

## CALDBECK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 'virtual' Ordinary Meeting held via Zoom on Monday 15 June 2020 at 7:30pm.

**Cllrs Attending:** Tim Cartmell (Chairman), Paul Doherty, Norman Atkinson, John Brown, Paul Graham, Angela Glendinning, Ian Shaw, Alan Tyson, Alison Young Poole

**Also Attending:** Stuart Woodall for items 10 and 12, Simon Smith (Clerk).

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Alastair MacFadzean, Tony Annison, Allerdale Borough Councillor and Mike Johnson, County Councillor.

### 2. Minutes

The Chairman was authorised to sign the Minutes of the of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 18 May 2020. The Parish Council's informal discussions on 24 April and 11 May were noted, together with the draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18 May 2020.

The Clerk reported that whilst the Government had not expressly allowed the holding of virtual Annual Parish Meetings, such meetings are supposed to be held between 1 March and 1 June. CALC's Chris Shaw had suggested that many parishes have simply abandoned attempting to hold a meeting this year. The Clerk considered the Parish Council had facilitated a Parish Meeting given the circumstances. The meeting had been publicised, took place, and the proceedings had been published in the Parish Magazine and on the website. The Parish Council agreed that the benefits of timely and open reporting outweighed any potential risks to the Parish Council.

### 3. Declaration of Interest

Alison Young Poole declared an interest in Item 13 - land purchase from the National Park in relation to Smithy Cottage owners' claim to own part of the land in front of Smithy Cottage and the Chairman declared an interest having given her advice.

### 4. Public Participation

No members of the public were attending at this point so there were no items of public participation.

### 5. Coronavirus

The various updates from Cumbria's Resilience Forum were noted. Following discussion, it was agreed that the current Notice should be updated and replaced with a Notice drawing heavily on the guidance set out by Cumbria's Resilience Forum. The Clerk would circulate a draft Notice for comment.

### 6. Waste management arrangements

The Parish Council noted that from 8 June Allerdale was collecting two garden waste bins per property f. Where there were more than two bins, no timescale had yet been set for collecting extra bins. Unless there were further coronavirus outbreaks, the expectation was that waste collections would continue.

The Chairman reported on a meeting held on 8 June with James Ashcroft, Allerdale, to advise on the siting of the extra bins the Parish Council would like to see installed and to discuss facilities for Nether Row. Following discussions with Nether Row parishioners it was agreed that Allerdale's offers of communal facilities or individual facilities per property would not be taken up. If parishioners changed their minds, the Parish Council would contact Allerdale again. James Ashcroft was content that Allerdale would be able to service all the various locations. It would provide and erect three post mounted bins. The Parish Council would purchase and erect a combination of larger bins/post mounted bins. Post mounted or larger bins were used for general waste, including dog waste, so there was little advantage in locating a large bin next to a post mounted bin. The Parish Council agreed that final decisions would rest with the group who met James Ashcroft.

### 7. Caldbeck Public Toilets

The Clerk reported that David Bryden, Allerdale, had advised that in the current circumstances the local cleaner was not prepared to service the facilities so the public toilets would remain closed. The Parish Council recognised that in the longer term it would have responsibility for managing the facilities, including contracting a cleaner but currently it was not in a position to suggest temporary arrangements.

There has been no information on the transfer of the public toilets from Peter Knapton, Allerdale's Estates Manager. Angela Glendinning agreed to contact the local cleaner to check on his possible availability once the facilities have transferred and further easing of restrictions.

## 8. Street Lighting

The Clerk reported that following further consultation, street lights 8 and 9 in Hesket Newmarket were to go. All other street lights would remain. Ian Shaw reported that he and Alastair MacFadzean would carry out Caldbeck survey work.

Paul Graham reported that he had met the Masters to discuss what progress might be made on the reinstallation of the street light near Calva in light of the inclusion of the reinstalled street light in planning documentation and assurances given to the Parish Council when considering the planning application. The owners were of the view that the December consultation had called for the removal of some street lights and did not support reinstallation. Parish Councillors disputed this interpretation as some people had explicitly called for the reinstallation. The Clerk agreed to review the survey responses and advise Parish Councillors of the evidence.

## 9. Parish Maintenance

Updates from the previous meeting:

a) Inspections of local highways and Caldbeck Parish priorities

The Clerk reported that Mike Johnson had the Parish Council's priority listing of lanes needing significant investment. Mike Johnson had not been able to report on progress.

b) Other issues

i) Hesket Newmarket surface water/flood mitigation including work around the Green and development site;

Alison Young Poole reported that Highways had visited Hesket Newmarket and had undertaken work by the Green, including a new gully and improved drainage. Some further work was planned.

ii) Warning signs at Faulds Brow and Wath Brow - issues raised with County Council;

Mike Johnson had the details but had not been able to report on progress.

iii) Street lighting issues - reinstallation of light near Calva;

Paul Graham had reported on reinstallation as part of item 8 in relation to Caldbeck's street light survey work.

iv) National Park signage at Millhouse

The Clerk had asked Cath Johnson, National Park, about signage at Millhouse but with many National Park staff still furloughed, Cath Johnson had explained that progress was unlikely for some time.

Other urgent matters regarding parish maintenance.

Concerns were expressed about potholes between Wath and Fellside and Haltcliffe to Lonning Head.

## 11. Hesket Lonning Footpath

Mike Johnson was looking to meet the landowners to discuss whether agreement might be possible. He had not been able to report on progress.

