



## Colton Parish Council

Tel: 01229 861408  
 e-mail: coltonpc@btinternet.com  
 web: www.coltonparishcouncil.org.uk

Clerk: Ms Mandy Lane  
 Lilac Cottage  
 Oxen Park  
 Ulverston LA12 8HG

The following are the minutes of the Annual Colton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in Bouth Village Hall following the Annual Parish Open meeting at 7.30 p.m..

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

**Also present:** 1 member of the public

	<b>ACTION</b>																						
<p><b>061/15 Election of Chair for Council Year 2015/16</b>            Cllr Barr was elected Chair and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office</p>																							
<p><b>062/15 Appointment of Vice-Chair for Council Year 2015/16</b>            Cllr Champion was elected Vice-chair and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office</p>																							
<p><b>063/15 Apologies</b>            Cllr Potts (holiday) Cllr Patterson (family bereavement) Cllr Watson (other meeting) Cllr Fletcher PCSO Paul Harris</p>																							
<p><b>064/15 Minutes of Last Meeting</b>            It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on <u>23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015</u> as a true record.</p>																							
<p><b>065/15 Declarations of Interest</b>            Cllr Barr declared an interest in respect of item 14. on the Agenda: Clerk's salary, and signed the register.</p>																							
<p><b>066/15 Requests for Dispensations</b>            None</p>																							
<p><b>067/15 Register of Members' Interests</b>            Cllr Milburn signed a new Register of Interests Form. All other Councillors reported no changes.</p>																							
<p><b>068/15 Public Participation</b>            The <u>Police</u> had sent a report to the Clerk. Since the last meeting, the police had received calls about the following: a suspicious white van (checked, but no trace of it found), alleged disturbance of badger sets on Colton Hill (no offences were found), several calls about poaching in Rusland (a deer cull was taking place), and theft of an iPhone at Old Hall Farm. The most serious incident concerned a man found with severe injuries on the road below Bouth Village Hall: enquiries were continuing.            Cllr Milburn asked the Clerk to find out why his off-roading reports, with number plate information, had not been followed up or included in the police report.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>																						
<p><b>069/15 Appointment of Representatives to Working Groups and Outside Bodies for 2015/16</b>            It was resolved to defer decisions on Part A (Working Groups) until the next meeting when more Councillors would be present. In respect of Part B (Outside Bodies), representatives were confirmed as follows:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>CALC: South Lakeland District Association:</td> <td>Cllr Dean</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CALC: Lake District Parishes Forum:</td> <td>Cllr Champion</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High Furness Local Area Partnership:</td> <td>Cllr Hoyle</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coniston Water Association:</td> <td>Cllr Milburn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership:</td> <td>Cllr Barr</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Colton Green Roads Pilot Study WG:</td> <td>Cllr Barr</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Illegal Use of Countryside by Motor Vehicles WG:</td> <td>Clerk</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rusland Reading Room Committee:</td> <td>Clerk</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finsthwaite and Lakeside Village Hall Committee:</td> <td>Cllr Champion</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bouth Village Hall Committee:</td> <td>Cllr Dean</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rusland Horizons Heritage Lottery Project:</td> <td>Cllr Barr</td> </tr> </table> <p>It was noted that the Neighbourhood Forum no longer existed; instead the High Furness LAP held a Grants Committee, of which Cllr Dean was a member. The Rusland Valley Liaison Group no longer met.</p>	CALC: South Lakeland District Association:	Cllr Dean	CALC: Lake District Parishes Forum:	Cllr Champion	High Furness Local Area Partnership:	Cllr Hoyle	Coniston Water Association:	Cllr Milburn	Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership:	Cllr Barr	Colton Green Roads Pilot Study WG:	Cllr Barr	Illegal Use of Countryside by Motor Vehicles WG:	Clerk	Rusland Reading Room Committee:	Clerk	Finsthwaite and Lakeside Village Hall Committee:	Cllr Champion	Bouth Village Hall Committee:	Cllr Dean	Rusland Horizons Heritage Lottery Project:	Cllr Barr	
CALC: South Lakeland District Association:	Cllr Dean																						
CALC: Lake District Parishes Forum:	Cllr Champion																						
High Furness Local Area Partnership:	Cllr Hoyle																						
Coniston Water Association:	Cllr Milburn																						
Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership:	Cllr Barr																						
Colton Green Roads Pilot Study WG:	Cllr Barr																						
Illegal Use of Countryside by Motor Vehicles WG:	Clerk																						
Rusland Reading Room Committee:	Clerk																						
Finsthwaite and Lakeside Village Hall Committee:	Cllr Champion																						
Bouth Village Hall Committee:	Cllr Dean																						
Rusland Horizons Heritage Lottery Project:	Cllr Barr																						

