



## Colton Parish Council

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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013 in Bouth Village Hall at 7.30 p.m..

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

**Also present:** 2 members of the public

### **114/13 Apologies**

Cllr Robinson (holiday)

**ACTION**

### **115/13 Minutes of Last Meeting**

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013 as a true record.

### **116/13 Declarations of Interest**

None

### **117/13 Dispensation Requests**

None

### **118/13 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting**

- Community Plan: Cllrs Dean and Potts were thanked for their comments on the draft Plan. These were discussed at a recent meeting and were being incorporated into the second draft.
- Notice-boards: The new Rusland notice-board had been installed and was now in use. Councillors looking after notice-boards should remove anything out-of-date and move notices that cover Parish Council official notices.
- Broadband: Cllr Barr asked everyone to register their interest in superfast broadband with the BT and Cumbria County Council websites.

**All Cllrs**

### **119/13 Public Participation**

Mr Roderick Smith passed on praise expressed at a meeting by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for Colton Parish Council as an efficient Council; Cllr Barr thanked him. He asked about a number of Highways issues: i) Gravel wash from the green road above Colton Church; the Clerk would ask the Lengthsman to take a look, ii) the collapsing wall on the blind bend opposite the entrance to Underfield. This had been on the list for Highways for many years and the Lengthsman had attempted to solve it, but the source of the problem was in the field. She would speak to the land-owner, iii) A590 (Tollbar) to Tottlebank cross-roads had only been patched and not re-surfaced as planned; the Clerk would ask Highways for an update.

**Clerk**

### **120/13 Comments from District and County Councillors**

Cllr Fletcher (SLDC and CCC) was not present.

### **121/13 Planning**

The following planning applications were discussed and responses agreed:

-7/2013/5533: Lake End Back, Nibthwaite: One-room extension at 1<sup>st</sup> floor level.

**Resolution: No objection**

-SL/2013/0906: Land Near Roerigg Tarn, Lowick Common: Installation of single wind turbine (85m high), associated access, housing for switchgear and construction compound.

**Resolution: Object on basis of landscape impact.**

-7/2013/5520: Far End Bungalow, Lakeside: Replacement house. **Resolution: No objection**

The following responses to planning applications were noted:

-7/2013/5522: Crosslands Barn, Rusland: Installation of external flue in gable end. *No objection.*

The following planning permissions granted were noted:

-7/2013/5395: Sinder Hill, Finsthwaite: New planning permission to replace extant 7/2010/5232 permission: Second bathroom and fire escape route.

-7/2013/5420: Water Park, Nibthwaite: Minor material amendment to 7/2011/5500 for fixed rather than floating jetties

-7/2013/5390: The Barn, Thwaite Head, Rusland: Barn conversion for local occupancy dwelling.

-7/2013/5453: 16, Landing How, Lakeside: Extension to accommodate utility room

-7/2013/5478: Lands End Farm, Crosslands, Rusland: Barn conversion for local occupancy dwelling.

-7/2013/5401: Land to SW of YMCA Centre, Parrock Wood: Forest access track

## 122/13 Highways and Lengthsman

No report had been received from Cllr Fletcher on the County's South Lakeland Local Committee meeting held in September.

Reports were received in the following items:

i) Flooding: Cllr Potts had written, as advised, to the Local Flood Risk Management Group about the flooding in Finsthwaite, but had received no reply so far. Householders at one end of the village were putting in a new drain in a field, which should help disperse the water from the swollen beck. The Clerk reported that Highways had re-routed and unblocked the drains beside the Lakeside Hotel which seemed to have solved the deep flooding on the road. Cllr Milburn mentioned that a culvert by Lowick Bridge, replaced in the recent past, was flooding again; the Clerk would add this to the list. On a positive note, hired digging machinery had been seen in the 'pig field', near Finsthwaite, which indicated that the landowner was perhaps trying to address the problem. However, there was still some flooding across the road and a large pothole had developed.

