



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 11th January 2016 in Bouth Village Hall at 7pm

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

Also present: 2 members of the public

| 001/16 Apologies Cllr Lodge-Brown (holiday) Cllr Potts (ill health) Cllr Patterson (working) | ACTION |
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| 002/16 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 30th November 2015</u> as a true record. | |
| 003/16 Declarations of Interest None | |
| 004/16 Requests for Dispensations None | |
| 005/16 Public Participation The following questions were asked: i) Whether the Council would encourage the community to participate in the litter clearance initiative for the Queen's birthday and ask the authorities to help with disposal of the litter. The Clerk would investigate. ii) Whether the Council was aware of the broken gate into Moss and Height Spring wood, Bouth; a group of 4x4 vehicles (from the Netherlands) were seen damaging it. The Clerk would report this to the Bill Hogarth Memorial Apprenticeship Trust who manage the wood on behalf of the Woodland Trust. iii) Whether the Council would check whether planning permission was required for erecting and extending groups of animal shelters in fields. | Clerk Clerk Clerk |
| 006/16 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Notice-boards</u>: Delivery of a notice-board for Oxen Park was expected soon. The Colton notice-board was no longer operational and would be replaced by the former Oxen Park board; residents would be asked where they wanted this board to be placed. • <u>Assets of Community Value (ACVs)</u>: Confirmation had been received that the Rusland Reading Room was now an ACV. It was agreed that the next application would be a woodland, possibly Stoney Hazel woods, Rusland. • <u>Bouth Playground Repairs</u>: The estimate from Playdale seemed expensive. Cllr Dean would speak to Mr Osborn (Chairman, Bouth Village Green Committee) and Playdale who provided the estimate. Other estimates may need to be obtained for any funding application. • <u>Community Minibus Service</u>: Cllr Barr had spoken to the Community Minibus Service to ask whether the minibus could be used on a regular basis for local community transport; he was waiting for a reply. Volunteer drivers (MIDAS qualified) would be required. Cllr Hoyle would forward to the Clerk a leaflet he had seen about community transport. • <u>Request for a Planning Officer to speak to the Council</u>: Cllr Barr will speak to officers soon. | Clerk Clerk Cllr Dean Cllr Barr Cllr Hoyle Cllr Barr |
| 007/17 Comments from District and County Councillors None present. | |
| 008/17 Broadband Mr Postle (Broadband Champion) gave an update on progress with Super-fast Broadband. Cabinets had been installed at Lakeside and Finsthwaite. Phase I would be completed by the end of March this year and would also include Bouth. Mr Postle's online blog would alert households about when connection was possible; households should then contact their ISP. However, he noted that some ISPs did not support fibre | |

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| <p>connections, so householders might need to change ISPs.</p> <p>Mr Phil Rushton (Connecting Cumbria) was running workshops in Coniston and Torver to encourage take-up of SFBB. He would run one for Colton Parish if requested, possibly in combination with neighbouring parishes in the Newby Bridge area and also the Lowick area. It was important to encourage high up-take in order to demonstrate need across the rest of the Parish. It was unclear at present whether Mr Rushton would be available after March 2016.</p> <p>It was resolved to ask Mr Rushton to run a workshop in the south-east of the Parish (where SFBB was to be available); the timing was dependent on his availability. Mr Postle would let the Clerk know.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Mr Postle for his hard work on behalf of the Parish.</p> | <p>Mr Postle/ Clerk</p> |
| <p>009/16 Planning</p> <p><u>The following responses to planning applications were noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 7/7/2015/5652: Bracken Barn, Thwaite Head, Rusland: Barn conversion for local occupancy (variation on original application granted 7/2013/5153). Neutral <p><u>The following planning permissions granted were noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 7/2015/5489: Swan Hotel, Newby Bridge: Alterations to top floor of hotel building. – 7/2015/5527: Riverside Cottage, Low Nibthwaite: Replace asbestos roof with slate. – 7/2015/5373: Rusland Pool Hotel: Extensions for function room & additional bedrooms, plus additional car-parking | |
| <p>010/16 Flooding, Highways and Lengthsman</p> <p>i) <u>Flooding (Storm Desmond, 4th/5th December):</u> It was noted that 3 residential properties had been flooded in Finsthwaite by water running off the fellside, as well as properties in Lakeside, the Lakeside Hotel and the Swan Hotel being flooded from the lake. The Clerk had forwarded information and grant applications. Cllr Champion had been nominated as the contact person for flooding issues.</p> <p>ii) <u>Highways – Road Surface and Drainage:</u> Many roads were awash with water, following the storms and also due to the lack of maintenance by County to the drains. The Clerk had now contacted Highways after giving them time to attend to other more pressing problems elsewhere in South Lakeland. She was asking for a meeting as soon as possible.</p> <p><u>Bouth Causeway:</u> No response had yet been received to the Council's letter about the failure to close the flooded Bouth Causeway during the flooding in November and December. Cllr Dean thought that works on Ireland Moss had not yet been completed. Cllr Barr would contact Penny Bridge Estates. The Clerk would contact the Cumbria Wildlife Trust who were working on Ireland Moss. The Environment Agency had explained to Cllr Champion that the high tide in combination with the high rainfall had cause the extreme flooding and that the two drop-down gates over the river needed to be kept clear by landowners.</p> <p>iii) <u>Highways: Traffic Management and Road Safety:</u></p> <p><u>Road marking requests:</u> The Clerk had asked once again about road marking requests that had been promised (Rusland Cross junction, Bouth SLOW signs and yellow lines, Oxen Park SLOW signs); she was awaiting a reply.</p> <p><u>Grizedale Signs and Thwaite Moss Finger-post:</u> The Forestry Commission appeared to have withdrawn their intention to provide signs to Grizedale; they had replaced a sign at Rusland Cross, but this was a small sign showing a tree symbol only. Cllr Hoyle would speak to Cllr Fletcher about signage including the promised finger-post at the Thwaite Moss turn. Cllr Milburn noticed that the Grizedale sign on the A590 was about to fall down. The Clerk would send a note to the Forestry Commission.</p> <p>iv) <u>Green Roads:</u> Cllr Barr had been promised a full meeting of the Green Roads liaison group before Christmas. There had been no replies to his emails. The state of Pegg Lane, north of Oxen Park was a particular concern, being now almost impassable on foot, even wearing wellingtons.</p> <p>v) <u>Lengthsman:</u> Archie Workman has been attending various flood spots and blocked drains throughout the Parish, following the storms. Cllr Hoyle thanked him for his work at Thwaite Moss.</p> | <p>Cllr Barr Clerk Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Hoyle Clerk</p> |
| <p>011/16 Height Lane, Stott Park</p> <p>The public enquiry held in October had resulted in no decision being made about the status of Height Lane. This was unsatisfactory and left the local community in doubt about whether or not they could walk the route. Challenges could only be made on the basis of concerns about the process. Mr Nick Thorne had provided a useful summary of the situation and answers to questions from residents. It was resolved that the Council would not pursue any action for the time being, but would contact the Ramblers Association to find out their view on the position.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |
| <p>012/16 Community Plan</p> <p><u>The Community Plan launch event</u> held on 3rd December had been a success with more than 50</p> | |

