



## Colton Parish Council

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Clerk: Ms Mandy Lane  
Lilac Cottage  
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Ulverston LA12 8HG

The following are the minutes of the Colton Annual Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012 in Bouth Village Hall at 7.30 p.m..

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

**Also present:** Cllr Wilson (CCC) (*newly elected SLDC Councillor not yet office*) and 3 members of the public

### 048/12 Election of Chair for Council Year 2012/13

Cllr Barr was elected Chair for 2012/13 and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**ACTION**

### 049/12 Appointment of Vice-Chair for Council Year 2012/13

Cllr Potts was elected Vice-Chair for 2012/13 and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

### 050/12 Apologies Cllr Cunliffe (ill health)

### 051/12 Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Code of Conduct

Eight Councillors had been re-elected uncontested; all had signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Brenda Fishwick had decided not to stand for election because of other commitments. Cllr Barr read out a note she had forwarded and he thanked her for all her hard work on behalf of the Council.

### 052/12 To Fill the Vacancy following Elections

Cllr Robinson would liaise with the Clerk on a possible candidate for co-option.

**Cllr  
Robinson/  
Clerk**

### 053/12 Minutes of Last Meeting

**It was resolved** that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012 as a true record.

### 054/12 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Barr declared an interest in item 15 on the Agenda, Clerk's salary review.

### 055/12 Register of Members' Interests

Councillors completed their Register of Interests forms as appropriate for submission to SLDC.

### 056/12 Appointment of Representatives to Working Groups and Outside Bodies

#### 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, Hoyle, Clerk           |
| • Community Plan Working Group                        | Cllrs Champion, 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) Watson, Robinson, Wilson (CCC) |

#### External Bodies:

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| • Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC)    |                                       |
| South Lakeland Association                        | Cllr Dean (reserve: Cllr Barr)        |
| Lake District Parishes Forum                      | Cllr Hoyle (reserve: Cllr Champion)   |
| • High Furness Local Area Partnership (LAP)       | Cllr Barr (reserve: Cllr Dean)        |
| • High Furness Neighbourhood Forum (CCC)          | Cllr Cunliffe                         |
| • Coniston Water Association (LDNPA)              | <i>vacant pending new W ward Cllr</i> |
| • Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership        | Cllr Barr                             |
| • Green Roads Task and Finish Group               | Cllrs Barr, Watson and Wilson (CCC)   |
| • Illegal Use of Countryside by Motor Vehicles WG | Clerk                                 |
| • 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 Dean                             |

## 057/12 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting not covered on Agenda

None

## 058/12 Public Participation

i) Police: PC John Baldwin said there had been no reported crime in Colton Parish over the past month, though theft of diesel in Cumbria was on the increase, mainly from filling stations and cars. The current policing priority in the area remained illegal off-roading, though there had been very few reports recently. Warning letters had been sent out to some offenders. Poaching was still being monitored. The Rusland red deer herd had dispersed recently, reason unknown.

ii) Mr Stephen Sykes reported his dismay at the condition of the field of pigs near Finsthwaite and asked for the latest information. Cllr Barr explained what action had been taken so far and that the owner had been prosecuted by the Environment Agency for polluting the water courses. Cllr Wilson would talk again with Cumbria Trading Standards.

## 059/12 Bouth Village Green & Playground

Mr Osborn gave the annual report for 2011/12. The AGM had been held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Funding would be needed in the region of £1500 to replace the fencing; Mr Osborn would consider applying to the Neighbourhood Forum for a grant. It was suggested that the 'Fields in Trust' scheme also be considered. Mr Osborn would liaise with the Clerk

Mr  
Osborn/  
Clerk

## 060/12 Comments from District and County Councillors

Cllr Wilson (CCC): i) A590: There was to be a visit by the Minister for Transport on 18<sup>th</sup> June to look at A590 safety issues – views should be sent to Tim Farron MP. ii) Highways: there had been substantial budget cuts. iii) Affordable Housing: the Coniston Land Trust model might be worth investigating for Colton. iv) Green Roads: proposals for repairs had been delayed by the departmental re-organisation. v) Broadband: a user survey would be issued soon; the broadband provider should be known in June. vi) Health: A scrutiny committee was reviewing the problems - there was a strong drive to improve the service. vii) Verge maintenance: Cllr Wilson said that new contracts were being awarded. viii) Cllr Hoyle asked how best to report broken road-signs and worn give-way markers. The Clerk had reported these on the 'improvements list'. Cllr Wilson suggested these be reported again to ensure they were prioritised.

