



Colton Parish Council

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Lilac Cottage
Oxen Park
Ulverston LA12 8HG

The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16th January 2012 in Bouth Village Hall at 7.30 p.m..

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

Also present: Cllr Wilson (CCC) CPSO Diana Wilcock and 2 members of the public

001/12 Apologies

Cllr Davies (other meeting) Cllr Watson (working) Cllr Fishwick (leave) Cllr Potts (ill health)

ACTION

002/12 Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5th December 2011 as a true record.

Cllr Barr thanked Cllr Potts (Vice-Chair) and Mr John Sargeant (Acting Clerk) for their efficient management of the Council during Chairman and Clerk recent leave of absence.

003/12 Declarations of Interest

None

004/12 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

Community First Responders: The Rusland and Satterthwaite CFR area had been extended to include Oxen Park and Bandrake Head on request from the Parish Council, following incidents of ambulances taking a long time to attend emergencies.

005/12 Public Participation

Mr and Mrs Sharphouse had asked to attend the meeting in order to outline their proposals for Old Hall Farm, Bouth to become an open farm between March and October. Their open days had had some success, but these occasional days were not sufficient to enable the family to make a living from the farm. The farm would extend into dairying, making cheese, butter and cream on site, selling at the farm gate, and providing visitor facilities to view the processing. A tea-room was also planned. Councillors could not discuss the proposals in detail before seeing the plans, but felt that in general this was likely to be supported locally, especially if it provided some local employment opportunities. Traffic and parking were potential problems. Mrs Sharphouse explained that these issues would be addressed in the plans. Cllr Barr thanked Mr and Mrs Sharphouse for sharing information with the Council.

006/12 Comments from District and County Councillors

Cllr Wilson (CCC): i) Highways issues were covered in a later Agenda item. ii) Broadband news: Tim Farron MP was keen for South Lakeland to become a pilot area for 4G networks.

007/12 Accounts

It was resolved that the following payments be made:

– Cheque number 000578: J. Sargeant, expenses for Acting Clerk December 11: **£98.64**

The following Clerk salary & PAYE payments for 3rd quarter FY 11/12 were noted:

– Cheque no. 000570: Clerk, salary for 2nd quarter FY 11/12: **£925.42**

– Cheque no. 000571: HMRC PAYE: **£231.20**

The bank reconciliation for accounts April-Dec2011 was approved.

008/12 Planning

The following responses to planning applications were noted:

- 7/2011/5638: Colton House, Colton: Change of use from care home to single dwelling. *No objection.*

- 7/2011/5500: Water Park, Nibthwaite: Demolition of marina and replacement with floating marina. *No objection*

The following withdrawn planning applications were noted:

- 7/2011/5427: Land at Force Mill Caravan Site: Horticultural tunnels and agricultural shed.

