



Colton Parish Council

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Clerk: Ms Mandy Lane
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 Oxen Park
 Ulverston LA12 8HG

The following are the minutes of the Annual Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9th May 2016 in Bouth Village Hall following the Annual Parish Open meeting at 7p.m..

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

Also present: 4 members of the public

	ACTION
052/15 Election of Chair for Council Year 2016/17 Cllr Barr was elected Chair and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office	
053/15 Appointment of Vice-Chair for Council Year 2016/17 Cllr Champion was elected as Vice-chair. She would sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office at next Council meeting in June.	
054/15 Apologies Cllr Champion (holiday) Cllr Lodge-Brown (holiday) PCSO Paul Harris (briefing note sent)	
055/16 Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Code of Conduct The recent elections had resulted in eight Councillors being elected (uncontested). Cllr Potts had decided not to stand after twelve years of service. The Chairman expressed thanks on behalf of the Council for his hard work and commitment and would write a letter accordingly. The six councillors present signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form following the uncontested election. Cllr Champion would sign at the next Council meeting in June. The Clerk had also heard from Cllr Lodge-Brown that she would be moving away and so that unfortunately she would also be resigning from the Council.	Cllr Barr
056/16 To Decide How to Fill Vacancies Left Unfilled following the Election The election and subsequent resignation left two vacancies on the Council, one in East ward and one in Central ward. The Clerk would include an item in forthcoming newsletters.	
057/16 Minutes of Last Meeting It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on <u>21st March 2016</u> as a true record.	
058/16 Declarations of Interest None	
059/16 Requests for Dispensations None	
060/16 Public Participation <u>The Police</u> (PCSO Paul Harris) had sent a report to the Clerk, as follows: i)The police had been called out to a neighbour dispute in Colton. ii) The police had taken part in a successful illegal off-roading operation during April, where a fixed penalty notice had been given to a trail biker, and warning letters sent out to others. iii) Poaching: The carcass of a deer which had been brought down by dogs had been found near Ickenthwaite, and another carcass was photographed being picked up by an unknown person, suspected of poaching. <u>Mr Smith</u> asked whether a piece of woodland in Bouth described as 'amenity woodland' could be built on. Cllr Barr explained that it would be subject to a planning application for change of use at the very least; he would ask planning officers.	Clerk Cllr Barr
061/16 Register of Members' Interests All Councillors would complete and sign a new Declaration of Interest form and forward it to the Clerk within the next fortnight, in time to get them to Electoral Services within the 28 day deadline.	All/ Clerk
062/16 Appointment of Representatives to Working Groups and Outside Bodies for 2016/17 Following the two resignations from the Council, it was decided that Cllr Hoyle would join the Finance Working Group at least until further Councillors were co-opted. The Local Economy portfolio, would be left vacant until co-option. Otherwise, representation would remain the same as for 2015/16. <i>(The full list of representatives and portfolio-holders is attached to these minutes.)</i>	

