Colton Parish Council

Clerk: Ms Mandy Lane

## Lilac Cottage

Oxen Park

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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 19th October 2015 in Bouth Village Hall at 7pm

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

**Also present:** PCSO Paul Harris and 7 members of the public

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| **144/15 Apologies**  None | ***ACTION*** |
| **145/15 Declaration of Acceptance of Office**  Kate Lodge-Brown signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor for Colton Central Ward. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Lodge-Brown to the Council. |  |
| **146/15 Minutes of Last Meeting**  It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th September as a true record. |  |
| **147/15 Declarations of Interest**  None |  |
| **148/15 Requests for Dispensations**  None |  |
| **149/15 Public Participation**  Police: PCSO Paul Harris summarised incidents since the last Council meeting: Suspicious individuals posing as door-to-door fish-sellers were in the area again; residents were warned not to respond. Men in a white transit were reported as acting suspiciously, but the vehicle had left when police arrived. Colton church had been broken into again and £40 stolen. Shots were heard at High Stott Park; this was thought to be legal grey squirrel culling. Evidence of poaching red deer had been found at Ickenthwaite; PSCO Harris would report this to 'poacher-watch'. Asked about the resource cuts, PCSO Harris mentioned the petition against the cuts, and suggested that the Council might wish to write to local MPs.  Christina Turtle, Volunteer coordinator for FC Grizedale, gave a presentation about volunteering days at Grizedale this winter and distributed posters.  Mike Smith, Longbow Forestry, explained the10-year forest management plan for woodlands at Ealinghearth. Plans included thinning **all broadleaf areas**, larch removal and bracken control, with temporary fencing to protect **native tree regeneration** against deer damage. Access tracks were planned for **High Crag (west of Linsty Green)** and a loading bay **just off** the lane between Hilltop and Cuckoo Bridge; **to allow timber** wagons  **to take this timber away.** Small pick-up trucks would be **more appropriate for moving  timber from the woodland near Crook Farm,** Bouth. | **Clerk** |
| **150/15 Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting**   * Notice-boards: The Clerk was awaiting estimates for a lightweight notice-board for Oxen Park. The Colton notice-board was coming away from its supports and would need mending shortly. * Assets of Community Value (ACV): The Rusland Reading Room Committee had been consulted about its nomination as an ACV and had submitted 'no objection'. It was agreed that, should this nomination be successful, the next nomination would be a local woodland, probably Stoney-Hazel, Rusland, owned by the National Park Authority. * Bouth Playground repairs: Cllr Dean had spoken to Mr Osborn and Playdale had been asked to assess repair costs. He would report progress at the next meeting. | **Clerk**  **Cllr Dean** |
| **151/15 Comments from District and County Councillors**  Cllr Fletcher reported on items from District and County as follows:  i) South Lakeland DC: The Scrutiny Committee aimed to improve access to affordable housing and work more closely with the National Park Authority. They were concerned about an emphasis on creating larger 3-4 bedroom homes, rather than smaller, more affordable ones; this was a concern shared by Colton Parish Council. Car-parking charges had been reviewed and 3 or 7-day parking permits were available for the central Lakes. Plastics collections were being trialled in Cartmel and Ulverston. Cllr Fletcher was asked to report on progress with the SLDC Empty Homes initiative.  ii) Cumbria CC: There was a consultation on the further budget cuts required over the coming year. Councillors were encouraged to respond. A scrutiny review would be held on highways issues on 10th November – comments would be welcomed. | **Cllr Fletcher** |
