



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 Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 26th March 2012 in Rusland Reading Rooms at 7.30 p.m..

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

Also present: Cllr Wilson (CCC) Cllr Davies (SLDC)

031/12 Apologies

Cllr Fishwick (leave) Cllr Cunliffe (ill health) Cllr Watson (other engagement)

ACTION

032/12 Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20th February 2012 as a true record.

033/12 Declarations of Interest

None

034/12 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

None

035/12 Public Participation

Representations had been made during the Annual Parish Open Meeting held immediately prior to this meeting, concerning traffic speed in Oxen Park and a crime update from the police. The Clerk was actioned i) to arrange a site visit with the County Traffic Engineer at Oxen Park, and ii) to include some information in the next newsletter issue on crime prevention measures for householders.

Clerk

036/12 Comments from District and County Councillors

Cllr Wilson (CCC): i) He was awaiting an update on the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders for the repair of two of Colton's green roads. ii) The Bouth '20's Plenty' signs were now in place. iii) He was pleased to hear that communications with Highways were much improved since works had been brought back 'in-house' to County.

Cllr Davies(SLDC) explained that this would be his last meeting with Colton PC as he was standing down as District Councillor. The Chairman thanked him for his presence at meetings during this term of office.

037/12 Accounts

It was resolved that the following payments be made:

- Cheque no. 000588 – D.Oldham, Oxen Park Phone Box light – VAT: **£6.14**
- Cheque no. 000589 – Finsthwaite Village Hall Committee: hall hire during 11/12: **£20.00**
- Cheque no. 000590 – Bouth Village Hall Committee: hall hire during 11/12: **£72.00**
- Cheque no. 000591 – A.Lane, Clerk, office supplies, stamps, Finsth VH coin meter: **£111.53**
- Cheque no. 000592 – A.Lane Clerk, BVG imprest: **£100.00**
- Cheque no. 000593 – T. Atkinson, Lengthsman services Dec11-Feb12: **£639.60**

038/12 Planning

Planning applications were discussed and resolutions made as follows :

- 7/2012/5155 – Old Hall Farm, Bouth. Change of use to open farm and retrospective consent for timber building to be used as tea-room/shop. **Resolved:** not to object, but to express concerns about the potential size of development in relation to policy CS06 'South Distinctive Area', the quiet area designation and traffic levels.
- 7/2012/5135 – Abbot Park Farm, Bandrake Head: New building for use as camping barn. **Resolved:** No objection.

Clerk

The following planning permissions granted were noted:

- 7/2011/5500: Water Park, Nibthwaite: Demolition of existing marina and replacement with floating marina.

Clerk

The Council considered whether to write to the LDNPA expressing concern about the application of housing policies. The Clerk had recently responded on behalf of the Council to a request from

the LDNPA (Clive Wickham) to name the top 3 planning issues of concern to Parishes, for discussion at the forthcoming Lake District Parishes Forum on 30th April. She had sent in an update of the Council's list of issues which included i) how parishes should respond to planning applications, and ii) the application of housing policy. It was decided to follow this route of enquiry first before writing a separate letter. However, the Clerk was asked to again request that a planning officer attend a Parish Council meeting.

Clerk

039/12 Highways

- Salt/Grit and bins: The 3 emergency supplies of grit that had been delivered following the spell of cold weather were largely untouched. The heap at Oxen Park in particular would need removing shortly. The Clerk would ask the Lengthsman if he could find a suitable storage place under cover until next winter. If this was not possible, then the Lengthsman would be asked to use it to fill bins around the Parish. It was thought that Old Hall Farm, Bouth was happy to store the Bouth heap until next winter. The Clerk would speak to John Atkinson about the heap at Nibthwaite. The Clerk would purchase the two new bins approved at the last meeting.
- Bouth Speed Limit: The signs had been installed. Cllr Dean reported that residents seemed happy with them. He would monitor traffic speeds informally. The Chairman thanked Cllr Wilson for sparing the funds for this measure from his allocation from County.
- Lengthsman: Mr Atkinson has toured the parish clearing drains over the last 2 months. His next priority was to cut back vegetation on Light Lane, Rusland.
- Field of Pigs, Finsthwaite: The Environment Agency had successfully prosecuted Mr Rose for pollution of Black Beck. Cllr Wilson and the Parish Council would continue to press for action on the other issues of flooding, escaping pigs and pig welfare.

