



Colton Parish Council

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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 30th November 2015 in Rusland Reading Rooms at 7pm

Members Present: Cllr Barr (Chair) Cllr Champion Cllr Dean Cllr Lodge-Brown Cllr Potts Cllr Watson
 Ms M Lane (Clerk) Cllr Fletcher (CCC & SLDC)

Also present: None

<p>161/15 Apologies Cllr Hoyle (holiday) Cllr Milburn (working) Cllr Patterson (working) Police</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
<p>162/15 Minutes of Last Meeting It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on <u>Monday 19th October</u> as a true record.</p>	
<p>163/15 Declarations of Interest Cllr Barr declared an interest in Agenda item 11, the Clerk's Salary, and signed the register.</p>	
<p>164/15 Requests for Dispensations None</p>	
<p>165/15 Public Participation <u>Police:</u> PCSO Paul Harris had sent a report: A male had been arrested for burglary at the Swan Hotel, Newby Bridge. A Land-Rover Defender had been stolen from Rusland – enquiries were ongoing.</p>	
<p>166/15 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Notice-boards:</u> The Clerk and Mr Oldham had been to view a plastic notice-board in use in Ulverston that would be suitable for Oxen Park; the cost would be in the order of £250. The Clerk was awaiting a formal quote. • <u>Assets of Community Value (ACV):</u> There was no news yet about the ACV submission for Rusland Reading Rooms. • <u>Bouth Playground repairs:</u> Playdale Ltd. had inspected the play equipment in need of repair; the Bouth Village Green Committee was awaiting an estimate. • <u>Letter concerning cuts to Police budgets (Clerk):</u> No letter was sent as the government had withdrawn from the extensive cuts proposed. • <u>Letter concerning Community Minibus Service (Cllr Barr):</u> Cllr Barr was trying to discover who he should write to. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Barr</p>
<p>167/15 Comments from District and County Councillors Cllr Fletcher reported on items from District and County as follows: i) <u>South Lakeland DC:</u> i) Recycling: There was still an aspiration to extend cardboard and plastics recycling to rural areas, but it was unclear when this would happen. ii) Housing: It was hoped that the new 5-year plan would require the Community Infrastructure Levy to be in place for all new housing. It was also possible that the Plan could include 300 self-build housing sites. ii) <u>Cumbria CC:</u> There was an aspiration to increase the Council Tax by 2%, allowable by government. It was unclear at present how this additional money would be spent. Asked whether there was any news about the 'Cumbria Deal', including the bid for significant funds for a combined authority, Cllr Fletcher explained that it was still under discussion.</p>	
<p>168/15 Planning Cllr Barr declined to take part in discussions concerning National Park planning applications, being a member of the LDNPA Development Control Committee. <u>The following planning applications were discussed and responses agreed:</u> – 7/2015/5373: Rusland Pool Hotel: Extensions to provide additional function/conference facilities and 6 additional bedrooms. Additional car-parking. Resolution: Support – 7/2015/5664: Mill Gate, Greenodd: Variation of conditions on 7/2011/5140, detached garage and home office. Resolution: Neutral <u>The following planning permissions granted were noted:</u></p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7/2015/5490: Swan Hotel: Proposed chicken coop, shed and greenhouse. New arrangement of land to rear for chicken runs, wildflower meadow and cut grass area. - 7/2015/5247: Fell Foot Park: Redevelopment. - 7/2015/5584: Tottlebank Farm, Greenodd: Erection of slurry store - 7/2015/5517: Barn at Ealinghearth Cottage: Barn conversion for local occupancy – <i>amended plans</i>. The Clerk had been sent an amended plan which had re-labelled one of the 4 bedrooms to be a Study, thus appearing to change the barn conversion to a 3-bedroom house. She had been asked whether she felt the Council would now approve the plan. She had replied that she thought it unlikely that the Council would feel this sufficient reason to change its original response ('object'). <p>It was resolved to write to the LDNPA to ask for an explanation of the decision to approve application 7/2015/5517, and to ask for a senior planning officer to attend a meeting to explain policy. Cllr Lodge-Brown asked whether a new housing survey might be carried out, as the last one was in 2012. Cllr Barr would first ask the LDNPA whether they would use a new survey to inform policy.</p> <p><u>It was noted that the following planning application had been withdrawn:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7/2015/5497: Colton Farm, Colton. Erection of agricultural workers dwelling. <p><u>The following Notice of Intention was noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7/2015/5613: Land near Burn Knotts plantation, Bouth: General-purpose storage building. 	Cllr Barr
<p>169/15 Community Plan</p> <p>The Clerk had received 25 printed copies of the Plan to be produced for Councillors, Clerk and Village Halls. Copies were circulated to Councillors.</p> <p>Arrangements for the Community Plan launch event on 4th December were finalised. It was approved that Mrs Anne Robinson provide supper for attendees at £6.50 per head. This would be funded through the Community Plan budget.</p> <p>The Clerk would consider how to manage the Community Plan Action Plan process.</p>	Clerk
<p>170/15 Highways and Lengthsman</p> <p>i) <u>Meeting between LAP representatives and County Highways, 16th November:</u> The Clerk had attended as the representative of High Furness LAP. The discussion had focussed on the problems with communication between County Highways and Parish Councils. The meeting was disappointing and the outcome somewhat unsatisfactory. No specific actions had been agreed. Minutes had been produced by SLDC that were a faithful record of the discussion.</p> <p>ii) <u>Road surface and drainage:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The road at <i>Ridding Bay, Lakeside</i> had again been flooded badly. Discussions between Highways and the land-owner on the east side of the road where the water should drain to were still ongoing. The Clerk would ask for a progress report. b) <i>Bouth Causeway</i>: A letter had been written to County Highways asking why it had taken so long to close the road, during which time 2 cars had been stranded with a range of emergency services called out. It was unclear whether the flood gates on the Rusland Pool had helped or hindered the situation; Cllr Champion would contact the Environment Agency to ask their opinion. The Clerk would contact Haverthwaite PC and the Cumbria Wildlife Trust. c) <i>Stott Park</i>: Cllr Potts reported that the flood alleviation works above Stott Park Bobbin Mill were working extremely well; he asked the Clerk to thank the Highways officer, Mr Dave Huck. <p>iii) <u>Traffic Management and Road Safety:</u> A disappointing email had been received about Grizedale signs which appeared to indicate that the Forestry Commission were now unwilling to fund them. Neither Cllr Hoyle nor Cllr Patterson were present to comment, so this was deferred until the next meeting.</p> <p>iv) <u>Green Roads:</u> Cllr Barr was still awaiting notification of a meeting with Highways. He would ask again.</p> <p>v) <u>Lengthsman:</u> Mr Workman had been working in Bouth and Finsthwaite following the recent heavy rain.</p>	Clerk Cllr Champion Clerk Clerk Cllr Barr
<p>171/15 Finance and Accounts</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the bank reconciliation to 31st October 2015.</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the effectiveness of the internal audit for FY 14/15.</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the Clerk's salary for FY 16/17 at 10hrs per week @ £11.19/hr. (Cllr Barr and the Clerk left the meeting during this item).</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the Lengthsman's rate of pay for FY 16/17 to remain at 21hrs per month @ £14/hr.</p> <p><u>Budget for FY16/17:</u> It was resolved to approve the budget and a precept increase of 3% for FY16/17.</p>	

