



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 10th Sept 2012 in Finsthwaite Village Hall at 7.30 p.m..

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

Also present: 2 Police Officers, Mr David Coxon (LDNPA) and 2 other members of the public

100/12 Apologies

Cllr Wilson (CCC) Cllr Fletcher (SLDC)

ACTION

101/12 Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 23rd July 2012 as a true record.

102/12 Declarations of Interest

None

103/12 Public Participation

Mr David Coxon (LDNPA Operations Manager) spoke about High Dam Car Park and the effect of the decision to implement charges. From the Park's viewpoint, the scheme was a success with the estimated revenue being c.£4K per year. This was not spent locally but supported the central budget.. There had been some parking on the road and some blocking of gateways; rangers had issued notices on some of these cars. Erosion of the beck on the roadside was a problem; Mr Coxon would send someone out to assess this. Dog poo bags and litter were a problem – Mr Coxon said that there were no plans to install any bins, but Park rangers attended twice a week to clear litter and empty the moneybox

Clerk

The Police reported on three crimes committed by the same couple during the summer: theft of a mountain bike at Colton, money from Black Beck caravan site, and entering a B&B at Rusland (where they were challenged and left). Unfortunately the description given to the 101 call centre didn't reach the police officers attending and they passed the suspects walking on the road. The police nearly caught up with the suspects on the M6 but lost them around Preston. There had also been two more incidents at Colton Church, including a camera stolen from a vehicle, and two cases of sheep-worrying by dogs (which were caught). Poor mobile signal was a real problem in this area for policing.

A member of the public asked that the Council add to the A590 safety list the dangerous turn right from this road towards the Swan Hotel and Lakeside at Newby Bridge.

Clerk

104/12 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

- Community Plan: The Clerk reported that the questionnaire results had been analysed, the working group was holding regular meetings, a structure for the Plan had been agreed and writing up was in progress.
- Lakeside Footpath: Cllr Hoyle reported that there had been some legal issues with the original proposed route, but that this was now being revisited; some progress was anticipated by the next meeting.

105/12 Comments from District and County Councillors

Cllr Wilson (CCC) had sent a report to the Clerk. The main items were: i) Winter road maintenance: a review of routes had been completed and would be reported soon; bulk delivery of salt was likely to be made at the start of the winter if Parishes made a request. Cllr Potts asked the Clerk to contact Cllr Wilson about the lack of gritting in Finsthwaite. ii) County Budget: further cuts of £12M are likely this year and a further £16M the following year. iii) Radioactive Waste Repository: Cllr Wilson had sent a letter expressing his concerns about further participation by County. iv) North-West connections project: Cllr Wilson had sent in his concerns about any land-based southern Cumbria route option for power lines.

Clerk

106/12 Declaration of Interest Forms

Councillors initialled and dated their Declaration of Interest forms on the request of SLDC because of a small update to the form. The Clerk would return them to Electoral Services.

Clerk

107/12 Vacancies in West Ward

The vacancy arising from the May election had been advertised for co-option and two applicants had come forward. It was resolved to co-opt Katherine Patterson of Ickenthaite (majority vote). Cllr Ian Cunliffe had sent a letter of resignation to the Chairman after some 20 years of service. The Chairman extended his thanks for all the hard work he had put in for the community. The casual vacancy arising from this resignation was being advertised according to standard procedures. Provided no bye-election was called, then co-option could take place at the Council's next meeting.

108/12 Accounts

It was resolved to support the Crake Valley website running costs at a cost of £11.60 per year; the Clerk would bring more information to the next meeting. **Clerk**

It was resolved that the following payments be made:

- Cheque number 000606: Mr Tony Atkinson, Lengthsman, work Jun-Aug: **£982.00** (inc VAT)
- Cheque number 000607: British Legion, poppy wreath: **£17.00**
- Cheque number 000608: Playsafety Ltd., annual RoSPA inspection, Bouth playground: **£75.60**

It was resolved to adopt the SLDC recommended mileage rate of 45p/mile from FY 2012/13.

It was noted that the Auditor requested that the Council keep an Assets Register listing items owned by the Council, and record this on the annual return; the Clerk had drafted a register and amended the return accordingly to fulfil the requirements of the Audit for 2011/12. The Finance Working Group would review the register at its next meeting. **Clerk**

It was resolved to approve the completed annual audit for year ending March 2012.

109/12 Planning

The following responses to planning applications were made as follows:

- 7/2012/5288: Low Longmire Cottage, Oxen Park. Raising of roof to allow 2 new bedrooms and en-suite. Lowering sill heights of ground floor windows. New window to rear. **Resolution:** No objection, but design concerns over the lowering of sill heights.
- 7/2012/5440: The Steps, Oxen Park: New garage and car-port. **Resolution:** No objection.