<p>063/16 Bouth Village Green & Playground (BVG&P)</p> <p>Mr David Hamer presented the Bouth Village Green Annual Report to the Council. He explained that Mr Osborn had resigned as Chairman of the BVG Advisory Group and that he, Mr Hamer, had been elected as Chair. The new Vice-Chair was Roger Coates.</p> <p>The Council recorded its thanks to Mr Osborn and also to Mr Lovegrove for his diligence in conducting regular playground inspections on behalf of the Council and the BVG&P Committee.</p>	
<p>064/16 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Bouth Playground Repairs</u>: Cllr Dean reported that these had now been completed. 	
<p>065/16 Comments from District and County Councillors</p> <p>Not present</p>	
<p>066/16 Nomination of Parish Member for the LDNPA South Distinctive Area</p> <p>It was resolved that Cllr Colin Barr be nominated as a candidate for Parish Member of the LDNPA South Distinctive Area. The Clerk would submit the form to CALC.</p>	Clerk
<p>067/16 Broadband</p> <p>It was agreed that the Parish Council should support the idea of running digital inclusion workshops for Spark Bridge and Finsthwaite; Mr Postle (Broadband Champion) would make the arrangements with Connecting Cumbria.</p> <p>It was noted that the Bouth Super-fast Broadband (SFBB) cabinet had gone live at the end of March. Many households had signed up and were experiencing speeds of c.24 mb/sec, less than the guaranteed 35 mb/sec. A cabinet for Oxen Park was due to be installed during Phase 2 of the initiative. An initial application has been made for 'Community Fibre Partnership' for those homes in Colton hamlet that would not benefit from SFBB.</p>	
<p>068/16 Highways</p> <p>i) <u>Road Surface and Drainage</u>: Highways had been working on the culvert next to Tarn Potts, Newby Bridge to solve the drainage problem there. They had also worked on levelling Pegg Lane to direct water through the drain pipes in the walls that Mr Park (farmer) had installed.</p> <p>ii) <u>Traffic Management and Road Safety</u>: The Clerk had again reminded Highways of the promised line markings still to be done at Oxen Park (SLOW signs), Bouth (yellow lines around the Green and SLOW signs), and Rusland Cross (junction markings). They had replied saying it would be done this summer as part of a 'lining package'. The Clerk would monitor.</p> <p>iii) <u>Lengthsman</u>: Mr Workman had been working on the drainage problems at Bouth Road Ends. He had spoken to the farmer asking if he would place a pipe from the trough through the hedge into the drain to stop water running along the hedge-line, and is hopeful this will be done.</p>	Clerk
<p>069/16 Finance Working Group Report and Recommendations</p> <p>It was resolved that the Finance Working Group recommendations be approved as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Accounts for 2015/16</u>: these were signed by the Chairman • <u>Bank reconciliation for year end 2015/16</u>: this was signed by Cllr Hoyle. • <u>Insurance Cover for 2016/17</u> <p><u>The following reviews by the Finance Working Group were noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Internal Audit</u>: Review and approval of scope and plan (no changes). • <u>Internal Audit for FY 15/16</u> completed with no substantial issues. • <u>Assets Register as at 31st March 2016</u> reviewed and approved. 	
<p>070/16 Accounts</p> <p><u>Sections 1 and 2 of the Audit Return for 2015/16 were approved and signed.</u></p> <p><u>The following payments were noted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cheque no. 000791: A.Workman, Lengthsman, March working: £238.00 – Cheque no. 000792: A.Lane, Clerk's salary for Q4 FY 15/16: £1127.08 – Cheque no. 000793: HMRC PAYE for Q4 FY 15/16: £281.60 – Cheque no. 000794: A.Workman, Lengthsman, April working: £196.00 <p><u>The following payments were approved:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cheque no. 000796: A. Lane, gift to Lengthsman for talk at Community Plan meeting, Dec 2015: £25.60 – Cheque no. 000797: A. Lane, Clerk, office supplies, parking fees: £121.76 – Cheque no. 000798: Diana Malley PAYE Services for FY16/17: £58.00 – Cheque no. 000799: CALC: Subscription for 2016/17: £214.00 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cheque no. 000800: Playdale Playgrounds Ltd.: Playground equipment repairs: £284.18 - Cheque no. 000801: Finsthwaite and Lakeside Village Hall, hall hire FY 15/16: £30.00 - Cheque no. 000802: Bouth Village Hall, hall hire for FY 15/16: £45.00 - Cheque no. 000803: Rusland Reading Room hire for FY 15/16: £36.00 - Cheque no. 000804: Community First – Insurance for FY 16/17: £453.63 <p>The following receipts were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HMRC VAT return for FY14/15 (BACS payment Feb 2016): £259.00 - SLDC – Precept and grant for FY16/17: £12,771.00 <p>It was resolved to claim on the Parish Council insurance for damage to resident's car costing £150+VAT.</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the management of funds for the proposed Bouth defibrillator and to accept it as a Parish Council asset covered by the Council's insurance.</p> <p>It was resolved to accept the quotation for refurbishment of Oxen Park notice-board and installation at Colton: £320.00</p>	
<p>071/16 Council Qualifications</p> <p>i) General Power of Competence (Localism Act): It was confirmed 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>ii) Local Council Awards Scheme (LCAS), Foundation Status: It was not possible yet to confirm this status: the Clerk had re-submitted the necessary forms and actions for the LCAS award scheme, but had not yet heard if it had been successful. A key issue appeared to be the criteria for 'Continuing Professional Development', which required a build up of points by Clerk and Councillors attending various training courses. It was disappointing that the Clerk's CiLCA qualification did not contribute anything to this award (unlike the past Quality Status). Also disappointing was that there seemed to be no tangible benefits to gaining the award.</p>	
<p>072/16 Planning</p> <p>Cllr Barr declined to take part in discussions, being a member of the LDNPA Development Control Committee.</p> <p>The following planning applications were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7/2016/5208: Kirkthwaite Cottage, Oxen Park: Replacement of tin roof and flat felt roof with pitched slate. Demolish existing porch/shower room with new small extension. Increase pitch of porch roof. Resolution: Support - 7/2016/5161: Ridding Bay, Lakeside: Replacement boat house with day room, and extended jetty. Resolution: Support - 7/2016/5008: Buck Yeats Lodge Park: Improvements including new concrete bases, new decks, gas compound, new tarmac road sections and parking bays. Resolution: Object for reasons of the proposed solid stone balconies and lighting along the roadways in this prominent location on the lakeside. <p>Responses made by the Clerk to planning applications were noted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7/2016/5134: Bullace Cottage, Finsthwaite: Modernisation and alterations. <i>Neutral</i> - 7/2016/5059: Ridding bay Lodge, Lakeside: Private pool and recreation area. <i>Neutral</i> - 7/2016/5197: Windy Hall, Rusland. Double detached garage. <i>Neutral</i>. - 7/2016/5172: Mast, Finsthwaite: Replacement parts and alterations to cabin <i>Neutral</i>. - 7/2016/5103: High Hay Bridge, Bouth: Minor extensions and package treatment plant. <i>Neutral</i>. <p>The following planning permissions granted were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7/2016/5127: The Old Post Office, Low Stott Park. Variation to conditions on 7/2014/5730. (<i>ColtonPC had sent a Neutral response</i>). <p>The following certificate of lawful use was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7/2015/5766: YMCA: Land to the South East of Low Parks Wood, Lakeside: use of land as memorial meadow for scattering of ashes. 	
<p>073/16 Meetings</p> <p>The following meeting reports were received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDNPA Local Plan South Distinctive Area meeting, Greenodd, 20th April: (Cllrs Barr and Champion attended): The LDNPA was embarking on a Local Plan review, and wanted to see if any issues or changes in the area over the past 5 years would require policy amendments. Most discussion concerned housing: 'local needs' and 'affordable'. It was reported that the government was unwilling to consider allowing a 'change of use' requirement for existing homes changing into holiday lets. The re-designation of 'quiet areas' might be included in the Local Plan; this issue had been raised as part of the Coniston Neighbourhood Plan. • CALC, Lake District Parishes Forum meeting, Kendal, 25th April: (Cllrs Barr and Champion attended): i) An update was given from the recent Lake District Partnership meeting. CALC was asked to consider how to improve the engagement of communities in the Partnership. ii) 	

