

# CALDBECK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Caldbeck Parish Hall on Monday 25 March 2019 at 7:30pm.

**Cllrs Present:** Tim Cartmell (Chairman), Paul Doherty, Ian Shaw, Norman Atkinson, Alastair Macfadzean, Colin Smithson, Alan Tyson.

**Also Present:** Mark Telford, Simon Smith (Clerk)

## 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Angela Glendinning, Richard Hellon, and Tony Annison, Allerdale Borough Council, and accepted by all attending.

## 2. Minutes

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 25 February 2019 as a true record.

## 3. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

## 4. Public Participation

no matters were raised.

## 5. Planning applications and decisions

### a) Applications

- i) [7/2019/2036](#) **Catcrag, Upton, Caldbeck, Wigton, CA7 8EU**. Steel framed extension to existing lambing shed. **No objection.**
- ii) [7/2019/2049](#) **Stott Ghyll, Heskett Newmarket, Wigton, CA7 8JY**. Extension and redevelopment of existing dwelling house including detached garage and retrospective permission for raised decking for a shepherd's hut. **No objection.**
- iii) [7/2019/2024](#) **Old Map Shop Caldbeck, Wigton, CA7 8HF**. Change of use to holiday letting accommodation. Notification of the application was received on 22 March and as a response was required by 19 April, the Parish Council discussed the application. It was agreed to **object** to the application, restating points made on previous applications: the property's small scale and it being entirely surrounded by common land. The Parish Council considered business use might be more appropriate. The Clerk would circulate a draft for comment before 19 April.

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

- i) Allerdale Borough Council - **Tree Preservation Order No 12-18, Friar Row, Caldbeck. Confirmed by Development Committee.** The Chairman explained what had happened at the Development Committee and outlined the basis of a formal complaint which the Parish Council agreed should be made.

## 6. Heskett Lonning Footpath

The Parish Council noted the Information Commissioner's decision to order the County Council to release the report by the independent reviewer which the Parish Council has requested. The Clerk reported the County Council was to consider its response the next day. It had 28 days from 15 March to appeal or 35 days to comply and release the report. The County Council had undertaken further risk assessments at points on Heskett Lonning and had offered to meet the Parish Council to discuss. It was agreed that the Clerk should update Rory Stewart MP on latest developments.

## **7. Community Led Affordable Housing**

The Clerk reported that he had submitted a grant application to Allerdale Borough Council to fund pre application advice. Once the grant is approved, architects would be appointed. The Parish Council agreed that Green Swallow should be appointed if the firm had capacity, with Edwin Thompson as the reserve. Both these firms have significant expertise in small scale affordable projects in the National Park and local knowledge.

## **8. Lake District National Park land disposals**

The Chairman reported that the National Park was minded to accept the Parish Council's offer. However, the National Park was having to discuss disposal implications with HMRC and the Treasury. The assets had originally been accepted in lieu of tax before being transferred to the National Park. The Treasury may need to give consent to the disposals and agree which body would benefit from the sale proceeds. Further the National Park would need to undertake a consultation exercise with interest parties prior to any disposal going ahead. Following discussion the Chairman agreed to contact the National Park with a consolidated list of suggested consultees. Given the circumstances it was considered that progress was unlikely to be rapid.

## **9. Parish Maintenance**

Updates from the February meeting were noted:

### **a) Issues raised with Matt Bish, County Council Highways**

- i) Caldbeck Green - pot holes had been recorded on HIMS.
- ii) B5299 Ratten Row, Caldbeck - Surface water across road & Caldbeck Boundary Sign. A question has been asked as regards further work higher up the hill from the village.
- iii) Warning signs at Faulds Brow. The Clerk has asked Philip Groom for a site meeting.
- iv) Warning signs and Wath Brow. The Clerk has asked Philip Green for a site meeting.
- v) Upton, Caldbeck - Road surface. Some repairs noted and pot holes added to HIMS.
- vi) Hesket Lonning road particularly near Throstle Hall. Not scheduled until 2020.
- vii) Hesket Newmarket/Newlands - Step protruding on road towards bridge. Awaiting update.
- viii) Hesket Newmarket, Street Head/Woodhall Junction - Surface water drainage/road markings. Further work to be undertaken later in the year.
- ix) Drain between Burplethwaite and Bonners Farm. Awaiting update.
- x) Whelpo Bridge to Faulds Brow - pot holes. Awaiting update.
- xi) Hesket Newmarket pot hole repairs - completed. The Parish Council expressed satisfaction as regards the quality of the repair work undertaken, including to the entrance of the car park which is not a County Council responsibility. However, concerns were expressed about the timing of the work and its clash with BT repair work in Caldbeck and at The Street/Woodhall Lane junction. This restricted through access and business had been adversely affected. Better signage would have helped. Road works were shown as lasting 15 days and there was no indication that business were open. The Clerk was asked to write to Highways setting out the Parish Council's appreciation and concerns, highlighting lessons learned.
- xii) Howbeck - gritting bin. Awaiting update.