The following responses to planning applications were noted:

- 7/2012/5397: Burn Knott Bungalow, Bouth: Replacement house (new application): *No objection*
- 7/2012/5405: Crosslands Barn, Rusland: External flue on gable end: *No objection*
- 7/2012/5419: Old Hall Farm, Bouth: Retrospective planning permission for horse schooling area (manege): *No objection*
- 7/2012/5414: Greenhead Farm, Colton: Replacement workshop and store. *No objection provided use remains agricultural.*

The following planning permissions granted were noted

- 7/2012/5247: Swan Hotel, Newby Bridge. Erection of hotel accommodation.
- 7/2012/5256: Lilac Cottage, Oxen Park: Side and rear extensions.

The following appeals lodged were noted:

- 7/2011/5638: Colton House, Colton: appeal against refusal of permission for change of use from disused residential care home to single dwelling.

The following appeals dismissed were noted:

- 7/2010/5602. The Old Post House, Stott Park: Demolition of existing garage and reconstruction of garage/workshop with dayroom over. Appeal dismissed.

110/12 Bouth Village Green and Playground

The report from the annual RoSPA inspection for Bouth playground was noted. A medium risk item was identified again as loose coping stones on the boundary wall; the Clerk and Cllr Dean would investigate - the same issue had been raised last year and the stones cemented in place. **Clerk**

111/12 Highways

i) Traffic speed and road signs: The Clerk was in contact with Highways about the following items: Tottlebank width-limit – awaiting news from Highways Agency about acceptable signs on A590; Bouth '20's Plenty' zone – monitoring by Highways; Oxen Park traffic speed – pending results from Bouth speed monitoring; request for pre-warning signs at Lakeside for Pier, following residents' concerns about road safety.

ii) Lengthsman: The Lengthsman and the Clerk had met recently with the local Highways team to discuss blocked drains and the list of items requiring attention. This included road markings at Rusland Vicarage and a new road sign at the junction south of Rusland Church. Feedback is awaited. Cllr Ian Cunliffe having resigned, it was decided that the Lengthsman would liaise with the Clerk for a worklist and that Cllr Barr would sign worksheets, at least for the time being.

iii) Green Roads Pilot Study: Keith Masser (Area Highways Engineer) had managed to find sufficient funds to repair the two green roads meeting at Ickenthaite; a tender document and

the necessary Traffic Regulation Orders were being drawn up for work due to start next spring.

112/12 Housing

The Cumbria Rural Housing Trust had produced their Colton Housing Survey report. The report identified 7 household in affordable housing need within the next 5 years, one of which required housing in the next year. The need was for rented property, as income levels were too low for purchase. Only one household had put their name down on the local housing register. There was also an identified shortage of small bungalows for older people wishing to downsize. The report also noted that, according to District Council data, 32% of houses were non-main residences, one of the highest levels in the National Park. The Housing Working Group would meet shortly to discuss the findings in detail.

Clerk

113/12 Notice-boards

The Clerk had asked Cllr Wilson to chase up the offer of a notice-board from the County Council; nothing had been heard for nearly a year.

Cllr
Wilson

The poor state of the Lakeside notice-board was discussed; the Lakeside Institute Charitable Trust would consider an application for part-funding of a new one. However, it was noted that the board was little used. Cllr Champion suggested that she place a notice in it to assess need; if no-one signed up to say it was required, then the Council might consider not replacing it (the nearest notice-board being at Finsthwaite, not too far away).

Cllr
Champion

114/12 Meetings

Attendance at the following meetings was approved:

- CALC South Lakeland District Assoc., 13th Sept, Gilpin Bridge - Cllr Dean
- Lake District Parishes Forum, 8th Oct, (venue to be confirmed) - Cllr Hoyle
- LDNPA Planning Seminar 18th Oct, 6pm (venue to be confirmed) – Cllrs Dean, Hoyle, Clerk
- LDNPA South Distinctive Area Tour, 30th October (venue to be confirmed) – Clerk to arrange
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum, 7th Nov, Grizebeck (grant applications by 3rd Oct) – Cllr Champion. It was suggested that the Council apply for funds for a shared digital projector.
- High Furness LAP, Grizebeck, 11th Oct – Cllr Barr

Cllrs
Dean,
Hoyle,
Champion,
Barr
Clerk

115/12 Consultations

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

- HMRC Gritting roads using red diesel (by 5th Oct) – Clerk and Cllr Watson to respond
- SLDC Council Tax Reduction Scheme (by 31st Oct) – Housing WG to discuss

Cllr
Watson

The following consultation responses were noted:

- SLDC Clean Streets (by 24th Sept) – the Clerk had circulated a draft response; she would take comments into account and send a final version,

