

CALDBECK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Caldbeck Parish Hall on Monday 2 September 2019 at 7:30pm.

Cllrs Present: Tim Cartmell (Chairman), Norman Atkinson, Ian Shaw, Alison Young Poole, Paul Graham, Paul Doherty, Alastair MacFadzean, Angela Glendinning, Alan Tyson.

Also Present: Simon Smith (Clerk)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from John Brown, Mike Johnson, County Councillor, Tony Annison, Allerdale Borough Councillor.

2. Minutes

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 29 July 2019 as a true record.

3. Declaration of Interest

Paul Graham declared an interest in Item 5ai) as he had submitted the planning application.

4. Public Participation

No members of the public attended and no matters were raised.

5. Planning applications and decisions

a) Applications

- i) [7/2019/0133](#) **Quarry Barn, Hesket Newmarket, Wigton, CA7 8JG** Silver Birch - Crown thinning works to improve transmission of daylight and reduce resistance to wind. **No objection.**
- ii) [7/2019/2175](#) **Syke House, Hesket Newmarket, Wigton, CA7 8LA** Erection of a home office (amendment to previous scheme 7/2017/2183) **No objection.**
- iii) [7/2019/2191](#) **Cumbria Outdoors, Fellside Centre, Wigton, CA7 8HA** Change of use from a residential activity centre to 3 no. dwellings. Following discussion it was agreed to **object** to the application. The application was for three large dwellings for sale on the open market with no local occupancy restrictions. No consideration had been given to local housing needs, including affordable housing. The current use as a field centre was considered most appropriate and the Parish Council would explore whether the Centre should be designated a 'community asset'.
- iv) [7/2019/2177](#) **John Peel Farm Barn, Caldbeck CA7 8HJ** application for a Certificate of Lawful Use. The Parish Council noted that the application may have been withdrawn and agreed to express its concern about the handling of the investigations to the National Park. Enforcement action should have been taken in 2016 and it was concerning that the owner may stand to gain if her then agent had provided inaccurate information. The Parish Council has an opportunity to discuss the issues arising from this case with Geoff Davies, Member, on 24 September 2019.
- v) [PB2019/0014&15](#) **Removal of public phone boxes Caldbeck & Hesket Newmarket** Allerdale Borough Council Planning. The Clerk reported that because of deadlines initial objections had been sent to Allerdale Borough Council about the need for a phone box given the proximity of defibrillator equipment. The Chairman reported on enquiries he had made regarding the Parish Council seeking to maintain the phone boxes but BT had ruled out provision of a telephone line and pay phone. It was agreed the Parish Council should object, endorsing the original concerns and adding BT's refusal to allow provision of a pay phone by the Parish Council.

b) **Decisions notified**

- i) [T/2019/0099](#) **Work to collection of mixed tree types St Kentigern's Church, Caldbeck - No objection**
- ii) [7/2019/2136](#) **Howburn, Caldbeck, CA7 8HD Proposed dwellinghouse - Application granted** (late notification).

6. Heskett Lonning Footpath

The Clerk reported that Paul Haggin, County Council, had written following his visit to Caldbeck to consider footpath options. He appreciated the rationale for a direct footpath alongside Heskett Lonning and that upgrading existing footpaths posed challenges. He considered that there might be merit in conducting further consultation on options which might encourage agreement. The working group is to meet Paul Haggin on 9 September to discuss options and whether updated consultation might persuade the County Council to support the footpath. Carlisle City Councillors' support for a footpath creation order in respect of Waverley Viaduct was noted.

7. Community Led Affordable Housing

Alan Tyson and the Clerk reported on their meeting with Stewart Woodall, the appointed architect consultant. Two sites were visited, together with Howburn which could potentially be included in a multi site self build/affordable housing project. Stewart Woodall considered one site would readily support a small development with one or two market houses and 2 or 3 affordable houses. The other site was more problematic although an adjoining field was more likely to gain planning permission. Following further discussions with landowners, Alan Tyson reported that support was not forthcoming: landowners either wished to explore market options and or were not attracted to other options and said no. The Parish Council discussed a number of options, including requesting pre planning advice for a mixed market/affordable development to illustrate possibilities as it was considered that a purely market development would not gain planning approval. It was agreed to place an article in the Parish Magazine inviting landowners to express interest in obtaining pre planning advice, utilising the grant. The Clerk would also contact potential interested parties direct.