<p><b>070/15 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Community Plan</u>: The final part of the grant from ACT had been received. The Action Plan was almost complete. Some corrections needed to be made to the Plan following final proof-reading and further pictures were needed. The Clerk would circulate a list.</li> <li>• <u>Rusland Horizons Project and Old Hall Wood, Bouth</u>. Cllr Barr would send details of the project plan to Cllr Dean for discussion with the Old Hall Wood Liaison Group.</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk Cllrs Barr &amp; Dean</p>
<p><b>071/15 Bouth Village Green &amp; Playground (BVG&amp;P)</b></p> <p>Mr John Osborn, the Chairman was unable to attend to present his Chairman's Report, due to an urgent family matter. Cllr Dean confirmed that the AGM had been held during April where the Report had been given. The Clerk would request a copy of the report from Mr Osborn</p> <p>The Clerk had drawn up a Health &amp; Safety Policy for BVG&amp;P. A draft had been sent for consideration by the BVG&amp;P Committee; Cllr Dean confirmed that it had been discussed at the AGM. Mrs Cooper asked whether 'Police Slow' signs could be requested for the event on the Green on 29<sup>th</sup> May; the Clerk would contact the Police.</p> <p>The Clerk had also met with Mr Lovegrove during one of his monthly playground inspections, to update herself on the procedure and to discuss any emerging issues. The Council recorded its thanks to Mr Lovegrove for his diligence in conducting these regular inspections on behalf of the Council and the BVG&amp;P Committee.</p>	<p>Clerk  Clerk</p>
<p><b>072/15 Comments from District and County Councillors</b></p> <p>None present (apologies received).</p>	
<p><b>073/15 Highways</b></p> <p>The list of Highways issues had recently been updated and was available on the website. Whilst there was now very good communications and progress in terms of road surface defects and drainage issues, traffic management issues remained slow to be addressed. However, Oxen Park did now have a replacement village sign, although unfortunately the fixings were not tamper-proof.</p> <p>Cattle signs at Hulleter requested by Cllr Fletcher had been installed, but it was unclear why two signs faced one direction and none the other; the Clerk was awaiting a response.</p> <p>Mrs Cooper asked about progress with yellow-lining and SLOW signs at Bouth. Road marking requests and the replacement signpost at Thwaite Moss were subject to Highway's assessment of priorities; it was unclear when these would be done. The Clerk would continue to press Highways.</p> <p>The Forestry Commission had indicated their willingness to pay for Grizedale signs, but were still waiting for Highways to respond.</p> <p>Cllr Hoyle asked the Clerk to find out why the diversion route had been wrongly marked through Thwaite Moss during repairs to Force Mill Bridge, whereas the notification had clearly shown the route to be via Rusland Cross. The Clerk would enquire.</p> <p><u>Lengthsman</u>: The Clerk had uploaded a copy of Archie Workman's worksheets onto the website and would do so routinely from now on.</p>	<p>Clerk    Clerk</p>
<p><b>074/15 Finance Working Group Report and Recommendations</b></p> <p>It was resolved that the Finance Working Group recommendations be approved as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Accounts for 2014/15</u>: these were signed by the Chairman</li> <li>• <u>Bank reconciliation for year end 2014/15</u>: this was signed by Cllr Champion</li> <li>• <u>Risk Assessment for 2015/16</u></li> <li>• <u>Insurance Cover for 2015/16</u></li> <li>• <u>Clerk's salary annual review</u>: Chairman and Clerk left the room during discussion and decision. It was resolved to confirm the Finance Working Group's recommendation that the Clerk be paid according to NALC scale SP23: £10.836 per hour for 520 hours per year. The Council asked the Clerk to keep a record of her hours for the next few months.</li> <li>• <u>Annual review of SLDC Members' Allowances</u>: no change from last year.</li> </ul> <p><u>The following reviews by the Finance Working Group were noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Internal Audit</u>: Review and approval of scope and plan.</li> <li>• <u>Internal Audit for FY 14/15</u> completed with no substantial issues.</li> <li>• <u>Assets Register as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015</u> reviewed and approved.</li> </ul> <p><u>The following was noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Lengthsman's rate of pay</u> increased to £14/hr for FY 15/16 as resolved by full Council, minute ref 160/14</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk</p>