Clerk

Clerk

116/12 Correspondence

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

CALC/NALC

- Dept of Local Government and Communities: Consultation on proposal to remove the statutory requirements around cheque payments
- From HMRC - consultation on use of red diesel for gritting roads.
- Connecting Cumbria (Broadband) newsletter
- Cumbria Public Health Network – workshops on influencing health services
- BT – award for community groups that have a BT Business Landline - by 7th Sept.
- Request for info on public litter bins in the Parish – for SLDC.
- SLDC Housing Strategy – via CALC – parishes not formally consulted on this, but CALC urging us to read and respond.
- Information on handling money for other organisations in PC accounts – unclear, unless hold the new 'General Power of Competence'
- SL District Association – papers for 13th Sept meeting, and presentation on Windermere Reflections Project given at June meeting
- NALC and SLCC guidance on payment procedures once cheque payment statutory requirement removed
- CALC Executive Committee meeting minutes – paras on winter gritting arrangements
- Guidance on new Code of Conduct dispensations when disclosable pecuniary interest applies
- New login name and password to members' area
- Code of Conduct – training dates. (28th August, Ulverston).
- Dept of Local Gov and Communities – guidance for Councillors on Interests
- Lake District Parishes Forum – minutes of 30th April meeting
- CALC commentary on West Cumbria MRWS Partnership Final Report, plus change of date for meeting, now in Workington on 3rd Sept
- CALC's view on the 'Managing Radioactive Waste Safely' (MRWS) proposals and meeting in Workington on

3rd Sept

CCC

- Better Highways – Programme and Parish Communication
- Correspondence with Highways on lack of signs at Lakeside for Pier (residents' concerns)
- Notes from Colton Green Roads Pilot Project meeting 13/8/12 (from Cllr Barr)
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum, 7th Nov, Grizebeck. Grant applications to be in by 3rd October
- Local News and Views – CCC newsletter Summer 2012

SLDC

- Process for submitting Declaration of Interests forms (*omitted from last month's correspondence list in error*)
- Notification of Council meeting and Agenda, 26th July
- Clean Streets consultation - FAQs
- Papers from LAP meeting, 12th July: fuel poverty, SLDC energy switching scheme, amongst others.
- Roadshow dates for SLDC energy switching scheme.
- Publicity for the Annual Electoral Registration canvas for Police and Crime Commissioner Elections in November
- Copy of Registration of Interests forms for alterations to be made and signed by each Councillor, as the wrong wrong forms had been sent out to Parishes.
- Parish Remuneration Panel – invitation to comment on allowances & expenses for Members – by 7th Sept.
- Council Tax Reduction Scheme - consultation
- Review of Community Planning across South Lakeland

LDNPA

- Compliance update newsletter – via Cllr Barr
- Confirmation of Footpath creation order at High Dam
- Summer Update for Local Councils

Government Depts and Agencies

- Local Government Boundary Commission: Electoral Review of Cumbria: Final recommendations – status quo of 84 Councillors.

Cumbria CVS and Action for Communities in Cumbria (ACT)

- Cumbria CVS news July 2012
- ACT – offer of support for parishes taking on community assets (e.g. public conveniences)
- Cumbria CVS – centralisation of functions to Penrith office
- Cumbria CVS - newsletters August 2012

Other

- United Utilities – Work at The Glebe, Windermere – update July.
- Letter from Mr Richard Stoke, Finsthwaite, thanking the Council for following up the flooding issues at the Pig Field.
- Gwyn Williams – copy of his talk on the Jubille Insitute Lakeside Trust
- Walney Off-shore Wind Farm community consultation events
- Parish Online (mapping) newsletter
- Crake website – finance meeting and reminder of agreement to support
- Expression of interest from resident in becoming a Councillor
- Via SLDC Councillor Anne Hall: SLDC approval to charge 2nd homes full Council Tax. Also list of % of second homes and holiday lets in each parish, according to SLDC.
- Royal British Legion – invitation to Remembrance Service at Rusland, 4th Nov, and provision of wreath at £17.
- Coniston Parish Council – Agenda for 20th August and minutes of last meeting
- Loss of Orange Signal from parts of the Parish – correspondence with Lower Holker Parish Council Clerk
- Events for All – notice of Walking Festival, Sept 9th around lake Windermere (inc. Lakeside). Clerk responded with warning of Lakeside dangerous road.
- Nibthwaite resident reported verges uncut (not as per schedule).
- Tim Farron MP – summer tours – too late to publicise for our area
- Complaint from resident at Lakeside on lack of signage for Lakeside Pier and road safety issues.
- Walney Extension off-shore windfarm – 207 new turbines
- Expression of concern from resident of neighbouring Parish about state of pigs at Finsthwaite.
- Evans Cycles – information about cycle events on 15th/16th Sept in Colton Parish
- Fields in Trust newsletter
- Rural Services Network: South Lakeland's individual webpage
- RoSPA Play Area Inspection report for Bouth
- Cumbria Rural Housing Trust – Colton Parish Housing Survey 2012 – full report
- Society of Local Council Clerks – Cumbria Branch Annual Meeting, Penrith, 25th Sept
- West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Partnership – Final Report

11/7/12 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 22nd October in Bouth Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.