8. Lake District National Park land disposals

The Clerk reported that the National Park was still not in a position to give the go-ahead to the sales. It was seeking final clarification from the Treasury regarding capital receipts and the Executive Board had asked for further details on revenue generation from the parcels of land. The National Park had, however, confirmed that the figure used in its costings was the Parish Council's offer.

9. Repair of Heskett Newmarket benches

The Chairman reported that the Heskett Newmarket benches work remained to be scheduled by Men in Sheds who were busy on other tasks.

10. Waste management arrangements

The Clerk reported that waste collection services are to resume from 9 September, two months from the suspension. He had received a number of concerns about Wigton Syke Road County Council recycling facilities which had been unable to cope with the increase in demand. Skips have been overflowing and waste piles accumulating. Access to the site was very difficult with long queues of cars at the Bank Holiday weekend. He had raised concerns with Allerdale Borough Council regarding the suggestion reported in July that services might be resumed before the two months, what discussions had taken place with the County Council to deal with the extra waste taken to Wigton as a direct result of the suspension of collections, and the need for extra care to ensure garden waste bins are properly emptied as some waste will have been in bins for the best part of 3 months.

11. Parish Maintenance

Updates from the previous meeting:

- a) Issues raised with Matt Bish, County Council Highways
 - i) Cornhill House (the Old Police Station) - broken manhole
 - ii) Caldbeck Green - pot holes
 - iii) B5299 Ratten Row, Caldbeck - Surface water across road & Caldbeck Boundary Sign
 - iv) Whelpo Bridge to Faulds Brow - pot holes
 - v) Drain between Burblethwaite, Fellside and Bonners Farm - drain located and marked up
 - vi) Pot holes Branthwaite Bridge, Fellside
 - vii) Upton, Caldbeck - Road surface
 - viii) Pot holes between Upton and the Wath
 - ix) Pot holes between Hudscapes and Street Head
 - x) Pot holes between Street Head and Hesket Newmarket
 - xi) Hesket Newmarket, Street Head/Woodhall Junction - Surface water drainage/road
 - xii) Pot holes between Woodall and Pasture Lane, Hesket Newmarket
 - xiii) Pot holes Pasture Lane to Calebreck
 - xiv) Calebreck to Hesket Newmarket - road disintegrating between cattle grid and the ford
 - xv) Pot holes Pasture Lane to Howbeck
 - xvi) Howbeck to Hesket Newmarket – dips in road where services have been laid
 - xvii) Uneven road between Howbeck and Hesket Newmarket (previously marked for repair)
 - xviii) Grass encroaching on the lane in front of play area at Hesket Newmarket affecting drains
 - xix) Hesket Lonning road particularly near Throstle Hall
 - xx) Riverside Caldbeck (opposite pub) – collapsed drain on pavement
 - xxi) Warning signs at Faulds Brow and Wath Brow - Issues raised with Philip Groom

The Parish Council reviewed updates provided by the County Council. Whilst it was encouraging to see that many issues had been logged and defect notices issued, a number of concerns were raised.

i) Cornhill House manhole - a cone had been placed but the manhole cover was not repaired.

iii) B5299 - the plan was to improve the drainage channels further up the hill.

xi) The Woodhall Lane drainage repairs had not been able to cope with rains on 9/10 August when there was significant surface water/flooding. Given the likelihood of similar rain during Autumn/Winter, the Parish Council considered that action was needed now rather than waiting for the new financial year.

xvi) Howbeck damage by Utility Company - the Parish Council considered the company responsible for the dips in the road should be pressed to undertake the repairs.

xvii) Hesket Newmarket to Howbeck - the Parish Council noted that repair work was all marked up when work was undertaken in Hesket Newmarket but was not actioned and that a firm date should be given for when the work would be programmed.

xviii) Grass encroaching - whilst the gully defect had been assigned there was also a need to remove the encroaching grass which is adding to flooding problems.

