

CALDBECK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at Caldbeck Parish Hall on Monday 4 December 2017 at 7:30pm.

Cllrs Present: Norman Atkinson (Chairman), Paul Doherty, Ian Shaw, Angela Glendinning, Colin Smithson, Alistair MacFadzean, Tim Cartmell & Alan Tyson.

Also Present: Simon Smith (Clerk).

4/12/17 - 1. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Richard Hellon, Christina Coulthard (work commitments). Cllr Duncan Fairbairn (County & Borough Councillor) and PCSO Kerry Harris also sent their apologies.

4/12/17 - 2. **Minutes**

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 16 October 2017 as a true record.

4/12/17 - 3. **Declaration of Interest**

Cllr Shaw and Cllr Cartmell declared interest in respect of grants paid to St Kentigern's and the Northern Fells Group (item 13a).

4/12/17 - 4. **Public Participation**

In light of apologies received there was no discussion of County Council and Allerdale District Council matters.

The new arrangements for police reporting were noted with regular meetings being offered for a number of parish councils to attend. Community messaging was seen as being a helpful source for receiving timely local news from the police.

Cllr Doherty provided an update on provision of broadband. BT's Connecting Cumbria Phase 2 is scheduled for completion by September 2018. Coverage for Cumbria is expected to be 95%. Provision of the Emergency Services Network should enable the 5% not benefiting from Connecting Cumbria to access broadband although charges are likely to be higher.

4/12/17 - 5. **Planning decisions and applications**

a) **Applications**

- i) **7/2017/2294 - Caldbeck Garage, Upton, Caldbeck CA7 8EU.** Detailed proposals for construction of one dwelling for local needs. Following discussion it was agreed to highlight the need to ensure that the street light was retained when moving the electricity pole. **No objection.**
- ii) Late notification 29 December reply date. **Whelpo Lodge 7/2017/2268** - to create a vehicular access to a paddock adjoining the property. **No objection.**

b) **Decisions notified by Lake District National Park**

- i) **7/2017/2249** - Old Map Shop, Caldbeck CA7 8HF. Removal of local occupancy clause - **Rejected.**

4/12/17 - 6. **Hesket Lonning Footpath**

Cllr Cartmell provided an update on the extensions of agreements with landowners which were progressing. The Parish Council had received support from local MPs and was asking for support from local County Councillors at Allerdale Local Committee on 5 December. It was intended to press the case for County Council support for the footpath over the next weeks as strongly as possible.

4/12/17 - 7. **Lake District National Park land transfers**

Progress is not expected until after the National Park Authority's meeting on 13 December.

4/12/17 - 8. **Community Led Affordable Housing**

The Clerk had attended a recent seminar which highlighted the range of projects which are attracting significant funds for affordable houses. At one end of the spectrum, Keswick has developed projects of some 20 plus units for rent/shared ownership; in Witherslack a project has provided two units for local occupancy purchase at discounted rates where the discounts remain in perpetuity. Ownership models range from rental accommodation, shared ownership, and purchase. Subsidies per unit can be up to £50,000.

The Parish Council has tried to draw attention to funding possibilities and merit was seen in drawing up more concrete examples of proposals which might attract the community led element in Caldbeck. The Clerk would discuss with Paul Taylor, Allerdale District Council.

4/12/17 - 9. **Allotments**

There remains one vacant allotment which has been advertised in the Parish Magazine. Rents are being collected and reminders will be sent where needed - the Clerk to action.

4/12/17 - 10. **Parish Maintenance**

Updates from the October meeting

- i) Completion of restoration of sign at Brewery Lane. The signpost restoration work has been completed and the meeting was unanimous in its appreciation of the efforts expended, particularly Carol and Richard Hellon. The work has been undertaken for a fraction of the cost had a contractor been used for the full restoration. It was agreed to seek to publicise the work and add photos to the website.
- ii) Newlands Bridge tree and debris clearing - Cllr Cartmell advised that work could only be completed when the weather allowed.
- iii) Warning signs at Wath and Faulds Brow; Highway drainage at Commercial Row/B5299; Heskett Lonning road particularly near Throstle Hall; Bridge House, Caldbeck; Bridge House Upton; Street Light Fellview School; Klocker Lane junction with B5299. These issues have been raised with Matt Bish, County Council Highways and a full update is expected. Two items had received updates in time for the meeting. Heskett Newmarket to Newlands Road including Heskett Newmarket Bridge - a contract has been let for the slope and carriage way to be undertaken in June 2018, when the bridge strengthening work is scheduled. Church Bridge - pointing work is required to parapets and spandrels, not structurally significant, and will be attended to when resources allow.
- iv) Reporting via HIMS - Cllr Doherty reported that the HIMS website was now working well, problems logged and progress tracked.
- v) Volunteer group to help tidy the villages - Cllr Cartmell reported that volunteers had undertaken a collective clear up for late autumn. An individual volunteer was looking after the Caldbeck car park area.
- vi) School Green Car Park - Cllr Atkinson highlighted the state of the car park. Cllr MacFadzean and Cllr Tyson agreed to see if they could attend to the potholes.

