



Colton Parish Council

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The following are the minutes of the Annual Parish Open Meeting held on 29th March 2010 in Rusland Reading Rooms at 7.30pm.

Members Present Cllr Barr (Chairman) Cllr Cunliffe Cllr Robinson Cllr Potts Cllr Taylor Cllr Dean
Ms M Lane (Clerk)

Also present: Cllr Wilson (CCC) Cllr Davies (SLDC) PC Baldwin and 1 member of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Fishwick (holiday) Cllr Lovegrove (other commitment) Cllr Watson (working)

2. Minutes of 2009 Open Meeting

The minutes of the 2009 Annual Parish Open Meeting were signed by the chairman as a true record.

3. Chairman's Report for 2009-2010

The chairman read the Annual Report (a copy attached to the minutes). The financial summary was correct up to this date; a full statement of accounts would be printed in the Report to be published after the audit.

4. Open Forum

- Policing: PC John Baldwin reported that the area had been quiet with respect to crime over the past few months. The only issue had been the attempted theft of items from cars parked at High Dam car-park. Windermere and Ambleside police had launched an operation warning the public about thefts at car-parks. There had been some thefts of diesel in neighbouring parishes.

The local police team would be focussing on illegal off-road behaviour in the area in the next month; he would let the Council know how the police intended to tackle this issue.

PC Baldwin was asked about:

- i) the degree of success in tackling poaching: he replied that this year had been the most successful in terms of convictions, and that there were currently three people awaiting trial. All the local outlets for poached meat had been shut down and the police were checking for outlets further afield.
- ii) advice for volunteers gathering evidence of illegal off-road behaviour: volunteers should record information including photographs if possible and forward any evidence to the police, but they were advised not to challenge off-roaders.
- Road-work signs: Mr Wilkinson asked the Council to request that Cumbria Highways remove the road-work signs and notices left over from works carried out last year at Rusland Cross. The Clerk had notified Highways.
- Trees encroaching on highway - east of lake road: Cllr Wilson confirmed that verge-side trees encroaching onto the highway were the responsibility of County. Cllr Cunliffe would report the problem on east of lake road to the Highways Hotline.
- Second Homes: In relation to the issue raised at the 2009 Annual Parish Open Meeting, Cllr Davies reported that the evolving LDNPA Local Development Framework Core Strategy proposed that the National Park should have the right to decide whether a property becomes a holiday/second home. SLDC was concerned that it should also have this right, to avoid the possible issue of additional pressure for second homes in the areas outside the Park. He noted that Tim Farron MP was in favour of additional taxation on second/holiday homes and that there were likely to be further discussions on this topic in the near future.

5. Dates for Next Year's Meetings

The dates for the coming year were distributed (a copy attached to these minutes).

COLTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING DATES 2010-2011

Date	Meeting	Venue
Mon 10 th May 10	Annual Parish Council 2010	Bouth Village Hall
Mon 21 st June 10	Parish Council	Colton Church Hall
Mon 26 th July 10	Parish Council	Rusland Reading Room
Mon 13 th Sept 10	Parish Council	Finsthwaite Village Hall
Mon 25 th Oct 10	Parish Council	Bouth Village Hall
Mon 6 th Dec 10	Parish Council	Rusland Reading Room
Mon 10 th Jan 11	Parish Council	Water Yeat Village Hall
Mon 21 st Feb 11	Parish Council	Finsthwaite Village Hall
Mon 28 th March 11	Parish Open Meeting and Parish Council	Rusland Reading Room