An update on the National Grid proposals was provided: the issue of power lines across the south-west corner of the National Park, including the Duddon estuary, was still under discussion and it was hoped that an underground solution could be found.

074/16 Correspondence

Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:

CALC/NALC

- NALC - Revised Financial Regulations
- Sludge/gravel deposits on land – request for affected areas
- Election of Parish Member to LDNPA – Nomination form and process
- Request to complete LCAS submission by end May
- Petition about giving parish councils the right to appeal planning permissions
- CALC Circular for April
- Call for Cumbria Public Protection Lay Advisors (National Probation Service)
- CALC Lake District Parishes Forum papers 25th April, plus note from Keswick Town Council on Local Occupancy restrictions.
- CALC Newsletter for May – request for articles about how parish councils have encouraged communities to use the outdoors
- Via CALC – Patient online – booking GP appointments and repeat prescriptions
- Funding for Transparency Code Compliance
- Papers for South Lakeland District Association meeting, 9th June, Kendal

ACT/Cumbria CVS

- Newsletters, training etc.

CCC

- South Lakeland Flood Fact Sheet, 17th March
- Invitation to take part in the CCC Chairman's Charity Dinner, 15th April
- Connecting Cumbria newsletter
- Grasmere Flood Forum event 6th April, 3pm-7pm
- Change to Highways Hotline number (to: 0300 303 2992)

SLDC

- Flood support press release – registration for flood-affected residents
- For information: Agenda for Council meeting 31st March
- South Lakeland Community Newsletters
- For information - Standards Committee Agenda for 19th April
- South Lakeland Flooding Factsheet 7th April and 21st April
- Notice of Poll posters for District and PCC Elections

High Furness LAP

- Continuing plans for LAP sub-committee representatives (including Clerk) to work with Highways on improving the HIMS system.

LDNPA

- South Distinctive Area event on the Local Plan update, 20th April
- Event Notifications via Sara Spicer. Formal notifications have ceased. Queried.

Government Departments and Agencies

- Natural England – Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary Special Protection Area consultation – proposals to include additional bird species.
- The Pensions Regulator – reminder about pensions 'Staging Date' 1st May 2017
- EA - Via Cllr Champion: Flood Warning 'widget' for websites

Other Correspondence

- Keswick to Barrow Walk information, Sat 7th May
- United Utilities: invitation to attend meeting on 6th April about reducing storm surges into Windermere Lake.
- Via Sue Sanderson – flood support unit at Lakeland Motor Museum 6th April 10-4.
- Blawith Parish Council – Minutes of last meeting and Agenda for 11th April
- Owner of land at Spark Bridge –possible site for local needs housing
- Coniston Parish Council Agenda for 18th April
- Bouth defibrillator fund-raising: request that Colton PC handles funds in its account
- Mike Postle (Broadband Champion): Suggested digital inclusion events for Spark Bridge and Finsthwaite areas.
- Alastair Cameron: Coniston Housing Trust – discussions about collaborative datasets
- Nurture Lakeland: Small grants fund for nature conservation/education projects
- United Utilities – drought consultation events invitation, Kendal, 17/18th May
- Request to ask about tree felling in Bouth/A590 area and resulting appearance and debris left behind. Possibly site visit to be arranged.

075/16 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 6th June in Colton Church Hall, 7pm.