<p><b>075/15 Accounts</b></p> <p><u>Sections 1 and 2 of the Audit Return for 2014/15 were approved and signed.</u></p> <p><u>The following payments were noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheque no. 000737: A.Lane, Clerk, salary Q4 FY 14/15: <b>£1116.54</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000738: HMRC PAYE for Clerk's salary Q4 FY 14/15: <b>£279.00</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000739: A.Workman, Lengthsman, March working: <b>£260.00</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000745: A.Workman, Lengthsman, April working: <b>£266.00</b></li> </ul> <p><u>The following payments were approved:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheque no. 000740: CALC Clerk's Forum meeting: <b>£5.00</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000741: Diane Malley, PAYE services for 15/16: <b>£48.00</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000742: Community First, Insurance for 15/16: <b>£430.59</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000743: Cumbria Clock Company Ltd., Finsthwaite Clock maintenance: <b>£174.00</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000744: Crake Valley website annual contribution: <b>£15.00</b></li> <li>- Cheque no. 000746: CALC subscription for FY 2015/16: <b>£214.00</b></li> </ul> <p><u>The following receipts were noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SLDC Precept for FY 15/16: <b>£12079.54</b></li> <li>- SLDC Grant for FY 15/16: <b>£319.46</b></li> <li>- SLDC High Furness LAP payment for Lengthsman support: <b>£96.98</b></li> <li>- Action for Communities in Cumbria, Community Plan remaining grant award: <b>£247.50</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>076/15 Council Qualifications</b></p> <p><b>It was confirmed</b> that the Council met the qualifications for General Power of Competence, having a qualified Clerk and at least 2/3 of Councillors elected.</p> <p>All but two of the criteria for Local Council Award Scheme Foundation Status had been met. The Clerk would try to action the remaining criteria in time for confirmation at the next meeting.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<p><b>077/15 Planning</b></p> <p>Cllr Barr declined to take part in discussions, being a member of the LDNPA Development Control Committee.</p> <p><u>The following planning application was discussed and a response agreed:</u></p> <p>-7/2015/5192: Crosslands Barn, Rusland. Single storey extension to dwelling to create utility room and family room. New detached garage and study building. <b>Resolution: No objection</b></p> <p><u>The following planning permission granted was noted:</u></p> <p>-7/2015//5071: Swan Hotel, Newby Bridge: Variation of conditions 2 (changes to approved plans) and 12 (materials for windows) on application 7/2014/5449</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<p><b>078/15 Meetings</b></p> <p><u>The following meeting reports were received:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Crake Valley Website meeting, 8<sup>th</sup> April (Clerk attended):</u> The website had been redeveloped and was a useful 'portal' for access to local community and parish council websites. It enabled users to add content and contribute to a calendar of events. The name of the website caused some confusion as its use extended well beyond the Crake Valley, but the originators did not want to change the name.</li> <li>• <u>LDNPA South Distinctive Area meeting, Hawkshead 28<sup>th</sup> April (Cllr Barr and Champion attended):</u> A cycle-way between Hawkshead and Wray, prompted by the local parish council and enabled by the Park was now open. Hawkshead was experiencing difficult times financially and were unhappy with the LDNPA car-parking charges. Presentations were given about i) Coniston Copper, an Heritage Lottery Fund bid focussing on the archaeology of the coppermines and ii) the work of the Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership in trying to improve water quality.</li> <li>• <u>Broadband Meeting, Colton Church Hall, 18<sup>th</sup> April (Cllr Barr attended):</u> Mr Mike Postle (our local council 'Broadband Champion') had arranged for a satellite/radio broadband link trial to take place at Colton as a possible alternative to BT Superfast Broadband. This gave up to 38 mb upload and download speeds during live streaming to various devices simultaneously.</li> <li>• <u>Coniston Water Association, 14<sup>th</sup> April (Cllr Milburn attended):</u> Events planned included the Big Chill swim on 5<sup>th</sup> September and Coniston Powerboat Records Week from 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Free lifejacket checks were available at Coniston Boating Centre. Peel Island was still being used as a toilet by boaters and canoeists. It was unclear whether the sale of Blea Brows was proceeding as planned.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>079/15 Consultations</b></p> <p><u>The following consultation was noted and a response agreed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Waterbird Project:</u> It was resolved not to object to the application for speed limit exemption for the Waterbird Project – landing a water plane on Windermere during September.</li> </ul>	<b>Clerk</b>