| **152/15 Planning**  Cllr Barr declined to take part in discussions concerning National Park planning applications, being a member of the LDNPA Development Control Committee.  The following planning applications were discussed and responses agreed:   * 7/2015/5497: Colton Farm, Colton: Erection of agricultural worker's dwelling*. Outline planning application.* **Resolution: Support** * 7/2015/5517: Ealinghearth, Haverthwaite: Demolition of dairy and shippon, and barn conversion for local occupancy. **Resolution: Object** on basis of large size of development (4-bedroom) in relation to local housing need for 1 and 2 bedroom properties. * 7/2015/5584: Tottlebank Farm, Greenodd: Erection of above-ground slurry store. **Resolution: Support** * 7/2015/5488: Swan Hotel, Newby Bridge: Internal alterations. Renewal of rooflights and dormer windows, and new roof-lights. **Resolution: Support**   To consider a request that Colton Parish Council re-visit its decision on the following application:   * SL/2014/1220: Kirkby Moor Wind Farm: Decommissioning of 12 existing wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure; erection of a wind farm comprising 6 turbines (Maximum blade tip height of up to 115m), a meteorological mast, new and upgraded access tracks, a substation and other ancillary development.   It was agreed that the original response of 'No objection' would be re-visited, following Colton's revised system for responding to planning applications and over concern that the response had been interpreted by some as being in favour of the application. **It was resolved** that a revised response of **'Neutral'** would be submitted to SLDC.  To note the following responses submitted by the Clerk to planning applications:   * 7/2015/5527: Riverside Cottage, Low Nibthwaite: Replace asbestos roof with slate. *Neutral.*   To note the following planning permissions granted:   * 7/2015/5345: Former joiner's workshop, Lakeside: Demolition of workshop and erection of single dwelling house with alterations to existing access. * 7/2015/5449: Nibthwaite Grange Farm: Open-fronted wooden agricultural building. |  |
| **153/15 Community Plan**  It was noted that the final version of the Community Plan had been published in PDF format and was available on the website. **It was resolved** to hold a Community Plan Launch event on Friday 4th December at Rusland Reading Rooms; the Clerk would include an article in the forthcoming Autumn newsletter.  The list of Community Plan portfolio-holders was confirmed in the final version of the 'Representatives on Working Groups' document for 2015/16. | **Clerk** |
| **154/15 Loss of Bus Services**  It was noted that both the Booths bus and the Lecks bus service had been withdrawn. This left Colton Parish – 20sq miles of South Lakeland – with no bus services at all. Cllr Hoyle would look at giving community transport services more publicity. Cllr Barr would write to the County Community Transport mini-bus service to see if there was any possibility of it being run once a week from parts of Colton parish to Ulverston. | **Cllrs Hoyle and Barr** |
| **155/15 Grant-awarding Policy**  **It was resolved** to approve the draft Grant-awarding Policy. |  |
| **156/15 Highways and Lengthsman**  The Clerk gave an update as follows:  i) Road surface and drainage: There had been no particular issues raised since the last meeting, apart from one pothole which the Clerk had reported.  ii) Traffic management and road safety issues: Cllr Fletcher offered to fund the cost of a replacement signpost at the junction to Thwaite Moss; the Council thanked him. There had been no progress on Grizedale signs; Cllr Patterson would ask the Forestry Commission for an update. The Clerk had heard that the Council's list of road marking requests would be carried out during November. She had also been in touch with Lowick Parish Council about the possibility of sharing a speed gun operated by volunteers, with particular reference to speeding traffic at Spark Bridge.  iii) Green Roads: Cllr Barr had finally received arrangements from Highways to meet and discuss the condition of Colton's Green Roads on October 23rd.  iv) Lengthsman: Mr Workman had been working hard clearing the badly clogged drains on Corker Lane, Ickenthwaite, following Mr Dickinson (Barkhouse Bank) having cutting back the roadside vegetation. It was noted that Highways appear to have completely stopped cutting the verges or clearing the drains on these smaller lanes, without any notification. | **Cllr Patterson** |