<p>It was resolved to approve the recommendations of the SLDC Parish Remuneration Panel for FY 16/17 (mileage allowance remains at 45p/mile)</p> <p>The following payments were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cheque no. 000768: A. Workman, Lengthsman, October working: £280.00 – Cheque no. 000771: A. Workman, Lengthsman, November working: £210.00 <p>The following payments were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cheque no. 000769: T. Baxter, Community Plan publication (final payment): £120.00 – Cheque no. 000770: Printing Plus, printing of 25 copies of Community Plan: £221.93 	
<p>172/15 Meetings</p> <p>The following meeting reports were received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Environment Agency workshop on multi-agency response to flooding, 4th Nov (Cllr Champion)</u>: This had been a useful meeting which aimed to demonstrate the protocol that County followed for flood events. Flooding was rated as the 3rd highest national emergency. An emergency meeting of the strategic multi-agency group would be triggered during significant flood events. Community messaging was regarded as a key part of flood response. A flood simulation exercise highlighted the need for more emphasis on the recovery phase post flooding. Final advice given was: 'know your risk, sign up for flood warnings and make a plan'. <p>Cllr Champion had been impressed by the communications she had received following the recent weekend of rain and floods, due to Finsthwaite having produced and registered their Emergency Plan with the agencies. She would investigate the Community Messaging system. She would ask Cllr Hoyle, as portfolio-holder for Communities and Well-Being, how he wanted to proceed with emergency planning/flood response in Colton Parish as a whole.</p> <p><u>It was approved</u> that the Clerk attend an SLDC workshop on 'Websites and Social Media' in Kendal on 3rd December.</p>	<p>Cllr Champion</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>173/15 Consultations</p> <p>It was noted that Cllr Hoyle had responded to the County Health and Well-Being Strategy on behalf of the Council.</p> <p>It was decided that no responses were necessary for the following consultations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <u>Local Boundary Commission: Electoral Review of South Lakeland</u> – It was felt that no changes were required. – <u>SLDC Draft Statement of Community Involvement</u>: It was felt that this was a reasonable document and there were no particular issues to raise. 	
<p>174/15 Correspondence</p> <p><u>Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:</u></p> <p>CALC/NALC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of proposed changes to CALC Constitution • NALC funding for implementation of transparency code – further information • Windermere Town Council's response to consultation on proposed closure of Kendal Magistrates and County Court • South Lakeland District Association – papers for meeting 26th November • Invitation for nominations to NALC Smaller Councils Committee • Funding for village halls to connect to Broadband – for cities only (!) • Windermere Town Council's letter to the Home Office concerning proposed police cuts in Cumbria • County budget consultation – for individual responses before 22nd Jan • CALC/Tebay Parish Council asking if other parishes have concerns about overnight parking of HGVs in roadside lay-bys and verges • Lake District Parishes Forum: minutes of meeting 12th October, Gosforth. • Agenda and papers for CALC AGM 14th Nov • CALC Annual Report for 2015 • CALC Circular for November 2015 • Guidance from ACAS on grievance procedure • Cumbria in Bloom AGM invitation, 16th Nov, Newton Rigg • NALC Procurement tool-kit • Audit changes – request to consider whether to accept automatic enrolment in new audit arrangements • CALC AGM presentations: Devolution for Cumbria <p>ACT/Cumbria CVS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New tourism development funding from European Agriculture Fund for Rural Devt. • Community Buildings Event, Shap, 17th Oct • Community-Led Planning event, Ambleside, 19th Jan 	