Clerk

Clerk

040/12 High Dam Car Park

Cllr Potts gave an update: A pay-and-display meter had been installed a month ago. The National Park (Mr Coxon) had put up some signage on the road 'Please Park Considerately'. This had had the effect of encouraging people to park there, with consequent damage to the verges and banks of the beck, and some problems with blocking driveways. Some cars were parking in the car-park but failing to pay. There had been an agreement from the National Park for a review of the effects of imposing charges. The Clerk was asked to invite Mr Coxon to attend the September meeting of the Parish Council at Finsthwaite.

Clerk

041/12 Paths for Communities (Defra/Natural England scheme)

Cllr Hoyle had highlighted the existence of a new grant scheme for new community paths and infrastructure which the Council might want to consider. Cllr Champion pointed out that any grant would be dependent on matched funding. Cllr Wilson suggested that a footpath along the Newby Bridge to Lakeside road might be a suitable candidate, if feasible. The Clerk would convene a small working group to consider the issue.

Clerk

042/12 The Lakeside Institute Charitable Trust

The Lakeside Institute Charitable Trust had been formed following the sale of the Institute. In its constitution, the Trust required the Parish Council to approve the appointment of one of its Trustees. The Council resolved to approve the re-appointment of Mr Gwyn Williams. The Clerk was asked to invite a representative of the Trust to attend a Council meeting to explain its aims.

Clerk

043/12 Meetings

The following meeting reports were received:

- CALC South Lakeland District Association 1st March: Cllr Dean had attended. There was not much to report of direct relevance to Colton. Discussion was mostly concerned with the SLDC Land Allocations procedure.
- CALC Localism Conference, 24th March: Cllrs Hoyle and Champion had attended. The Localism agenda was still very much at the theory stage; there was little information or guidance about practical application. Neighbourhood Plans were a new statutory instrument for local communities to express their local area requirements within the framework of the Local Plan. It was unclear where Community Plans now stood in relation to Neighbourhood Plans. However, it was felt that the Community Plan should be completed as soon as possible following all the work that had been put in. The problem was finding the time to put it together. The Clerk and Cllr Hoyle would set up a meeting with Julia Wilson of ACT who was keen to provide support.
- Neighbourhood Planning Workshop, 19th March: The Clerk had attended. The main points were:
 - Neighbourhood Plans (NPs) were a statutory part of the Development Plan (together

Clerk

with the Local Plan prepared by the local planning authority). All associated formal procedures including consultation and inspection were required.

- There was a presumption in favour of development for both of the above.
- A NP could decide on the type of development and where it should be. It could decide that there should be more development than in the Local Plan, *but not less*. It could not be used to prevent development included in the Local Plan
- If a NP was carried out, it had to be by a Town or Parish Council if one existed
- A Neighbourhood could be smaller or larger than a parish, and could be a group of parishes.
- It was not clear how the NP process would be funded.
- Neighbourhood Development Orders (NDOs) were single issue orders that could grant planning permission without the need for submission to the local planning authority, but would need to go through the same formal process as a Neighbourhood Plan. The Community Right to Build was an example of an NDO.

044/12 Consultations

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

- Defra: National Park Governance (by 31st May): Cllrs Barr and Champion would compile a response.

Cllrs Barr &
Champion

045/12 Parish Council Elections in May

Colton Parish Council elections were due in May. The Clerk had given out nomination papers to all and tabled the list of key dates for nomination papers and elections. The last date for submission of nominations was noon on 4th April. Councillors should ideally deliver their papers in good time personally to SLDC offices in Kendal, where accuracy checks could be carried out.

046/12 Correspondence

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

CALC/NALC

- NALC Guidance: S137 expenditure rate increase to £6.80 per elector
- Cumbria in Bloom competition 2012
- CALC conference: Localism, 24th March, Penrith
- Neighbourhood Planning Workshop – Ulverston – 19th March
- NALC Guidance on prayers at Council Meetings – the legal position (before the Sec of State's modification to powers – see below).
- Letter from Sec. of State concerning new powers to hold prayers at Council meetings (changing the legal position to allow them).
- Cumbria Affordable Warmth Partnership leaflet
- South Lakeland District Association papers for 1st March
- "The reality of audit costs" – training course reminder and cost of failed audit reminder!
- CALC Circular for March
- NALC National Pay Award – pay rates frozen for 3rd year
- Copy of presentation on SLDC Land Allocations DPD (at meeting 1/3/12)
- Copy of presentation on Localism and Community-Led Planning (at meeting 1/3/12)
- Election of Parish Members to National park Authority – time-table
- Cumbria County Council cleaning contract – offer for parish councils
- NALC: changes to unfair dismissal claims procedures
- NALC: Audit Fees changes (nil for parishes with income/expenditure < £10K)