Cllr  
Wilson  
  
Clerk

## 061/12 Risk Assessment and Insurance Cover

**It was resolved** to approve the Risk Assessment for 2012/13.

**It was resolved** to approve the insurance cover and premium, due at end of May and to take up the 3 year fixed premium offer.

## 062/12 Accounts

**It was resolved** to approve and sign the accounts for 2011/12.

**It was resolved** to approve the Finance Working Group's review of the effectiveness of the internal audit.

The internal audit report for FY 11/12 and plan for FY 12/13 was noted.

The review of the scope of the internal audit procedure was noted.

The arrangements for this year's external audit were noted.

**It was resolved** to sign Sections 1 & 2 of the Audit Return for 2011/12

**It was resolved** to approve the annual review of the Clerk's salary undertaken by the Finance Working Group (from April 2012: 520 hours per year @ standard NALC pay rate: £9.591/hr, incremented annually). Cllr Barr and the Clerk left the room during this item.

**It was resolved** to approve following payments:

- Cheque no. 000597 – CALC subscription for 12/13: **£198.00**
- Cheque no. 000598 – Community First – Insurance cover (Zurich): **£515.51**
- Cheque no. 000599 – Eleanor Chaney, for C.Plan workshop – re-issued cheque: **£85.00**
- Cheque no. 000600 – NW Air Ambulance: **£50.00**
- Cheque no. 000601 – A.Lane, Clerk – stamps (pre-price-rise): **£41.00**
- Cheque no. 000602 – A.Lane, Clerk – Bouth Village Green 1<sup>st</sup> cash imprest 12/13: **£100.00**

The following payments were noted:

- Cheque no. 000595 – HMRC – Clerk PAYE Jan-Mar 2012: **£239.80**
- Cheque no. 000596 – A.Lane, salary Jan-Mar 2012: **£959.08**

The following receipts were noted:

- SLDC payment of precept for 12/13(BACS): **£9759.00**

## 063/12 Planning

The following response to a planning application was noted:

- 7/2012/5233: Land at High Wood, Spark Bridge: New field access gate (re-submission). *No objection.*

The following planning permissions granted were noted:

- 7/2012/5054: Buck Yeats Coach House – renewal of consent for replacement dwelling house with detached garage
- 7/2012/5049: Haycote, Bridgefield – installation of wood-burning stove and flue-pipe
- 7/2012/5079: 3, Lowside, Finsthwaite – Demolition of conservatory, extension to form garden room and master bedroom.
- 7/2012/5024: Lake House, Lakeside – New conservatory at first floor. New bedroom/ensuite to rear.

## 064/12 Election of Parish Member to the National Park

**It was resolved** to nominate Cllr Barr as a candidate for Parish Member.

**Clerk**

## 065/12 Highways and Rights of Way

- Lengthsman: Mr Atkinson had worked on the blocked drains at Finsthwaite and at Thwaite Head. The latter needed attention from Highways; the Clerk would notify them.
- Path to Stott Park Heights: It was resolved that the Council would proceed with applying to the National Park for making this track a formal footpath.

**Clerk**

**Clerk**

## 066/12 Noticeboards

Mr Riley at Nibthwaite Grange had offered to provide and maintain a noticeboard there. This was welcomed, but arrangements would need to be made for receiving notices – possibly electronically if he was agreeable. He would also be asked whether he would be willing to maintain both notice-boards at Nibthwaite. The Clerk would contact him.

**Clerk**

## 067/12 Meetings

The following meeting reports were received:

- CALC Lake District Parishes Meeting, 30<sup>th</sup> April : Cllr Hoyle had attended. Priority topics for the Planning Seminar to be held in September were discussed. Colton was the only parish to have submitted any. However, the issues raised by Colton, for example housing policy and required format for planning responses appeared to be topical for other parishes and would be used as a basis for the agenda. The nuclear waste facility proposals were also discussed – most parishes were against it. CALC had changed its position from neutral to against. The National Park were against any 'surface masses' but had reserved judgement on below ground storage pending further information.
- High Furness LAP, 26<sup>th</sup> April: Cllr Barr had attended: i) An excellent presentation had been given by Emma Dyson, the new project officer for the Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership. ii) Councils had been asked to come to the next meeting with three priorities for funding in 2012/13.