## 12. Community Led Affordable Housing

The Parish Council thanked Stuart Woodall for his proposals for an Affordable Housing project and obtaining pre planning advice from the National Park. In discussion it was noted that the landowners were supportive. The proposals were aimed at securing support from the National Park. The precise details would then be worked up, ideally by a Community Led Group, including whether there was scope for self build. The site on the edge of the village posed some difficulties. The National Park would probably be looking for 100% affordable housing. The proposal looked to maintain the existing hedge/trees so that the approach to the village was unchanged. Communal areas where allotments have been suggested could potentially include small workshops. The Parish Council agreed to proceed to the next stage and seek pre planning advice.

## 10. Planning applications and decisions

### Ongoing applications - now decided

i) **Fellside Field Centre** [Fellside](#)

The National Park's conclusion stated:

The proposals to reuse the buildings as dwellinghouses to meet a local need in this location are acceptable. Affordable housing or a continuation of the existing uses are recognised as the preference of the Parish Council. However, the proposals meet the development plan test in Policy CS19 which seek to protect such uses (as the evidence suggests that there is no longer a local community need for the facility), and would provide housing of a type which evidence indicates to be required in the North Distinctive Area, in compliance with policy CS18.

The conditions include strong local connection criteria and that the property is the owners' principal home.

The Parish Council was disappointed with the decision taken but recognised that its concerns had been examined as part of the process.

ii) **Midtown Cottage, Camping Barn** [Camping Barn](#)

The National Park's conclusion stated:

This listed building in the heart of the Caldbeck Conservation Area has failed to find a viable long term use in recent years. This proposal for a camping barn and associated small-scale alterations to the building would find a new use for the building whilst providing sustainable tourism development in an appropriate location with the necessary supervision and management required for such a use.

When weighed against the development plan support which the principle of the development has in a rural service centre and which would find a new permanent use of a listed building neither a lack of parking nor the Parish Council's observation that there are already similar facilities in the area represent reasons for refusal.

The Parish Council was again disappointed with the decision and was concerned how developments had been progressed, including encroachment on the highway. The Clerk would contact Highways.

In discussion concerns were expressed that decisions were made by officers using delegated authority and that the Development Committee had not met. The Clerk agreed to check the processes followed and whether members had been able to exert influence on decisions in the absence of full meetings. Stuart Woodall agreed he would offer comments on particular planning applications which might help the Parish Council to formulate its responses so that they address more directly planning concerns.

a) **Applications**

- i) [7/2020/2126](#) **High Intack Farm, Caldbeck, CA7 8HL** Approval of details reserved by condition 3 (stonework, timber cladding and metal roofing) on planning permission ref 7/2019/2115 - Demolition of outbuildings and construction of a new build storage/implement shed **No formal consultation/reply date; comments can be submitted.** The Parish Council agreed that it would not submit any comments.
- ii) [7/2020/0063](#) **Cornhill House, Caldbeck, CA7 8EE** Crown thin/reduce 3 sycamore **Reply by 2 July.** The Parish Council agreed that it would respond by suggesting overall limitations on crown thinning/reduction work - 15% and 1.5 metres.

b) **Decisions notified**

- i) [7/2020/2106](#) (Also 2105) **Burkley Cottage, Heskett Newmarket, CA7 8JG** Conversion of former cottage and barn to extended living accommodation for Burkley Cottage **Withdrawn**
- ii) [7/2020/0049](#) **Caldbeck Village Green, Caldbeck** Remove snapped branch 1 apple Considered to be tree works exempt from conservation area legislation and **works should be undertaken as soon as possible**

The Parish Council noted the two decisions made.

The Chairman asked Parish Councillors to circulate any comments by 29 June that had regarding the Woodhall Management Plan in light of recently received papers. Concerns were focused on the removal of felled trees and the route to be taken by large vehicles with heavy loads.

13. **Lake District National Park land disposals**

The Chairman reported that there had been little progress given the furloughing of National Park staff.

14. **Community Payback**

The Clerk reported that he had been in touch with Roger Scanlon, the Carlisle Community Payback Manager, but had not had a reply. He thought work had been put on hold and staff furloughed.

15. **Parish Benches**

The Chairman reported that a number of benches had been adopted with people agreeing to maintain particular benches. More offers would be gratefully received and the Clerk would mention the work in the Parish Magazine.

16. **Monthly Accounts 2020-21**

The Parish Council noted the receipts and payments, bank balances and budget monitoring report which included proposals for contracting for the lengthsman's work and website redesign work.

a) Receipts

- i) 8 June Interest June - £15.97 Interest rates have been significantly reduced from 1 June.
- ii) Interest Cumberland Building Society for 2019-20 - tbc

b) Payments

- i) 23 May Mark Binney Grass cutting - £231.75
- ii) 30 May BHIB Insurance - £382.21
- iii) 3 June Mrs Benson February to April - £100.00

c) Bank Balances as at 6 June 2020

i) Current Account £19,154.09

ii) Deposit account £108,549.15 including £98,627.80 for Heskett Lonning footpath

**17. Correspondence - for noting**

The Parish Council noted correspondence received from CALC, the National Park: Geoff Davies May report, and the High Sheriff Covid Special Recognition Certificate for Cumbrians.

Alison Young Poole reported on discussions with Heskett Newmarket residents about speeding traffic. The Parish Council agreed to consider what might be done to reduce speeding in Heskett Newmarket at its next meeting on 27 July. Options include requesting a 20 mph limit and installing a device for displaying the speed of approaching traffic.

**18. Meeting Dates**

27 July 2020

7 September 2020

19 October 2020

7 December 2020

11 January 2021

The meeting ended at 9:25pm.