## 080/15 Correspondence

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

### **CALC/NALC**

- Victory in Europe Day commemoration 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> May. Encouragement to light a beacon.
- Audit and Transparency Regime – Guide for smaller authorities.
- NALC Newsletters
- CALC Circular April 2015
- Notification of David Claxton's retirement (CALC chief officer) this year.
- NALC's 'Direction of Travel' plan for 15/16
- Pension enrolment workshop 4<sup>th</sup> June (legal duty to provide option for pension scheme). Clerk unable to attend, but has asked for guidance.

### **CCC**

- Resourceful Communities Pilot Scheme to reduce waste. Invitation to apply to CCC for £250 to run 10 'resource efficiency' sessions
- Final report from Bus Panel Meetings – including approval for bus stop at Rusland Pool Hotel subject to safety assessment.
- Notification of road closure at Force Mill bridge, and diversion via Crosslands/Thwaite Head

### **SLDC**

- Morecambe Bay Partnership - Cycle Way: Grange Section - consultation
- Community News March 2015
- Electoral Services – Election notices for notice-boards
- Agenda for Council meeting, 30<sup>th</sup> March (for information only)

### **LDNPA**

- Consultation: Windermere Boat Racing Club exemption application reminder (original consultation not received!)
- Notification of submission of Coniston Neighbourhood Development Plan
- Reminder of invitation to attend LDNPA South Distinctive Area meeting, 28<sup>th</sup> April
- Agenda for Coniston Water Association meeting 14<sup>th</sup> April
- Windermere exemption application – 'Waterbird' project

### **Cumbria CVS and ACT**

- CVS News
  - Report from ACT Community Resilience Planning workshop, Oct 2014
- ### **Government Departments and Agencies**
- Environment Agency – Meeting notes from Ashes Beck walk, 10<sup>th</sup> March
  - Forestry Commission: Invitation to attend Nigel Williams' retirement lunch, 14<sup>th</sup> April
- ### **Cumbria CVS and Action for Communities in Cumbria (ACT)**

- Newsletters and training.
- Invitation to join 'MyNHS' to be consulted on services

### **Other Correspondence**

- Satterthwaite PC – Agenda for meeting 24<sup>th</sup> March
- Rural Housing Policy Review and recommendations
- Clerks and Councils Direct, March 2015
- Letter about the 'Waterbird Project' proposals for replica plane to be flown from the Lake in September.
- Oxen Park Cinema Club – press release - Big Lottery Grant for new permanent cinema equipment
- Blawith PC – Agenda for 13<sup>th</sup> April and minutes of last meeting
- Questionnaire from student on the nuclear industry in Cumbria
- Hawkshead Pharmacy – request for letters of support
- Walney extension wind-farm 'have your say'.
- Satterthwaite PC – Agenda for meeting 28<sup>th</sup> April

## 081/15 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June in Colton Church Hall , 7.30 p.m.

The possibility of changing the start time of Parish Council meetings to 7pm was discussed. All present were in agreement, but it was decided to defer the final decision until the June meeting when more Councillors would be present.