due to visit Colton during November and had requested a list of priority tasks, which the Clerk had now sent. The Clerk had notified them in August about the road falling into the beck at Roger Ridding, Rusland. Highways were planning repairs as soon as possible.</li> <li>v) <u>Illegal Off-road activity:</u> The Clerk reported that the campaign by the working group on illegal off-road activity had had some success: the police had apprehended trail bikers using a bridleway (Moor Lane) at Satterthwaite and issued fixed penalty notices. New warning signs had been placed at the top and bottom of this route and at other pilot locations.</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Potts &amp; Champion</p>

<p>vi) <u>Bouthrey Bridge repairs</u>: Cllr Wilson explained that the high water level may delay construction of the bridge arches, due to 19<sup>th</sup> Sept. He hoped that the EA would allow work to continue beyond the deadline if this was the case.</p>	
<p><b>103/11 Housing</b></p> <p>i) <u>Housing Survey</u>: The Housing Working Group had reviewed the Cumbria Rural Housing Trust's housing questionnaire for Coniston and the Clerk had sent in modified and additional questions for the Colton Survey to be conducted in the autumn.</p> <p>ii) <u>Satterthwaite School site affordable housing</u>: The last unit had been filled by a family from Allithwaite, since there were no applicants in Satterthwaite, Colton or surrounding parishes.</p>	
<p><b>104/11 Meetings</b></p> <p>i) <u>Old Hall Wood, Bouth, 24<sup>th</sup> August</u>: Cllr Dean had chaired this meeting on the proposal by the Forestry Commission for the community to become actively involved in the planning and management of this ancient semi-natural woodland. The meeting was well-attended and resolved to accept the proposal. A liaison group had been established comprising three FC staff and 3 residents of Bouth, including Cllr Dean representing the Council.</p> <p>ii) <u>Green Roads Colton Pilot Study Working Group, 9<sup>th</sup> August</u>: Cllr Barr and Cllr Wilson had attended this meeting with the Friends of the Lake District (FoLD) to assess the possibility of grants for green road repair. FoLD were cautious in their response, expressing concern about the balance of LDNP policy in promoting motorised use of green lanes. The Colton Pilot Working Group was due to meet with the working group tackling illegal off-road activity. The Area Highways Engineer was considering the use of Traffic Regulation Orders on certain routes which were in very bad repair.</p>	
<p><b>105/00 Consultations</b></p> <p><u>The following new consultations were noted and procedure for responding agreed:</u></p> <p>i) <u>Government Draft National Planning Policy Framework (by 17<sup>th</sup> October)</u>: Cllrs Barr, Hoyle, Champion and Dean would meet to discuss how to respond. The Clerk would arrange a date.</p> <p>ii) <u>SLDC Parking Charges (by 28<sup>th</sup> Sept)</u>: All were asked to respond individually if they wished to.</p> <p>iii) <u>Adult Day Care Services (by 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept)</u>: Cllr Robinson would respond for the Council</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>All Cllr Robinson</b></p>
<p><b>106/11 Correspondence</b></p> <p><u>Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:</u></p> <p><b>CALC/NALC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadband Bulletin - July 2011</li> <li>• Repeat invitation for nominations for 2<sup>nd</sup> representative on the CCC South Lakeland Local Committee</li> <li>• Open Public Services White Paper - NALC briefing</li> <li>• Update on Localism Bill</li> <li>• PAYE Training course, 16<sup>th</sup> August</li> <li>• Results of CALC survey of Parish and Town Councils</li> <li>• Copy of response from SLDC to CALC's letter of concern about public toilets</li> <li>• NALC guidance on Parish Council provision of Pension Plans - awaiting further developments from government</li> <li>• NALC – Government consultation on streamlined planning application process for major sewers and wastewater transfer</li> <li>• Abolition of the Audit Commission and implications for parish councils.</li> <li>• Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages – changes to arrangements</li> <li>• Government changes on business rates revenue to local councils - consultation</li> <li>• CALC Training courses Sept11 – Apr12</li> <li>• SL District Association – Agenda for meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> Sept, Bretargh Holt.</li> <li>• Developing your Skills – CALC training courses Sept 11 – Apr 12</li> <li>• CALC AGM notification – 12<sup>th</sup> Nov, Kendal</li> <li>• Managing Radioactive Waste Safely – CALC conference, 5<sup>th</sup> Nov, Winscales</li> <li>• NALC guidance – Legal implications of the Bribery Act 2010 for local councils</li> <li>• Agenda for next SL District Assoc. meeting, 15<sup>th</sup> Sept, Brettargh Holt, Kendal</li> </ul> <p><b>CCC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Transport consultation outcome - spending plans for 11/12</li> <li>• Correspondence on dying sycamore tree next to road at Bouth. Mr Sharphouse will fell.</li> <li>• High Furness LAP - minutes of meeting 28/6/11 and paper 'Areas of Focus for 2011'</li> <li>• Response to our submission on consultation over timber haulier routes</li> <li>• Better Highways Teams – request for info from Parish Councils on priorities</li> </ul>	

