



## Colton Parish Council

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Clerk: Ms Mandy Lane  
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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in Colton Church Hall at 7.30 p.m..

**Members Present:** Cllr Barr (Chair) Cllr Dean Cllr Milburn Cllr Potts Cllr Patterson Cllr Robinson Cllr Watson Ms M Lane (Clerk)

**Also present:** Police Sargeant John Reid Mr John Osborn (Bouth Village Green Chairman) and 2 members of the public

### 067/13 Apologies

Cllr Champion (holiday) Cllr Hoyle (holiday)

**ACTION**

### 068/13 Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2013 as a true record.

### 069/13 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Potts declared an interest in respect of item 14: Correspondence and signed the Register.

### 070/13 Dispensation Requests

None

### 071/13 Public Participation

Police Sergeant Reid: summarised crime reports for the area. Crime remained low. A caravan had been stolen from Colton House. An arrest had been made in Manchester in relation to the stolen 4x4s and quad bikes in Rusland. The police were carrying out a drink-driving campaign in the area. A public meeting on police matters was to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> July in Ulverston Coronation Hall at 9.30am.

Mr Postle, Colton's Broadband 'Champion', summarised the latest news on the roll-out of super-fast broadband for Cumbria. There was a sense that broadband services had reached a tipping point whereby lack of access conferred real disadvantage and social exclusion. In Cumbria, around 1/3 of households were not being served through commercial incentives, leading to the County's 'Connecting Cumbria' project to upgrade 93% of premises to super-fast broadband by 2015. However, the remaining 7% of households were likely to receive a speed of only 2mb/sec. Colton was likely to be in that 7%. Maps showing which postcodes were 'in' and which 'out' were to be released shortly. It was important that Colton register strong support for super-fast broadband. Meetings would be arranged during July to inform the community and gather support.

**Clerk**

### 072/13 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

i) Paths for Communities: The response from Landing Howe for public access across their land had been firmly negative.

ii) Notice-boards: Mr Helme had recently provided a quote for moving the old Finsthwaite board to Lakeside, and for providing a new board for Rusland. The Clerk would review this and discuss placement of the Rusland board with the Rusland Reading Room Committee. A meeting in Oxen Park was also required for new placement of the Oxen Park board. The Clerk would act on these issues for a decision at the July meeting.

**Clerk**

iii) Community Plan: The Clerk would send out the current draft to Councillors and the Working Group on her return from holiday at the start of July.

**Clerk**

### 073/13 Comments from District and County Councillors

Cllr Fletcher was not present to give his reports. The Clerk would ask him for information on progress with the Empty Homes initiative.

**Clerk**

### 074/13 Accounts

The following payments were approved:

- Cheque no. 000641: A.Lane (Clerk), underpayment of insurance: **£6.10**
- Cheque no. 000642: Finsthwaite Village Hall hire for FY 12/13: **£20.00**
- Cheque no. 000643: CALC training course 'Next Steps' (Cllr Hoyle had attended): **£29.50**

To note the following receipts:

- SLDC – Parish grant for council tax support share: **£249.03**

**The Council approved** in principle the handling of a grant for a defibrillator for Oxen Park, but asked the Clerk to check that the grant represented an asset for the Parish, recorded on its Asset Register, and not a grant to an individual.

**Clerk**

## 075/13 Planning

Cllr Barr declined to take part in discussions, being a member of the LDNPA Development Control Committee.

The following planning applications were discussed and responses agreed as follows:

- 7/2013/5201: High Bethacar Farm, Nibthwaite: 5kw wind turbine. **Resolution: Support.**
- 7/2013/5204: Low Hay Bridge, Bouth: Restoration of valley mire. Mr Wingate-Saul, representing the Rusland Valley Mosses Liaison Group, explained the Group's concerns, primarily flooding of surrounding farmland and the impact on neighbouring farms, and the landscape changes likely to be caused by tree felling and death of trees through waterlogging. The application had no accompanying environmental impact assessment. **Resolution: Object**, on the basis of i) the impact on the environment, amenity, neighbouring properties and character of the area, and ii) policy, namely CS09 (South Distinctive Area) and the Lake District Partnership Plan priority to support profitable farming and sustainable land management.

The following responses to planning applications were noted:

- 7/2013/5195: 1, New Hall, Bouth: replace flat roof with pitched roof: *No objection.*

The following withdrawn planning application was noted:

- 7/2013/5030: Bracken Barn, Rusland: Conversion of existing barn to residence for local occupancy.

## 076/13 Bouth Village Green and Playground

Mr Osborn (Bouth Village Green Advisory Committee Chairman) read out the annual report for the Village Green. There was once again concern over the integrity of the RoSPA report, which had contained photographs from the previous year and risk ratings relating to items that had been mended. The Clerk had received an amended report. The Village Green hedge had been removed and a new fence put up; new beech hedging would be planted in the autumn. The Chairman thanked Mr Osborn and the Committee for their efforts in fund-raising and managing the Green and Playground.

## 077/13 Localism and Community Asset Registers

The Clerk summarised the 'Community Right to Buy scheme under the Localism Act and the need to produce a Community Asset Register. She would send out information to Councillors. It was decided not to attend the Localism training sessions at Kendal Town Hall as it was unclear what additional information would be included and one session in particular sounded rather urban-centric.

Clerk

## 078/13 Highways

i) Road Surface Defects: The Clerk had again asked when Highways teams were likely to visit Colton, as the last visit had been in August 2012. The response was apologetic, but with no estimated date. The Council asked that she raise the issue with Cllr Fletcher.