- 7/2011/5462: Land at High Wood, Spark Bridge: New field access gate

009/12 Highways

- Lengthsman: The High Furness LAP had allocated £800 per parish in 11/12 for verge cutting and other roadside maintenance works, though the funds were to be allocated to specific projects. It was agreed that Tony Atkinson could be offered more days with these funds. It was unclear whether it could be used for capital purchases. The Clerk would enquire. **Clerk**
- Traffic Speed: i) Bouth: Cllr Dean had shown the '20's Plenty' sign design to residents of Bouth; most people were happy with it. However, the positioning of the sign and the SLOW signs on the road were questioned. The Clerk would liaise with Cllr Dean and Highways. **Clerk/ Cllr Dean**
ii) Tottlebank: Cllr Wilson reported that this was in-hand. The Traffic Engineer was considering sign designs for this road.
- Highway Maintenance Works: The Clerk had updated the list of highway maintenance tasks submitted in October, with items marked as completed or outstanding. She would send this into Highways shortly for a response. Councillors were asked to report on their 'patch' to the Clerk in the next few days. **Clerk**
- Highway Improvements Works: Highways had requested that parishes submit a priority list of improvement schemes. Cllr Wilson had kindly produced a draft, to which the Clerk had made some suggested updates. This was approved. The Clerk would send it to Highways. **Clerk**
- Grit Bins: Councillors had reported grit bin locations and contents to the Clerk who had updated the list. Three new bins had appeared in different locations, presumably provided by Highways. The Clerk would send in an updated list highlighting those which were still empty. It was agreed that the bins should be labelled, there having been some thefts in the past. The Clerk would follow this up with Cllr Cunliffe and the Lengthsman **Clerk**
- Field of Pigs, Finsthwaite: There had been many complaints received about the pollution, flooding, escaping pigs, and pig welfare arising from the poor management of this field. The Environment Agency (EA) was pursuing the owner on the pollution issue. Highways were unable to deal with the flooding and potholes until the EA gave approval. Cllr Potts had attended a meeting of the various agencies concerned. It had been suggested that neighbouring landowners were within their rights to give notice to the owner to recover his pigs, after which time the landowners could deal with them. The Clerk would investigate. **Clerk**
- Green Roads: The condition of the green road from Ickentwaite to Nibthwaite (U5064) and the surrounding common had deteriorated markedly over the winter. The short-cut route around the badly eroded section had been blocked by boulders. Unfortunately, this had caused vehicles to take an illegal 300yard detour across the common to meet another green road. The fields at Stock Farm (the other end of the U5064) were also in a bad condition with trail bikes 'playing' off route. The police had been informed about both issues. The urgent requirement to place a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on the route pending repairs was agreed. Some funding had now been identified. Cllr Wilson would urge Highways to initiate the necessary procedures for a TRO. **Cllr Wilson**
- Bouthrey Bridge: The bridge had been completed and an opening ceremony took place in December to which Cllrs Potts and Wilson had attended. The Clerk would send a letter of thanks to County. **Clerk**

010/12 Fuel and Energy Schemes and Advice

- i) Colton Oil Purchasing Syndicate: Cllr Cunliffe reported that this syndicate had been set up to achieve the best price for heating oil. An open meeting was to be held at The Manor on 10th February at 7.00 pm for local people wishing to join in. The Clerk would put this in the newsletter. **Clerk**
- ii) Energy 'Best Deal' workshops: Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT) was offering free locally-run workshops on how to get the best energy deals. The workshops were for only 8-10 people at a time, which seemed small. The Clerk would ask if a larger group could attend. **Clerk**

011/12 Oxen Park Phone Box

The fitting of a new light-sensitive lamp for the phone box was approved, subject to the terms of the agreement with BT. The cost of c. £35 was approved in principle, to be met by Council funds. **Clerk**

012/12 Meetings

Attendance at the following meetings were approved:

- Windermere Reflections Heritage Lottery Project: Cllr Barr would attend. A representative of the project was due to attend the Council's meeting on 20th Feb at Finsthwaite.

The following meeting reports were received:

- Illegal and inappropriate use of the countryside by motor-vehicles WG, 6th Dec: John Sargeant had attended as Acting Clerk on behalf of the Council. A sign produced by Steve Pighills of the Trail Riders' Federation had been suggested for Ickentwaite. The Council felt that this was insufficiently clear about legalities. The Clerk would report back to the Group at its next meeting. **Clerk**
- CALC South Lakeland Association, 24th Nov: No-one had been free to attend.

013/12 Consultations

The following new consultations were noted and procedure for responding agreed:

- Cumbria County Council Budget for 12/13: The consultation was unclear about whether Parish Councils were being asked for a response, nor whether such a response would be treated any differently to any other. It was agreed that Councillors would respond individually. **All Cllrs**
- Cumbria County Council: Household Recycling Centre proposed closures: Again it was unclear whether Parish Councils were asked to respond. The proposal affected Grange; most residents of Colton used Ulverston Recycling Centre. Individuals would respond if they wished to. **All Cllrs**

The further consultation on Neighbourhood Planning and the consultation on Technical Reforms of Council Tax had not been responded to.

014/12 Correspondence

The attention of Councillors was drawn to the following items in particular:

- i) NALC legal guidance on payment of gratuities. From 16th Jan 12 no gratuities could be paid to employees.
- ii) Government proposals to require local councils to hold referenda for significant increases in Council Tax from 12/13. Town and Parish Councils may be included in due course.
- iii) Queen's Jubilee Beacons: The Clerk held information on how to apply to light a beacon if local communities were interested. Finthwaite had expressed an interest and Cllr Champion had the details.

