

COLTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BOUTH VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 11th DECEMBER 2023

Present: Cllr Bennett (Chair), Cllr Brown, Cllr Dean, Cllr Taylor and J Hendry (Clerk: clerk@coltonparishcouncil.org.uk)

In attendance: PCSO Paul Harris and three members of the public were in attendance

Minute no	Action Point	Person
94/2023	Apologies: Cllr Jarvis and Cllr Pender	
95/2023	Minutes of Last Meeting The Chair was authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 November 2023 as a true record of what was discussed.	
96/2023	Declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda: None received	
97/2023	Requests for dispensations: None received	
98/2023	Public participation: a. Community participation: A member of the public asked about road clearance post snow event b. Unitary Authority update: Apologies sent by Cllr Pender c. Police update: PCSO Harris updated the meeting on poaching incidents being policed and weather incidents. Reporting via 101 or Rural Watch, the Parish Clerk to add this to Colton Link. A spate of burglaries has now ceased since a particular member of the public had been arrested.	
99/2023	Update on action from the previous meeting: a. Defibrillator provision in Finsthwaite: Cllr Taylor updated the meeting on the recent meeting at the Village Hall committee. The PC agreed to support this and once the funding appears in the bank account the PC will buy a defibrillator. b. Update on discussions relating to the Open Space land in Bouth: Cllr Dean updated the meeting on recent discussions with the solicitor and confirmed that the PC would agree to fund an additional conversation between the solicitors representing both parties. c. Parking on the road near The Swan, Newby Bridge: This remains an issue and will be put onto the agenda for the next meeting. d. Salt heap and grit bin update: Councillors agreed to update the PC list on their status following recent usage, the parish Clerk agreed to circulate the list to all.	JH JH JH
100/2023	Power outages/resilience debrief, post major incident: Damage to power lines during heavy winds but Electricity North West (ENW) did not attend Bouth until 36 hours later (Monday morning from 7pm the previous Saturday evening) the following day (following 6 or 7 outages already this year). A discussion ensued on how they met (or not) the needs of those on the priority register and for those living in very small hamlets. There were phone issues (VOIP) in many homes and the lack of electricity and broadband meant that mobile phones were of limited value. Local farmers cleared the roads and grateful thanks were extended by the PC. The issue of older people not wanting to continue living in the area because of the poor infrastructure during times of poor weather was raised and it was agreed that the PC would write to Tim Farron. Cllr Brown agreed to draft this for the next PC meeting.	 MB

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	<p>The mobile mast battery backup lasts 6 hours currently and so a standby generator will be requested for vulnerable villages and the possibility of satellite phones will be investigated.</p> <p>A discussion on the availability of emergency plans ensued and it was agreed that Cllr Jarvis would be approached to determine whether there was one in place in the Rusland Valley and elsewhere across the PC.</p>	GJ/JH
101/2023	<p>Community Grant applications for 2023/24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Oxen Park request for lawnmower (£200): PC agreed to support the request for funding b. Rusland Reading Rooms request for a commemorative bench (£449): PC agreed to support the request for funding c. Rookhow request for an outdoor tarpaulin to be used by community groups (£188): PC agreed to support the request for funding <p>The PC also agreed that they would continue to support PC newsletters and make a donation £TBC to RVN and Crake and Coniston magazines. This would mean that funding would still be available for Bouth/Lakeside and towards a SID for future purchase if agreed.</p>	
102/2023	<p>Colton Parish Community Plan update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Questionnaire update: 7 responses received from businesses and the Parish Clerk agreed to send out the graphs to the Councillors for review and comment. b. Community Plan update- (section authors and data analysis): A meeting of Councillors would be held on January 8th to do some work on the outputs of the questionnaires and Cllr Brown would invite a nominated member of the public to this meeting. All other volunteers would be invited to get involved at a later date. c. Budget/grant expenditure update: Cllr Brown updated the meeting to enable the PC can claim the other half of the Esmee Fairbairn grant funding and advised that the PC cannot obtain the ACT grant funding until the community plan is complete. d. End of consultation community meeting: All “volunteers” to be invited to this meeting personally by Cllr Bennett. Cllr Brown updated the meeting on the possibility of holding an event in early February and it was proposed that this would be informal with a speaker and food provided. 	<p>JH</p> <p>MB</p> <p>AB/MB</p>
103/2023	<p>Colton Community matters and the environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Defibrillator in Nibthwaite, update: The Parish Clerk updated the meeting on the prospective delivery of the defib to Nibthwaite. b. Green Sparks event update: Cllr Bennett updated the meeting on the recent Green Sparks event that was held to discuss the consultation meeting with ENMO. The ideas will be developed further and community fundraising re River Crake and community and visitors. The noticeboard will be gifted to ENMO PC and funding will be raised from grant providing organisations. Cllr Bennett brought the receipts (£52.98) from this meeting for reimbursement as previously agreed. 	
104/2023	<p>Highways and lengthsman:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Update on winter gritting meeting: This meeting had not yet been convened by W&F Council therefore no update was available. b. The update on Highways issues raised with Graham Wheelhouse (email) will be added to the next agenda. c. Issues for reporting to Highways and Parish Lengthsman: It was agreed that Graham Wheelhouse would be asked about responsibility for dealing with flooding on the Causeway near Bouth. 	<p>JH</p> <p>JH</p>

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105/2023	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a. The Parish Council considered the following planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 7/2023/5674 at Great Lindeth Wood, Bouth, Cumbria, LA12 8JJ. Proposed forestry building (NOI). ii) 7/2023/5699 at Oak Bank, Haverthwaite, LA12 8AL. Temporary Change of Use for a 3-year period of unfettered dwellinghouse (C3) to interim General Practitioners Surgery (E) and thereafter reversion of occupancy and formation of car park. Colton PC not statutory consultees. The PC supported this application <p>b. Planning applications responded to, awaiting LDNPA decision: The list as posted on the meeting agenda was noted by the PC.</p> <p>c. LDNPA decisions: The list as posted on the meeting agenda was noted by the PC.</p>	
106/2023	<p>Finance, Accounts, Assets and Audit:</p> <p>a. The PC approved the following payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Lengthsman payment (November) £200.00 ii) Clerk salary (November) £458.04 iii) Solicitor's fees, £300.00 iv) Cllr Bennett (Green Sparks expenses) £52.98 <p>b. Parish Council noted the agreement of the National pay award and the increase in pay of £1 per hour to the Parish Clerk</p>	
107/2023	<p>Correspondence shown below was noted by the Council (relevant documents were previously circulated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Email from a member of the public regarding a "missed bin" collection b. Email from W&F Authority consulting on bridges in South Lakeland c. Email from a member of the public regarding holiday lets and associated "nuisance" d. Email from complainant regarding the Open Spaces land in Bouth e. Email advising of a site visit to inspect fencing on Bethacar Moor 	
108/2023	<p>Items for the newsletter:</p> <p>The following items were raised by Council for inclusion in the newsletter:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Community plan event b. Community response to resilience c. Rural Watch 	
109/2023	<p>Items for the next PC agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Budget setting and precept agreement b. Community Plan Celebration event c. Defibrillator update d. Winter gritting in local villages e. Business questionnaire feedback f. Parking near The Swan, Newby Bridge 	
110/2023	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 17th January 2024 at Rusland Reading Rooms.</p> <p>Cllr Jarvis sent his apologies to the January meeting</p>	ALL