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| <p>people attending. The Council recorded its thanks to Archie Workman for his entertaining talk.</p> <p>It was resolved that Action Plan updates would be included in the Council's February, June and October meetings.</p> <p><u>Communications Strategy:</u> Cllrs Barr and Hoyle had produced a 'think-piece' paper on communications as a basis for discussion. Cllr Hoyle (portfolio-holder for Communities) would work up the strategy following comments and ideas received.</p> | Cllr Hoyle |
| <p>013/16 Finance and Accounts</p> <p><u>The precept claim form for 2016/17 was approved and signed.</u></p> <p>It was resolved to accept automatic 'Sector-Led Body' audit procurement arrangements from 2017.</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the following payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cheque no. 000772: NALC Local Council Award's Scheme Registration: £60.00 – Cheque no. 000773: Whitestone Properties: Printing 5 newsletters and documents: £185.80 – Cheque no. 000774: A. Lane, webspace annual fee 123-reg: £43.06 – Cheque no. 000775: A. Lane, Clerk, Salary Q3 FY15/16: £1126.88 – Cheque no. 000776: HMRC, PAYE Q3 FY 15/16: £281.80 – Cheque no. 000777: A. Workman, Lengthsman, December working: £210.00 – Cheque no. 000778: A. Robinson, Community Plan event supper: £288.00 – Cheque no. 000779: A. Workman, extension drain rods: £28.00 – Cheque no. 000780: G. Thomas ('Wood Matters'), Rusland Horizons grant from LDNPA: £1500.00 – Cheque no. 000781: Furness Plastics: Notice-board for Oxen Park: £252.00 <p><u>The following payment due was noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CALC – Local Council Award Scheme accreditation fee: £50.00 <p><u>The following receipt due was noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – LDNPA – Grant for Rusland Horizons project: £1500.00 | |
| <p>014/16 Meetings</p> <p><u>The following meeting reports were received:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Illegal Off-road Working Group</u>, Torver, 1st December (Clerk): Following a plea from the Chairman of the group, more representatives from the authorities were present at this meeting. PCSO Emma Forrester was very committed and was planning an 'enforcement day'. The group had drawn up draft signs for finger-posts and commons gates, but the LDNPA were not keen on signs with any negative message. A meeting was to be held to make a decision on appropriate signage. • <u>SLDC Website and Social Media Workshop</u>, Kendal, 3rd December (Clerk): This had been a useful meeting, but too much time had been spent on discussing the use of Twitter and not enough on building websites (using Wordpress), which had been the main requirement for Parish Councils. | |
| <p>015/16 Consultations</p> <p><u>The following consultation response was noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>CALC Devolved Services and Assets Survey:</u> The Clerk had responded, explaining that the community was already paying for its Lengthsman, and volunteering to maintain its village green, playground, 5 village halls, community transport, footpaths, rivers and drains. Colton Parish could only take on devolved services if funding were made available. | |
| <p>016/16 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 the CALC Constitution • NALC funding for implementation of transparency code – further information • Windermere Town Council's response to proposed closure of Kendal Magistrates & 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 January • 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

ACT/Cumbria CVS

- 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.
- 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 & 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.

017/16 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 15th February in Finsthwaite Village Hall, starting at 7pm.