Clerk

ii) Highways Liaison: Highways teams had not visited Colton since August 2012. There was no information on whether or when Colton would expect to see the teams again, and the long and growing list of Highways issues was not being addressed. Apart from some occasional filling of potholes, Colton appeared to have been largely abandoned. The state of the drains was appalling, with many choked with debris. There was no sign of any work on road-markings, despite the Parish Council's detailed report. However, the Clerk explained that the Highways Network Officer, David Huck, had been extremely helpful. He always responded to emails and was trying to summon dwindling resources to sort out some of Colton's key problems; she was hopeful that the collapsed culverts at Colton (hamlet) would be attended to very soon.

iii) Lengthsman: The Clerk reported that the Lengthsman had been working hard on Colton's drains and showed a photograph he had taken of an enormous length of matted debris he had cleared from the drain beside Lin Bridge. The Council expressed its appreciation for his efforts.

iv) Overhanging trees, near Lowick Bridge: The Clerk would speak to Highways about whose responsibility these were.

Clerk

## 123/13 Accounts

It was resolved that the following payments be made:

-Cheque no. 000658: Bouth Village Green Committee, cash imprest: **£100.00**

-Cheque no. 000659: P.Helme, Rusland Notice-board and fixing Lakeside board: **£985.00**

-Cheque no. 000660: BDO Auditors: **£120.00**

-Cheque no. 000661: Information Commissioner, Data Protection Registration: **£35.00**

To note the following payments:

-Cheque no. 000655: A.Lane, Clerk's salary Q2 FY13/14: **£1033.86**

-Cheque no. 000656: HMRC PAYE Q2 FY13/14: **£258.47**

-Cheque no. 000657: A. Workman, Lengthsman. Work during Sept 2013 (17hrs): **£221.00**

The bank reconciliation for April-Sept 2013 was received and approved

The successful conclusion of the Audit for FY12/13 was received and approved.

The review of the effectiveness of the internal audit conducted by the Finance Working Group was received and approved.

A report from the Finance Working Group on the budget and precept for FY 14/15 was received. It was recommended that the precept be increased by 5% to allow the Council to employ a Lengthsman for another day per month and to allow for website redevelopment. A decision would be made at the next meeting in December.

## 124/13 Meetings

The following meeting reports were received:

i) LDNPA South Distinctive Area meeting (Cllr Champion): This had been the first meeting of its kind. It was a very useful and positive meeting, although it would have been helpful to have had more information beforehand about its purpose. The main issues covered were the new Torver trail and the LDNPA Partnership Plan priorities.

ii) Colton Green Roads Pilot Project (Cllr Barr): The meeting had been held in Kendal in order to meet with Highways representatives, however none came. This wasted everyone's time and travel costs. Cllr Barr has requested that another meeting be held with Highways Department staff present as soon as possible.

iii) CALC South Lakeland Association (Cllr Dean): Richard Rhodes, the Police and Crime Commissioner spoke: he was focussing on alcohol abuse and anti-social behaviour in town centres and using education to reduce youth crime. All parishes called for County Highways to attend the next meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> November; Cllr Dean and the Clerk would attend.

iii) High Furness Local Area Partnership (Cllr Barr): The new chair was Cllr Anne Brodie from Claife Parish Council. A representative from NHS Cumbria spoke but was unable to comment on the key issue of threatened closures of GP surgeries. Councils were asked to nominate 2 key issues of concern which were: highways and broadband. Neighbourhood Forums would no longer be making grants. Instead grants would be decided by a 'Community Grants and Engagement Review' which would include three representatives from Parish Councils, one of which would be Colton. Cllr Dean was nominated, with Cllr Barr as reserve.

Attendance was approved for the following meetings:

- CALC – Clerk's Forum, 14<sup>th</sup> November, £5, Crooklands. Clerk to attend
- CALC LDNPA Parish Forum, 28<sup>th</sup> October, Staveley – Cllr Champion and Clerk to attend

### 125/13 Consultations

i) LDNPA – Housing supplementary planning document: minor changes to local occupancy criteria. Cllr Potts and the Clerk would decide if a response was needed.

Cllr  
Potts &  
Clerk

ii) DECC - Managing Radioactive Waste Safely – nuclear waste repository. A new consultation had been launched which proposed, amongst other things, that decisions on siting could be made by a District Authority, rather than at County level. The Clerk would try to arrange for a speaker at the December meeting, though a decision would need to be made at that meeting as the deadline for responses was 5<sup>th</sup> December.

Clerk

iii) CALC: Police attendance at parish council meetings: Quarterly was considered appropriate, unless there were any current urgent issues to be reported. The Clerk would respond

Clerk

### 126/13 Correspondence

It was noted that the footpath diversion at Crook Farm, Bouth had been made permanent.