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

CALC/NALC

- South Lakeland District Association – minutes and notes from meeting 24th Nov
- NALC Retirement Payments – and government plans for all employees
- Café drop-in sessions
- Localism Act 2011 – Proposals to require principal authorities to hold referenda for significant council tax increases. May apply to parish and town councils in due course.
- Superfast Broadband for Dalton and Kendal – press release.
- Parish Map with Internal Drainage Boundary
- County Council Budget Consultation 2012-13 – prior notification.
- Parish Play Area Survey
- Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge
- New Legal Guidance: discretionary payments/gratuities no longer permitted from 16th Jan 2012
- Boundary Commission & Cumbria CC: extension of deadline for response to 30th Jan
- Queen's Jubilee beacons – how to register to light a beacon for 4th June;
- CCC report on Cumbria Renewable Energy study
- Connecting Cumbria newsletter.
- NALC & CPRE – Planning Explained – guide to planning
- Invitation to nominate attendees to Royal Garden Party 22nd May

CCC

- Cumbria CC- Community Engagement on South Lakelands Programme for Small Highway Improvements
- Cumbria CC-Bouthrey Bridge – invitation to attend opening.
- Cumbria CC-Feral Pigs Meeting
- Cumbria CC-Keith Masser Review
- Cumbria CC-Bouthrey Bridge media coverage
- Cumbria CC – Budget consultation for 12/13 – by 31st Jan
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum – summary of meeting 10th Nov
- Consultation on Cumbria's household waste recycling centres – proposals to close 6. By 19th Feb.

SLDC

- SLDC-High Furness LAP
- SLDC-Register of Electors – Dec 2011
- SLDC-Member Training Community Led Planning
- Council meeting Agendas, 29th Nov and 15th Dec - for information only,
- Request to confirm details of Parish Clerk contact

LDNPA

- LDNPA-Update-Planning; car parks and tourism; Olympics 2012; etc.

Central Government Depts./Agencies

- Office for Nuclear Development: New Nuclear Waste and Decommissioning Financing Framework
- Office for Nuclear Development-Update-Two new nuclear reactor designs.
- Environment Agency: Windermere Reflections Project - e-Bulletin Dec 2011
- Environment Agency-Assessing nuclear power plant designs
- Communities and Local Government: reply to Colton PC's submission on the draft National Planning Policy Framework

- Environment Agency: South Cumbria: proposed new internal drainage board for Cumbria. Public events and e-consultation

- Information Commission: notification of renewal of DPA registration to Nov 2012

Cumbria CVS and Action for Communities in Cumbria (ACT)

- Offer of free 'Energy Best Deal' workshops based in local communities

Other

- Chris Potts, Colton PC-Finsthwaite Pigs-Report of 12th December Meeting.

- Citizens Advice Bureau-Possible item for your parish news-Warm Home Front.

- Coniston PC-Agenda- For 19th December Meeting.

- Forestry Commission-The Independent Panel on Forestry-Newsletter Issue 2.

- Friends of Lake District-December update

- High Furness LAP-Invoice template

- High Furness LAP-Minutes-Of 23rd November Meeting.

- Illegal Off-roading-Notes on Meeting 6th Dec.

- Lowwood Products Ltd-Open Day Invitation-Thursdays 22nd December.

- National Housing Federation-Northern Voice Latest edition

- UU-Updates-Glebe sewer work; road closure 9th

- National Housing Federation: Rural Housing Week (wb 27th Jan)- action pack for organising an event.

- Cumbria Branch of Society of Local Council Clerks – invitation to meeting on 31st Jan, Penrith.

- Honeywell Meats – introduction from company who bought YMCA woodland at Stott Park. (*Clerk responded asking for any management plans*).

- NW Air Ambulance – annual request for support and Skylines newsletter

- West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership: public consultation on disposal in Cumbria. Leaflets and notices for community events.

- Clerks and Councils Direct – Newsletter Jan 2012

- Blawith & Subberthwaite PC – Notice of meeting 12th January

- Cumbria Community Renewables Fund. Update following government's sudden Feed-In-Tariff changes.

- Satterthwaite PC – Agenda for 16th Jan and minutes of last meeting

015/12 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 20th February in Finsthwaite Village Hall, 7.30 p.m..

A draft list of proposed meeting dates for 12/13 was circulated for confirmation at the next meeting.