**Action all**

## 068/12 Correspondence

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

### **CALC/NALC**

- Members' Conduct and Standards, Localism Act – NALC Legal Briefing Note
- Items of interest to Parishes
- Election of Parish Member to LDNPA – Letter to Clerks on nomination process
- Lake District Parishes Partnership - meeting notification: 30<sup>th</sup> April, Gosforth.
- South Lakeland District Association: papers for June meeting
- More items of interest to Parishes
- CALC Circular – April 2012
- Notification of Emergency Planning conference, 16<sup>th</sup> May, Kendal
- CALC – newsround – smoking in playgrounds, emergency planning, General Power of Competence
- Notes from CALC Localism conference, March 2012
- CALC Lake Districts Parishes meeting – Agenda for 30<sup>th</sup> April
- CALC position (not in support) on Managing Radioactive Waste in Cumbria and news release
- Information on option to submit Audit Annual Return online

### **CCC**

- High Furness LAP: Notes from meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> Feb.
- Travel Map and Guide – Cumbria buses and trains. April 2012
- High Furness LAP: Actions from meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> April

- Local News and Views – Summer 2012

#### **SLDC**

- London 2012 – Olympic Torch Relay
- Connecting Cumbria newsletter (via SLDC)
- Statement of persons nominated for Parish Council Elections, and info on date for withdrawal.
- Update on changes to standards arrangements under new Localism Act, due in force on 1<sup>st</sup> July (draft regulations awaited). Model code of conduct complaints procedure.
- Agenda for Council meeting 29<sup>th</sup> March
- Papers for HF LAP meeting 26<sup>th</sup> April
- SLDC Community Voice – invitation to join panel
- Notification of payment of precept by BACS
- SLDC Annual Report for 2011-2012

#### **LDNPA**

- Upgrade of Planning Application database: website down from 20<sup>th</sup> April to 25<sup>th</sup> April.
- Correspondence about path to Stott Park Heights
- Correspondence about signage at High Parkamoor
- Correspondence about planned Land Rover events in the Lake District
- Illegal off-road Working Group – Agenda for 24/4/12
- Presentation by 'Tread Lightly' organisation for responsible green roads use. 21<sup>st</sup> May, Murley Moss, Kendal
- Launch of 'Go-Lakes' Travel – sustainable transport in the Lake District
- Updates from Clive Wickham: LDNPA Business Plan and Central and SE Distinctive Area Parish Tour in July

#### **Government Depts and Agencies**

- Dept of Energy: Government response to consultation on changes to the Paris and Brussels conventions on 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability.
- Consultation event on the amendment of the Nuclear Waste and Decommissioning (Finance and Fees) Regulations 2011. London 14<sup>th</sup> May

#### **Cumbria CVS and Action for Communities in Cumbria (ACT)**

- Notification of receipt of news by e-bulletin from April onwards.
- Conference on Emergency and Recovery Planning, 16<sup>th</sup> May, Penrith

#### **Other**

- United Utilities: update on work on The Glebe, Bowness
- NHS Cumbria - Closure of Penny Bridge Practice – request to place info in newsletter
- South Cumbria Rivers Trust – article for newsletter about invasive species
- Coniston PC – draft minutes of meeting 19<sup>th</sup> March
- Windermere Reflections Project – e-newsletter
- Forestry Commission: Request from Speddings Bros to widen access to caravan site on FC land
- Society of Local Council Clerks, Cumbria Branch conference, Kendal 16<sup>th</sup> May. Cost: £59
- Coniston PC – Agenda for 16<sup>th</sup> April
- Society of Local Council Clerks – Updating CiLCA qualifications for new 'General Power of Competence'.
- Satterthwaite PC – Minutes of last meeting and Agenda for 23<sup>rd</sup> April
- Windermere Reflections Project – volunteering opportunities
- Satterthwaite PC – Cancellation of 23<sup>rd</sup> April meeting and rescheduling for 30<sup>th</sup> April
- Clerks and Councils Direct – May2012
- Cumbria Playing Fields Association – Affiliation fees for 12/13
- Friends of the Lake District – Farming & Landscapes Event (Nibthwaite) poster.

#### **069/12 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June in Colton Church Hall, 7.30 p.m.