| **157/15 Finance and Accounts**  The following payments were noted:   * Cheque no. 000762: A.Lane, Clerk, Salary Q2 FY15/16: **£1159.05** * Cheque no. 000763: HMRC PAYE Q2 FY 15/16: **£289.80** * Cheque no. 000764: A.Workman, Lengthsman, September working**: £210.00**   The following payments were approved:   * Cheque no. 000765: A.Lane, Clerk, Office supplies, stamps, Colton Hall Hire (£10): **£209.98** * Cheque no. 000766: CALC, Clerk's Forum 14th July: **£5.00** * Cheque no. 000767: Information Commissioner, DPA registration: **£35.00** |  |
| **158/15 Meetings**  The following meeting reports were received:   * Oxenholme to Grasmere Corridor Travel Plan, 24th July (Cllr Patterson): The aim of this initiative was to encourage tourists to reach attractions by ferry, bus or train. The Mountain Goat minibus was trialled for access to Grizedale, but it was not well-used. Claife and Hawkshead Parish Councils were working with the National Trust to organise better tourist access between the Windermere Ferry and Hawkshead. * CALC South Lakeland District Association, 17th Sept (Cllr Dean): There were 3 speakers: i) Debbie Binch (EA) about flooding-awareness (as already received by Colton PC), ii) Peter Evoy from the South Cumbria Rivers Trust, iii) SLDC: Local Government Boundary Commission's review of South Lakeland, with a consultation due from15th November. * High Furness Local Area Partnership, 6th Oct (Cllr Hoyle) The National Grid NW-coast Connections team spoke about the proposed route for power lines from the west coast; there was concern that pylons would still be within the National Park across the Duddon estuary. The LAP was struggling to find a new Chairman, and there was discussion about whether the LAP should keep going at all. There was to be a LAP representatives' meeting with Highways which aimed to sort out ongoing issues of poor communications. * CALC Lake District Parishes Forum, 12th Oct (Cllr Barr); i) A report was given from the Lake District Partnership meeting, which included National Grid power lines, the United Utilities proposed pipeline from Thirlmere, Broadband progress and the initiative to improve mobile signals in the National Park. Only 1 mobile mast out of the 33 proposed had been built so far.   An update on the 'Miles without Stiles' initiative was given; Cllr Barr had pointed out an unfortunate effect of the initiative which allowed easy access for cycles and trail bikes onto footpaths. |  |
| **159/15** **Correspondence**  Receipt of the following correspondence was noted:  **CALC/NALC**   * NALC Legal Topic Notes on Contracts, Health and Safety and Occupiers' Liability * CALC Circular – September. * Paperwork for next South Lakeland District Association meeting, 17th Sept * Procedure for gaining Foundation Status under the Local Council Award Scheme * CALC Lake District Parishes Forum, 12th October, Gosforth – call for agenda items * Via CALC: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: consultation on Healthy Living. Received too late to respond. * Forwarded – email to CALC about sale of Waterside Knott. * Revision of NALC Legal Topic Note about play equipment on village greens * Proposal from South Lakeland District Association to circulate papers only to Clerks to forward onto reps. * Notes and documents arising from Clerk's Forum, 14th July 2015 * Consultation on proposed closure of Kendal Magistrates and County Courts and Kendal Town Council response * Request from Embleton PC for experiences with speed indicator signs. * Reminder to submit application form for Local Council Award Scheme by 1st Nov * NALC – requesting views from PCs who run public toilets on campaign for exemption from business rates * NALC Survey on new national improvement strategy for town and parish councils * CALC Lake District Parishes Forum, 12th October, Gosforth. Agenda * CALC Circular October 2015 * CALC AGM 14th November, Whitehaven – notification. * CALC from Cumbria Wildlife Trust – invasive species warning – Zebra mussels and non-native shrimp * Request for nominations to join CALC Executive Committee   **CCC**   * Cumbria Action for Sustainability: training for community energy projects. * Minerals & Waste Local Plan supplementary sites consultation (outwith National Pk) * Connecting Cumbria – New live Super-fast Broadband Cabinet at Newby Bridge * Response from Highways about Colton PC's requests for road markings. * Correspondence with Highways about lack of verge cutting in Nibthwaite. Resolved. * Healthwatch – 'Furness Listening Event' for the public to raise concerns about healthcare. 