- Notes from Neighbourhood Forum meeting 20<sup>th</sup> July
- Adult and Local Services Directorate – consultation on day care services
- Proposed NW Regional Fire Control room – request for support for local control room

#### **SLDC**

- Correspondence with SLDC over Bouth Village Green lease arrangements
- SLDC Annual Report
- South Lakeland Land Allocations (outwith National Park) further consultation
- SLDC new purchasing procedures
- SLDC Council meeting Agenda for 14<sup>th</sup> July - for information
- Parish Remuneration Panel – invitation to request changes to remuneration and expenses allowances – by 1<sup>st</sup> Sept (apologies given for short deadline)
- Change in service delivery to the "bulky household waste collection".

#### **LDNPA**

- LDNPA - Summer update for Parish and Town Councils
- Consultation on Temporary Closure for Motor Rallies 2012 – Grizedale Stages 26-27 Nov11 and Malcolm Wilson 3/3/12
- Welcome letter from Chief Exec. and key contact details for Parishes
- Illegal & inappropriate use of the countryside by off-road vehicles working group - minutes of meeting 18<sup>th</sup> Aug

#### **Central Government Depts.**

- Office for Nuclear Development - update on National Energy Policy Statements and potential sites for new nuclear power stations.
- Government consultation on draft National Planning Policy Framework
- Natural England – notice of public meeting on Rusland Mosses re-wetting programme, 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 7pm, Rusland Reading Room

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

- Questionnaire on evaluation of 3<sup>rd</sup> sector role in Cumbria Flood recovery
- Invitation to AGM 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept, Barrow
- Cumbria CVS News Sept/Oct 11

#### **Other**

- Eden Housing Association via Cumbria Rural Housing Trust - notice of 3 bedroom affordable housing at Satterthwaite
- Friends of the Lake District - Our Green Space e-bulletin, July 2011
- Coniston Parish Council - minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> July
- Cumbria Fells and Dales, Annual Review 10/11
- Tim Farron MP - Response to letter written to Defra on behalf of Council asking why no direct consultation by the Forestry Panel
- Coniston Parish Council – Agenda for 15th August
- Coniston Parish Council – Minutes of meeting 15th August
- Blawith Parish Council – Notice of meeting 25<sup>th</sup> August
- Journal of Local Planning – article on proposed National Planning Policy Framework
- Dong Energy - Walney Extension Off-shore Wind Farm consultation events
- Tim Farron MP – Response from Norman Baker MP on proposed roundabout at Greenodd – work re-scheduled for 13/14. (*This letter possibly intended for Blawith & Subberthwaite PC – forwarded to them*).
- Royal British Legion – invitation to Service of Remembrance, 6<sup>th</sup> Nov, Rusland and to purchase a wreath.
- Clerks and Councils Direct – Newsletter Sept 2011
- Invitation to 13<sup>th</sup> Sept meeting of Cumbria Branch of Society of Local Council Clerks
- Friends of the Lake District e-message
- Haverthwaite Parish Council – Agenda for 12<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Cumbria Action for Sustainability /Cumbria Green Build. Free events for Village Hall committees
- Royal Society for Protection of Accidents – Bouth Village Green annual inspection report

#### **107/11 Councillor and Clerk Leave**

**It was resolved** to approve a leave period of up to 6 months for Cllr Fishwick.

Arrangements for covering Cllr Barr and the Clerk's leave period were confirmed. Mr John Sargeant, Clerk of Blawith and Subberthwaite Parish Council had agreed to provide Clerk cover for the December meeting. The Clerk, Cllr Potts and Cllr Dean would meet to discuss arrangements.

#### **108/11 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October in Bouth Village Hall, 7.30 p.m. This change of date from 24<sup>th</sup> October was noted.