

CALDBECK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Caldbeck Parish Hall on Monday 3 September 2018 at 7:30pm.

Cllrs Present: Tim Cartmell (Chairman), Norman Atkinson, Ian Shaw, Richard Hellon, Paul Doherty, Angela Glendinning, Alistair MacFadzean, Christina Couthard, Alan Tyson.

Also Present: Simon Smith (Clerk); Colin Murray for first 8 items.

18.9.3 - 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Colin Smithson (other meeting commitments).
Cllr Duncan Fairbairn (County & Borough Councillor) also sent his apologies.

18.9.3 - 2. Minutes

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 23 July 2018 as a true record.

18.9.3 - 3. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

18.9.3 - 4. Public Participation

In light of apologies received there was no discussion of County Council and Allerdale Borough Council matters. No matters were raised by a member of the public attending.

18.9.3 - 5. Planning applications and decisions

a) Applications

- i) **7/2018/2180 - Stott Ghyll, Hesket Newmarket, Wigton, CA7 8JY.** Proposed refurbishment and extension to existing house, demolition of dilapidated former barn and construction of garage/car port building with accommodation over. It was agreed to **support** the application because of its architectural merit and unobtrusive nature.
- ii) **7/2018/2210 - Street Head, Hesket Newmarket, Wigton, CA7 8JZ.** Portal framed livestock building with concrete access area. It was agreed there were **no objections**.

b) Decisions notified by Lake District National Park

- i) **7/2018/2167 - Midtown Farm, Caldbeck, Wigton, CA7 8E.** Proposed road. **Prior Approval Not Required**
- ii) **2/2018/0190 - Friar Row, Caldbeck, Wigton CA7 8DS.** Erection of detached 4 bedroom family house. **Pending**

18.9.3 - 6. Hesket Lonning Footpath

The Chairman provided an update. The Parish Council had written to the Information Commissioner requesting a ruling on whether the County Council should be required to release a copy of Dan Barton's report dated 21 February 2018. The County Council had provided his report dated 26 April 2018 which looked at the processes followed, not the merits of the County Council's decision not to issue a Footpath Creation Order. It will take some months to get a decision.

The Parish Council had written to the County Council's Chief Executive noting that the County Council had declined a request for a meeting at which Rory Stewart MP and Sue Hayman had offered to attend. The County Council had also been asked to review whether it was correct to consider the Parish Council's request for Dan Barton's report under Environmental Information Regulations rather than Freedom of Information legislation - the former allow for the exemption of draft documents which the County Council claimed applied to the requested report dated 21 February 2018.

The Parish Council had met Rory Stewart MP and he was supportive of the project. He had written directly to the Chief Executive requesting a meeting and issued a press release which

had stimulated media interest, including a visit to Caldbeck by BBC Radio Cumbria and resulting radio feature. A County Council press officer was quoted as saying the County Council is working with the Parish Council to find a solution for the footpath which was considered welcome news.

Discussion focused on next steps, including the suggestion from Colin Murray, circulated before the meeting, that a case might be made for significant road improvements to Heskett Lonning which would allow for a footpath alongside the road. The consensus was that the County Council was unlikely to consider such an investment given other major road improvement priorities and pressures on the Highways budget.

The scope for phasing work on the footpath was discussed as this has been suggested by a number of people consulted - the Local Access Forum, Rory Stewart and Allerdale County and Borough Councillors. Further enquiries were needed and the Clerk was asked to contact Highways.

It was also agreed the Clerk should write to the Chief Executive forwarding a copy of the letter to the Information Commissioner and attachments showing the Parish Council's willingness to be open.

18.9.3 - 7. Community Led Affordable Housing

The Clerk reported discussions had not advanced since the July meeting and interested parties were still to meet Kevin Phillips, National Park. There has, however, been significant interest in seeing whether a project might be put together comprising self-build units on a number of sites. There is a clear demand for self-build units, possibly with attached workshops, and if smaller possibly infill sites can be found, a multi-site project could prove attractive. It was agreed the Clerk should explore possibilities and arrange a meeting for interested parties, Paul Taylor, Allerdale Borough Council and Kevin Phillips, National Park.