Other urgent matters regarding parish maintenance

- vii) Concern was expressed about waste collection arrangements for public waste bins - the Clerk to check with Allerdale District Council.
- viii) The overhanging trees near Church Bridge require attention - Cllr Cartmell and Cllr MacFadzean to examine. Permission would be required from the National Park.
- ix) There are problems with drainage at Ratten Row as the gully has not been cleared out leading to a significant risk of ice - the Clerk to notify Matt Bish.
- x) The sign post at the B5299 junction with the fell road to Dalston/Carlisle via Thistle Bottom has been missing for some time - the Clerk to check with Matt Bish.

4/12/17 - 11. **Priest's Mill Brown Signage proposals**

Cllr Atkinson reported on discussions with businesses at the Priest's Mill. It was considered that businesses would wish to retain the current brown sign on the B5305 - the Clerk to pass on representations to Philip Groom, County Council, highlighting all the businesses operating at the Priest's Mill.

4/12/17 - 12. **Parish Council Planning and Budgeting**

The draft Council Plan update was discussed and suggestions made for a final draft - the Clerk to circulate a revised draft.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the budget should be broadly a continuation of the current year, with no change in overall precept. Opportunity would be taken to earmark reserves to cover elections, winter maintenance, street lighting, including additional lighting columns, and potential investment in car parking following transfer of land from the National Park. Balances would also be earmarked in relation to the footpath. The Clerk would circulate a revised budget for final comments as it was recognised that the budget needed to be agreed at the January meeting and the precept confirmed.

4/12/17 - 13. **Monthly Accounts**

The financial reports were noted.

a) The following payments of grants budgeted for 2017/18 were approved:

- i) St Kentigern's grass cutting £750.00
- ii) Northern Fells Group Minibus £300.00
- iii) Great North Air Ambulance £200.00
- iv) First Responders £70.00
- v) CAB Allerdale £50.00

b) Receipts since the last meeting were noted:

- i) Allotments £56.00
- ii) Rents £105.00
- iii) LDNP contribution to carpark grass cutting
- iv) Interest October and November ££10.83

c) Payments since the last meeting were noted:

- i) Mark Binney grass cutting September £195.00
- ii) HMRC £198.60
- iii) Clerk salary and expenses July to September £974.10
- iv) Colin Smithson Brewery Hill signpost and bench £215.00
- v) Mrs E Benson disabled toilets August to October £100.00 to action at meeting
- vi) Poppy wreath £20.00 to action at meeting
- vii) CALC Training fees £65.00

In addition three late items were noted, not reflected in the payment figures and bank reconciliation:

- viii) Mike Asbridge welding work sign post renovation £45.00
- ix) Richard Hellon paint & brushes £29.27
- x) Alastair Macfadzean contribution for fuel for grass cutting around the car park £100.00.

d) The Bank Balances and reconciliation were noted:

- i) Current Account £10,947.57, excluding grant payments reported above and unrepresented cheques £1,770.00
- ii) Deposit account £108,001.54 including £98,627.80 for Hesket Lonning footpath

e) The Clerk reported that on line banking arrangements were operating satisfactorily. The Bank figures were as at 27 November 2017 and a further cheque had cleared since then. Arrangements for making payments on line were being examined..

f) Information had been received for Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments arrangements. Whilst the Parish Council's annual income is £13,000, there is a need to check how balances are being taken into account and the Clerk would report to the next meeting.

4/12/17 - 14. **Correspondence**

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

- i) CALC AGM
- ii) Community Led Housing seminar - Agenda item 8
- iii) CALC news and training
- iv) Boundaries Commission
- v) Mobility Budget
- vi) Geoff Davies LDNPA October Report
- vii) Allerdale Local Plan site allocation consultation
- viii) Allerdale Mayor Christmas Charity Evening

4/12/17 - 15. **Meeting Dates**

Date of next meeting 15 January 2018

For the remainder of 2018

26 February 2018

26 March 2018 (Easter Monday is 2 April)

14 May 2018 (early May bank holiday is 7 May)

18 June 2018

30 July 2018

3 September 2018

15 October 2018

3 December 2018

14 January 2019

The meeting ended at 9:40pm.