25th Sept. * Connecting Cumbria: September Newsletter   **SLDC**   * Gambling Licensing Policy – Draft for online consultation by 20th November * Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting invitation. 15th Sept. * Notes from the Freedom of Information and DPA briefing, 31st July * Request to send Standards Committee papers by email rather than post. Clerk replied 'yes' but suggested papers on website and to be sent just the link. * For info: Papers for Standards Committee meeting 22nd Sept * For info: Agenda for Council meeting 24th Sept * Workshop on Social Media planned, depending on interest.   **High Furness LAP**   * Arrangements for Cumbria Highways/LAP follow-up meeting on communications. * Request for agenda items and for parishes to bring information to LAP meeting 6th October, Broughton. * Agenda for LAP meeting, Tuesday 6th October, Broughton   **LDNPA**   * Updates on Sale of Waterside Knott, Lakeside. No tender bids. * Event notification: Epic Events: Montane Trail 7th Feb 2016: * Event notification: Epic Events: Nightrunner trail, Grizedale: 12th December 2015 * Nick Thorne (Rights of Way Officer) Height Lane Enquiry (20th October) – papers. * Temporary TRO for footpaths and bridleways in Grizedale for motor rallies (21st Nov 2015 &12th March 2016)   **Cumbria CVS and ACT**   * Newsletters/Training courses * Rural Patient Transport Briefing note * AGM, Nov 5th, Barrow.   **Government Departments and Agencies**   * EA – Flooding response workshops – one near Kendal 4th Nov * DECC – National Grid NW Connections – community information events schedule * FC – Grizedale Arts Festival 18-20 Sept. * Nuclear Decommissioning Authority consultation: draft National Geological Screening Guidance. By 4th December * Forestry Commission: Notification of timber haulage routes from Blind Lane, Grizedale.   **Other Correspondence**   * 'Pure Outdoor Events' Cumbria Way Ultra trail event, 19th/20th Sept * Blawith PC – Agenda for 14th Sept and minutes of last meeting * Phil Mulcaster – for information –application for felling licence for Close Foot farm, Spark Bridge * Alan Brenton – reminder notification of cycling event through Rusland, 13th Sept * Mike Postle (Broadband Champion) – draft questionnaire for Oxen Park residents, Also copy of his presentation at the PC meeting 7th Sept. * Mr Michael Jones (Finsthwaite resident) – asking for Agenda item at October meeting on the sudden withdrawel of 2 bus services and the mobile library. * Police: PCSO Paul Harris- additional SID data for Spark Bridge * South Cumbria Rivers Trust: consultation on guidance for septic tank owners * ColtonPC – request for information from Lowick PC about community speed watch with use of laser gun. * Carole Shaw, Windermere Lake Users Group: Power Boat Racing 26th Sept, Windermere. Offer of free tickets. * Via Cllr David Hoyle: Notes from meeting on proposed merger of Hawkshead and Ambleside Medical Practices * Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership – Heritage Lottery Funding press release * Correspondence with Lowick PC about possible joint purchase of community speed gun * Cumbria Action for Sustainability – (CAfS) free event on community energy projects, 17th October, Kendal * NuGeneration Ltd (Moorside Nuclear Site) 'Green Grants' for environmental projects. Colton not in eligible area. * Blawith PC Agenda for 12th Oct and minutes of last meeting * Kirkby Moor Wind Farm – request that Colton re-visits its decision in light of new government guidance * Royal British Legion. Invitation to annual remembrance service, Rusland Church, 1st Nov * Seismic Events: Cycle ride through the Parish, Sunday 18th October | |
| **160/15 Date of Next Meeting**  The next meeting was confirmed as a Parish Council meeting on Monday 30th November in Rusland Reading Room, at 7pm. | |