18.9.3 - 8. Lake District National Park land disposals

The Clerk reported that Jo Edwards, the Parish Council's PFK advisor, had made an initial offer to the National Park which the National Park said was not acceptable as it would have serious problems in selling land well below its valuation. Jo Edwards had responded with a slightly increased offer and pointed out why her valuation is significantly below the National Park's, including the questionable status of the car parks and the costs the Parish Council incurs in maintaining the land. She reported that the National Park is considering the arguments made and has requested further time to make its response.

18.9.3 - 9. Parish Maintenance

Updates from the July meeting

a) Issues raised with Matt Bish, County Council Highways

i) Warning signs at Wath and Faulds Brow - still planned for 2018-19

ii) Heskett Newmarket to Newlands Road including Heskett Bridge. The Clerk reported the County Council was still intending to deal with the bridge, approaches and drainage issues as one project and negotiations were ongoing regarding possible land purchase. Following discussion it was agreed the Clerk should write to Highways expressing concern about the drainage issues which were likely to be exacerbated in worsening weather.

iii) Heskett Lonning road particularly near Throstle Hall. It was agreed the Clerk should write to Highways setting out the Parish Council's concerns regarding the quality of the work undertaken on Heskett Lonning.

iv) Lanes at Upton and Caldbeck Green - awaiting assessment.

v) Drain between Burplethwaite and Bonners Farm - still planned for 2018-19.

vi) A blocked drain near the Woodhall Road/The Street junction - exact location details forwarded and awaiting update.

vii) Repairs to road signs at Heskett Newmarket and Caldbeck - awaiting inspection.

viii) State of fell road from Calebreck cattle grid to the Heskett Newmarket/Mungrisdale road - work completed.

- ix) Chippings stocks held on Common Land near Priest's Brow - it was agreed to see whether stocks were run down in October and the site vacated.
- x) Pothole near Stadle Dykes - awaiting inspection.
- xi) Street light Caldbeck - fault now repaired.
- b) Other issues
 - xii) Concerns about road safety at the Woodhall Road/The Street junction for traffic emerging from Woodhall Road - Cllr Shaw reported the owner was content for a mirror to be erected and Cllr Macfadzean agreed to make the arrangements for installation. Cllr Shaw reported concerns about the lack of white road markings and the Clerk was asked to raise this with Highways.
 - xiii) Bridge tree and debris clearing, including request for further tree felling - the Chairman reported work was complete.
 - xiv) Reporting via HIMS - Cllr Doherty reported HIMS was working reasonably although it was still not possible to upload more than one photograph and there were difficulties in accessing what had actually been done.
 - xv) Winter Gritting - liaising with Castle Sowerby to seek an extension of gritting from Caldbeck to Millhouse and B5305. The Clerk wrote to County Council Highways on behalf of Caldbeck and Castle Sowerby Parish Councils. The County Council determines gritting routes every three years and is not due to review routes until 2019. The Clerk will therefore follow up the request in April 2019.
 - xvi) BT manhole cover on approach to Caldbeck from the north - BT engineers had put barriers around the manhole and the Clerk was asked to follow up what was planned and when.
 - xvii) Cobbled area by car park next to the Oddfellows - the Clerk reported he had sent a letter if thanks to Robin Oatridge on behalf of the Parish Council.
- Other urgent matters regarding parish maintenance
 - xviii) Cllr Glendinning asked if the Surgery could be copied details of urgent local road closures following recent problems with closures not being communicated by the County Council. The Clerk agreed to raise concerns when attending the Allerdale 3 tier meeting.
 - xix) The Chairman reported that the daughters of Tommy and Olive Hadwin had asked to repair the bench on Ratten Row in memory of their parents. The offer was warmly welcomed.
 - xx) Cllr Shaw reported concerns about the reinstatement of the footway light by Calva as the telegraph pole was to be moved as part of the development of Upton garage. It was agreed the Clerk should write to the owners as assurances had been given during discussion of the planning application that the footlight would be reinstated.
 - xxi) Cllr Shaw reported a large pothole by Elwood House, Upton. He agreed to send a photograph to Cllr Doherty to input on HIMS.