CCC

- Road closure notice for Lane Head Farm, Spark Bridge, 20th Feb
- LAP – Actions from last meeting, 16th Feb
- LAP – papers from last meeting, 16th Feb
- LAP – Lengthsman Agreement with Highways for all LAP parishes (Colton's version)
- LAP – Information on 4G networks and problems with TV interference
- Highway Improvements requests – further opportunity to add items to list
- LAP – Highways planned programme of work: verge-cutting starting mid-May
- Local News and Views – Spring 2012
- Highway major resurfacing programme, for 12/13 (none in Colton – small roads dealt with under 'Better Highways' scheme.
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum meeting notes from 21st February

SLDC

- Council meeting agenda for 23rd Feb – for info
- March – Electoral register updates
- SLDC Allocations of Land Development Plan Document (outwith National Park) - consultation
- Scrutiny Committee – consultation on areas of service appropriate for review, by 20th April

- Local Area Partnership Event – 13th July, Kendal. Prior notification.
- Local Government Act 1976 – Review of Hackney Carriage Fares
- SLDC Corporate Plan 2012-16 and 5 year Strategy

LDNPA

- West Distinctive Area Tour, 27th March
- Illegal use of Countryside by Motor Vehicles sub-group. Agenda for 21st Feb
- Correspondence on signage for High Parkmoor (Clerk submitted proposals)
- Copy of letter from Nick Thorne (LDNPA Countryside Access Advisor) to RAC Competition Authorisation Office expressing concern about proposed route for night rally in quiet area, asking them to contact the Parish Council
- Lake District Local Access Forum – letter inviting nominations for membership
- Copy of car rally voluntary code of practice – between LDNPA and the Motor Sports Association.
- Minutes of Illegal Use of the Countryside by Motor Vehicles WG meeting 21st Feb
- Spring Local Councils Update. Note Planning questions invited by 20th April for discussion at next Lakes Parish Councils meeting on 30th April.

Cumbria CVS and Action for Communities in Cumbria (ACT)

- Invitation to take up financial services for PAYE administration
- ACT Gazette – Spring 2011

Other

- Parish Online – Mapping Tool for Parish Councils
- Lonsdale Belt night rally (17/18 march) – various correspondence with local resident, organiser, local police about the route, frequency of rallies and lack of notification
- Rooscot Biomass Group – proposed new biomass power station at Roosecote
- Friends of the Lake District - E-message
- Windermere Reflections: Heritage Lottery Project information for newsletters
- Enquiry about planning compliance in Newby Bridge area. Clerk checked and confirmed OK
- Coniston Parish Council – Agenda for 27th Feb
- BDO Auditors – Audit Briefing
- Friends of the Lake District – Our Green Space report.
- Citizen's Advice Bureau – Life after debt poster
- HMRC – reminder about end of year submissions for PAYE
- Highlights Rural Touring Scheme – mobile cinema scheme
- West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership – e-bulletin
- Haverthwaite PC – Agenda for 12th March
- Clerks and Councils Direct – March 2012
- Tim Farron Advice Surgeries Spring 2012
- Blawith PC – Notice of meeting 12th March
- Morecambe Bay Partnership – invitation to meeting, Morecambe, 22nd March
- Lonsdale Belt Navigational Rally – Sat 17th March – routed through Colton Parish
- Cumbria Action for Sustainability – 'Draught-busting' - free information evening, 13th March, Kendal
- Windermere Reflections E-Bulletin March 2012
- United Utilities – update on work on The Glebe, Bowness
- Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust – nominations for Governors by 19th Mar
- Haverthwaite PC – Minutes of meeting 12th March
- Coniston PC – Agenda for 19th March and minutes of last meeting
- Northwest Coordinator for the 2012 Games: Cultural Olympic events in the NW

047/12 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as the Annual Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 8th May in Bouth Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.