In addition the Parish Council considered the BT junction box at the Woodhall Lane/The Street to be a hazard.

Given the number of Hesket Newmarket issues, the Clerk was asked to contact the County Council to request a site meeting so that Hesket Newmarket Parish Councillors might attend and for BT/utility company contacts to enable the Parish Council to press for action.

b) Other issues

i) Street lighting issues - reinstatement of light near Calva

The Clerk reported that a meeting was to be arranged which would allow David Bryden, Allersale Borough Council, to advise on reinstatement of the street light and also the possible transfer of public toilets and street lighting services.

Angela Glendinning reported one urgent matter of parish maintenance: a culvert between The Wath and Upton required attention.

12. Street Lighting

Street lighting maps for the Parish had been circulated and these were being reviewed. Alison Young Poole had identified one light which was not working which had been reported to Allerdale Borough Council and one light which was hidden and clearly had not been in working order for a number of years. It was agreed that the street lights should be photographed and that Allerdale Borough Council should undertake a survey of the condition of all street lights so that the Parish Council could take an informed decision if Allerdale Borough Council ends the provision of street lighting services. However, there remained considerable uncertainty and the Clerk was asked to press for clarity on Allerdale's decision to cease street lighting service and the timing.

Paul Doherty reported that he had purchased the solar bollard to be sited between Fellview School and Caldbeck and would erect it when weather permitted.

13. Caldbeck Green

The Clerk had circulated comments received from Mark Binney that morning about the cost and operational implications of possible changes to the arrangements. Collecting grass clippings would be very costly (an extra £2,200) and the only grass that was currently collected was where longer grass was strimmed in the ditches. If the first major cut were delayed, a tractor and mower would be required which could result in damage. The equipment is more than 10 times the weight of the ride-on mower and could result in the Green being rutted. However, some areas might be left for a later cut if they were firm enough for access by tractor and mower or if they were small areas which might be strimmed.

Following discussion, and in view of the comments made by Mark Binney, it was agreed that the grass cutting contract should remain as it is. Parishioners who wanted to promote greater biodiversity would be welcome to make proposals as to how areas might best be managed but those proposals would need to be considered and costed in the light of advice from Mark Binney.

14. Parish Plan

The Clerk had circulated a draft of the Parish Plan Update showing progress. Comments were requested so that a revised update could be discussed at the October meeting as part of preparations for the budget.

15. Monthly Accounts 2019-20

i) The following receipts and payments since the last meeting were approved.

a) Receipts

i) Interest August £22.08

ii) Refund from Northern Fells Broadband £300.00

- b) Payments
 - i) Mark Binney Grass cutting £231.75
 - ii) Mrs E Benson Cleaning disabled toilet May to July 2019 £100.00
 - iii) M&A Metalcrafts Repair to Brewery Hill signpost £85.00
 - c) Bank Balances
 - i) Current Account £13,487.23
 - ii) Deposit account £108,337.84 including £98,627.80 for Hesket Lonning footpath
 - d) On line banking arrangements operating satisfactorily. Bank figures as at 23 August 2019.
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- ii) The Clerk reported he had spoken to the Cumberland Building Society: it was possible for correspondence to be addressed to the Clerk without the Clerk needing to be on the mandate. He would arrange for the forms to be signed and to remove Richard Hellon from the bank mandate for both the Cumberland Building Society and HSBC.

16. Correspondence

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

- i) **CALC:** Note of 3 Tier meeting 11 July 2019; NALC model financial regulations; CALC training and log in details; May election survey.
- ii) **Lake District National Park:** August Report from Geoff Davies; meeting with Geoff Davies arranged for 24 September morning.
- iii) Rural Services Network - latest monthly bulletin.

17. Meeting Date

Date of next meeting 14 October 2019

Dates for 2019

2 December 2019

13 January 2020

The meeting ended at 9:30pm