18.9.3 - 10. **Street Lighting**

The Clerk reported he had been in touch with the County Council for the supply and erection of the footlights column and ENWL for the electrical installation and ongoing supply. The proposed site is near the bench between Fellview School and Commercial Row. Final costs and a timetable are awaited. When the project is undertaken, Cllr Atkinson offered to liaise with Highways/ENWL so that there is local oversight.

18.9.3 - 11. **Sign Post Renovations**

The Heskett Newmarket signposts had not yet been dismantled and Cllr Macfadzean agreed to pull together a timetable for the work. Cllr Coulthard reported work appeared to be underway on the Burplethwaite signpost below Snowhill as the finger posts have been removed. The Clerk agreed to check what was happening.

18.9.3 - 12. **Footpath on north side of Cald Beck (Sebergham Parish Council)**

The Clerk reported he had checked the regularity of possible spend on a project in a neighbouring parish. Jean Airy, Internal Auditor, agreed there is a direct rationale in terms of benefitting parishioners and that spend could also be classed as s137. The Clerk had been in

touch with the Clerk for Sebergham who is taking the item to the September Sebergham Parish Council meeting. It was agreed to wait to hear from Sebergham before contacting Mike Bell.

18.9.3 - 13. **Reporting footpath problems**

Following footpath difficulties brought to attention by a Liverpool walking group, it was agreed the protocol for footpath is to contact the National Park direct for any footpath issues within the National Park. For footpath issues outside the National Park, problems should be directed to County Council Highways.

18.9.3 - 14. **Monthly Accounts 2018-19**

The receipts and payments since the last meeting were approved and bank reconciliation and banking operations and budget monitoring report noted. The Clerk referred to the additional expenditure on advice from PFK which was not budgeted and that the costs should be considered alongside any purchase of land and fund raising activity. It was agreed to review the budget monitoring report in more detail in October and determine grant payments for the year.

a) Receipts

- i) Interest August £10.10

b) Payments

- i) Mark Binney, grass cutting £183.75
- ii) PFK, professional advice re possible land purchase £721.60
- iii) Mrs E Benson, cleaning disabled toilets May to July 2018, £100.00
- iv) Cumbria County Council, contribution to Fellview School for summer grass cutting £200.00 (not cleared)

c) Bank Balances

- i) Current Account £9,378.18
- ii) Deposit account £108,087.03 including £98,627.80 for Hesket Lonning footpath

d) On line banking arrangements operating satisfactorily. Bank figures as at 23 August 2018.

18.9.3 - 15. **Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence received since the last meeting were noted:

- i) Reply from Rory Stewart MP - Rural Fuel Rebate scheme
- ii) National Park Geoff Davies: July Report
- iii) Common Land petition
- iv) Cumbria Constabulary survey
- v) Northern Fells Group AGM - 13 September 2018 7pm Millhouse (David Ward attending as the Parish Council's representative)
- vi) Rev Eileen Reid - installation 17 September 2018 7:30pm St Kentigern's (Paul Doherty attending as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council)
- vii) Allerdale 3 Tier meeting - 20 September 2018 7pm Cockermouth (Clerk attending)
- viii) Lakes in a Day - notification of event 13 October 2018

18.9.3 - 16. **Meeting Date**

Date of next meeting 15 October 2018

Meetings in 2018

3 December 2018

14 January 2019

The meeting ended at 8:45 pm