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

#### CALC/NALC

- CALC Circular for Sept 2013
- PAYE questionnaire from HMRC
- Broadband – Connecting Cumbria – information website for parishes – request that accessed only by Broadband Champion.
- Broadband – alternative website for information and 'Community Right to Build Expression of Interest' form complete – even if we have no plans to build anything!
- CALC AGM, Penrith, 9<sup>th</sup> November. Guest speaker, Police and Crime Commissioner
- "Developing your Skills" training brochure for Sept13-June14
- Neighbourhood Planning event, Ulverston, 2<sup>nd</sup> October (repeat of previous workshop already attended)
- Update on precepts, grants and district council plans for FY 14/15
- South Lakeland District Association papers for 26<sup>th</sup> September
- Questionnaire design training event, 7<sup>th</sup> November, Kendal
- CALC Circular for October
- Parish Council contact with Local Police – request for opinion, by 7<sup>th</sup> Nov

#### CCC

- Bus Panel Meetings – 17<sup>th</sup> October
- Highways (David Huck) – new drainage at Lakeside Hotel
- Temporary road closure, Greenodd junction, 20<sup>th</sup> October, and 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Nov

#### SLDC

- Weekly list of licensing applications, including Carhouse Cinema Oxen Park
- Agenda for High Furness LAP meeting, 10<sup>th</sup> October, Water Yeat
- Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 12-13
- Council meeting, 26<sup>th</sup> September, for info.
- Standards Committee meeting, 8<sup>th</sup> October, for info.

#### LDNPA

- Consultation on changes to Housing Supplementary Planning Document – local occupancy criteria changes. Deadline 1<sup>st</sup> Nov.
- Lake District Partnership E-News
- Agenda for South Distinctive Area meeting, 19<sup>th</sup> Sept, Torver
- Agenda for Illegal Off-road working group meeting, 17<sup>th</sup> Sept, Water Yeat
- Stony Hazel woods – thinning and extraction works, October
- Publication of Inspector's report for Allocations Plan and Minerals Plan
- Coniston Water Users meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> October (*have asked for future meeting dates*)
- Lake District Parishes meeting, 28<sup>th</sup> October, Staveley, 7pm

- LDNPA Dates of future Parish Forums and Distinctive Area Tours
- Development Management newsletter – Autumn 2013
- Footpath diversion order at Crooks Farm made permanent.

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

- Forestry Commission – Site meeting for track to Stricely Fell (Force Mills) – timber extraction
- DECC: Managing Radioactive Waste Safely – new consultation, by 5<sup>th</sup> Dec
- National Grid – North-west Cost Connections Project information
- Environment Agency – reminder about Flood Training Days
- Environment Agency – Windermere Reflections Events Guide
- Forestry Commission – meeting about Larch tree disease and FC Cumbria, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm, The Yan, Grizedale

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

- CVS Bulletin 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept
- ACT Gazette, Autumn 2013
- CVS News – Cumbria CVS South Funding Fair – 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct, Kendal
- CVS Bulletins 17<sup>th</sup> Sept, 1<sup>st</sup> Oct
- Cumbria CVS AGM 7<sup>th</sup> November, Workington
- Cumbria CVS Funding Fair, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, Kendal

#### **Other Correspondence**

- Satterthwaite PC – Agenda for meeting 10<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Blawith PC – Agenda for Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Community Circular – Hawkshead Surgery (via Cllr Patterson)
- Coniston Parish Council – Agenda for 16<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Cumbria Rural Housing Trust – AGM, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, Penrith
- Radiation-Free Lakeland – campaign against recent consultation on nuclear waste dump in Cumbria
- Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust – Annual meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> October
- Coniston Neighbourhood Plan – invitation to respond to consultation
- Coniston 14 road race information, 12<sup>th</sup> October
- CLASP bulletin Sept 2013. (environmental resilience, reducing energy use, and renewable energy planning issues.)
- Blawith PC – Notice of meeting 7<sup>th</sup> October
- Age UK – article about Homeshare initiative (via CALC)
- Notes from 'Broadband Champions' meeting, 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. (from Mike Postle)
- Clerks and Councils Direct Newsletter
- United Utilities – closure of Low Wood bridge from 11<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> November.
- Dong Energy – Walney off-shore wind-farm exhibition invitation, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Barrow

#### **127/13 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December in Rusland Reading Rooms , 7.30 p.m.