Clerk

ii) Overhanging Trees, Lowick-Nibthwaite road: The Clerk would visit the site and raise it with the Highways Hotline.

Clerk

iii) Lengthsman: Tony Atkinson, Lengthsman, was out of hospital following his back operation. The recovery period was likely to be 6 months to a year. The Clerk had received no response from Satterthwaite PC on possible temporary use of their Lengthsman; she would ask again and also explore other options.

Clerk

iv) Oxen Park Speed Limit: The results from the speed monitoring exercise showed that average speed was 23mph, with 12 % exceeding 30mph, 2% exceeding 35mph, and less than 1% exceeding 40mph. Highways concluded that 'the data indicates that the majority of vehicles travel at an appropriate speed for the area'. However, it was the minority of vehicles travelling too fast at the blind pinch-point in the village that was the problem. The Clerk had asked about '20s Plenty' signs and SLOW markings on the road: both of these would need to be funded from Cllr Fletcher's local budget. The Clerk would canvas opinion in Oxen Park and contact Cllr Fletcher.

Clerk

v) Green Roads: Cllr Milburn reported that there had been good progress with the repair to the green road from Nibthwaite to Ickenthaite (U5064). Drains had been built and eroded sections filled with about 300 tons of stone in total. The section eroded down to bedrock had been pecked out and filled. It was thought that funding was likely to run out shortly; it was unclear whether repairs to the second green road (Oxen Park to Ickenthaite, U5213) would go ahead. The repairs had had one unfortunate consequence in allowing increasing trail bike speeds.

## 079/13 Consultations

Lake District Partnership Plan: the Clerk had received no responses to the call for comment on priorities; it was assumed that Councillors had been happy with the priorities as set.

## 080/13 Correspondence

i) Complaint against Cllr Potts in relation to Height Lane application for right of way. Cllr Potts left the

room. The Clerk read out a letter received from Mr Millership of High Stott Park, in which he complained that he felt that Cllr Potts had had a personal interest in acting for the Council on gathering evidence for this application. The Clerk read out her response which explained that Cllr Potts had been acting on behalf of the Council, citing when this had been minuted. In her opinion, endorsed by CALC, Cllr Potts had no beneficial interest over and above any other member of the public. She had advised Mr Millership that he could take his complaint to SLDC if he so wished. Mr Millership was invited to speak to explain his concerns. **The Council decided** that Cllr Potts had acted only in the best interests of the Council and the Community and that he did not have a beneficial interest. Cllr Barr explained again that Mr Millership could take his complaint to SLDC if he wished to.

ii) Go-Lakes bus services: The Clerk had received information from Go-Lakes Travel (the sustainable transport organisation working with the National Park) apologising that there was in fact no bus service serving Colton Parish, but explaining their plans for a 'Freerider' bus service from Greenodd to Grizedale operating in the school holidays. They would send a time-table.

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

#### **CALC/NALC**

- CALC Circular for May
- CALC training information
- CALC training survey
- South Lakeland District Association – Summary of SL projects of wider interest
- South Lakeland District Association – Papers for meeting 13<sup>th</sup> June
- NALC Chairman's update on meeting with Minister on Localism

#### **CCC**

- Speed monitoring results for Oxen Park
- High Furness Neighbourhood Forum – notes from 14<sup>th</sup> March
- Green Roads repair information from contractor, via Cllr Milburn
- Information (on request) about road closures for Brathay marathon, 19<sup>th</sup> May
- Connecting Cumbria Conference, Penrith, 21<sup>st</sup> June

#### **SLDC**

- High Furness LAP – profile information from 2011 Census
- Council meeting Agenda, for info
- Localism Training sessions, July 2<sup>nd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, Kendal
- Review of new Standards Arrangements, one year on. Questionnaire for Clerks (by 11<sup>th</sup> June)
- Standards Committee – Annual Report on Ethical Standards under the new arrangements

#### **LDNPA**

- Illegal off-road meeting – minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> April
- Go-Lakes travel newsletter
- Correspondence with Go-Lakes travel in relation to bus services in Colton Parish
- TRO – Footpath diversion order, Crooks Farm, Bouth. From 6<sup>th</sup> June for 6 months
- LDNP Partnership -E-news for May
- LDNPA Updated for Parishes

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

- Office for Nuclear Development – survey on review of siting process for waste disposal. By 10<sup>th</sup> June.

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

- Cumbria CVS e-bulletin. 13<sup>th</sup> May
- Cumbria CVS e-bulletin. 22<sup>nd</sup> May

#### **Other Correspondence**

- Egton PC – copy of correspondence with Highways Agency about roundabout at Greenodd junction.
- Cumbria Partnership NHS Trust - survey
- Coniston Parish Council – meeting agendas for 20<sup>th</sup> May and minutes of last meeting
- Cumbria Rural Housing Trust – Event on Housing options for rural communities, Penrith, 14<sup>th</sup> June
- Letter from resident of Lakeside on noise nuisance from helicopters and discussions with SLDC and LDNPA
- NW Air Ambulance – letter of thanks for donation
- Mr Smith, Bouth – copy of correspondence with Highways Agency on A590 road surface defects
- RWE npower renewables – update on proposals for Kirkby Moor wind farm and consultation process
- Copy of letter from the Rusland Mosses Liaison group to LDNPA in respect of the planning application for Hay Bridge Mosses

#### **081/13 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July in Rusland Reading Rooms, 7.30 p.m..