CCC

- Health and Well-being Strategy consultation – short deadline 13th November.

SLDC

- Revised 'Guidance for Members on Gifts and Hospitality' August 2015
- Time-table for submission of precept forms to SLDC
- Development Management Plan discussion paper for areas outwith National Parks
- Consultation on Draft Statement of Community Involvement, Nov 2015. By 18th Dec
- Website and social media training workshop, Kendal. 2nd or 3rd December
- Kirkby Moor Wind Farm – notification of planning committee meeting, 26th Nov
- HF LAP – Request for opinion on the future of the LAP
- Press release – flood alert for South Lakeland. (*Read too late to usefully circulate*)
- Annual review of SLDC Constitution 2016. Invitation to raise any issues, by 8th Jan
- SLDC Overview and Scrutiny Committee – consultations under scrutiny: Statement of Community involvement, Development Management policies (outwith National Park), revised Council Plan.

High Furness LAP

- Minutes of HF LAP meeting 6th October
- Agenda for LAP meeting with Cumbria Highways 16th November
- Social media and simple website workshop for Parishes, 2nd/3rd Dec. *Clerk was invited to suggest format and has discussed format with SLDC web developer.*
- Agenda for LAP meeting with County Highways, 16th November

LDNPA

- Correspondence with PC and EA about trail bikes crossing The Strands, Rusland, despite TRO barriers – possible fencing.
- Postponement of Coniston Water Association meeting, 13th October
- Date of next Oxenholme to Grasmere travel plan meeting, 9th November
- Notification of dates for Coniston 'Records Weeks' for 2016 and 2017 (Oct/Nov)
- Temporary Prohibition of Traffic Order for Grizedale and Malcolm Wilson rallies 21st Nov 2015 and 12th March 2016.
- Agenda and minutes of Oxenholme to Grasmere Corridor Travel Plan meeting, 9th November.

Government Departments and Agencies

- DEFRA: Secretary of State Member Appointments for National Parks – applications by 2nd Nov
- National Grid – NW Coast Connections. Press release
- Local Boundary Commission: Electoral Review of South Lakeland

Other Correspondence

- Concern over funding cuts to Police force – request for Parish Council to write.
- Mike Postle, Broadband Champion – note about discussions with Connecting Cumbria and proposed meeting in January to discuss Parish 'not-spots'
- Walney Extension Wind Farm Community Fund consultation survey results
- (via CALC and Cllr Barr) Groundwork: Funding for local green space projects for green spaces and play areas
- North-west Ambulance Service re further defibrillators in phone boxes and option of emergency telephone.
- Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter – Nov 2015
- Blawith PC – Agenda for 9th Nov and minutes of last meeting
- Cumbria Action for Sustainability – Community Energy event and Maintenance Cooperative Start-up Session
- Kirkby Moor Wind Farm local campaigning group. Notification of officer's recommendation to refuse the application
- Connecting Cumbria – Request to Parish Councils to raise awareness of SF Broadband progress through newsletter article
- North-West Air Ambulance: grant request
- Cumbria Rural Housing Trust – Newsletter, including info on Empty Homes.

175/15 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 11th January in Bouth Village Hall, at 7pm.