### **b) Other issues**

- xiii) Street lighting issues - reinstallation of light near Calva. The Clerk reported that a meeting would be arranged to discuss the street light in early May. Following discussion it was agreed that further clarification was required from the National Park regarding planning enforcement and that the Clerk would write to the Head of Planning.
- xiv) Cllr Atkinson reported that the street light by Caldbeck village shop remained out. The Clerk had reported the fault after the February meeting and was asked to press for action.

## 10. **Street Lighting**

Cllr Doherty reported that local firms were particularly busy and one new footway light was not a high priority. Following discussion it was agreed that Cllr Doherty and the Clerk would contact Electricity North West and the County Council to explore options, including putting in two smaller pedestrian lights nearer the two electricity supplies rather than having one light by the bench, some way from either electricity supply and hence costly.

## 11. **Election preparations**

The Clerk reported that he was planning to take all nomination forms to Allerdale for checking later in the week. Cllr Hellon and Cllr Smithson had decided not to stand for election to the new Parish Council. A number of people had expressed interest in standing. Nominations close on 3 April and it will then be clear if there is to be an election. People are able to submit nominations without contacting the Parish Council.

## 12. **Parish Council Internal Controls and audit arrangements**

The Parish Council approved the Assessment of Internal Controls for 2018-19, together with the related documentation: Risk Management, Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Complaints Procedure and Data Protection Policy, subject to minor editing for consistency. The Clerk reported Internal Audit would review the papers in April as part of the audit.

## 13. **Monthly Accounts 2018-19**

The receipts and payments since the last meeting were noted, together with the budget monitoring report and balances.

### a) Receipts

- i) Interest March £19.92
- ii) Allotment rents £44.00
- iii) Cumbria County Council contribution to grass cutting Caldbeck green £860.00
- iv) Additional rents and National Park contribution expected

### b) Payments

- i) Caldbeck Parish Hall - room hire for the year £108.00
- ii) Mrs Benson - cleaning disabled toilet November to January 2019 £100.00
- iii) Edwin Thompson Isele Estate allotment payment of rent £90.00
- iv) Clerk's salary and expenses January to March £897.33
- v) HMRC January to March 2019 £198.00

### c) Bank Balances

- i) Current Account £8,781.53
- ii) Deposit account £108,228.92 including £98,627.80 for Hesket Lonning footpath

### d) On line banking arrangements operating satisfactorily. Bank figures as at 19 March 2019, cheques not yet presented £108.00.

The Clerk reported that at the year end balances were expected to have increased by £1,500. Following discussion, it was agreed that earmarked reserves should be set as follows:

- i) Elections £1,000
- ii) Street lighting £6,000
- iii) Winter gritting £2,000
- iv) Hedge cutting £2,000
- v) Footpath £4,000
- vi) Benches £1,000
- vii) Allotments £90 (sums collected for 2019-20)

The Parish Council noted the fixed asset register with the recent addition of the bench by Caldbeck car park.

#### **14. New Memorial Bench**

Cllr Atkinson reported the enquires made by Bonnie Kirkham and her sister for a new Memorial Bench in memory of their mother. He had given information as regards the process for approving a new bench and broad costs. The Parish Council would await a reply.

The Chairman took the opportunity to report on his work compiling an inventory of all benches in public places. Some of the benches may well not be owned by the Parish Council but given the possible land transfers from the National Park, it was thought that the Parish Council might well find it was taking responsibility for all benches. It was agreed that benches should be included as an item on the agenda for the May meeting.

#### **15. Correspondence**

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

- i) National Park Geoff Davies: March and February Report and updated Local Plan
- ii) CALC: March Newsletter

#### **16. Meeting Date**

Date of next meeting 13 May 2019

#### **Dates for 2019**

17 June 2019

29 July 2019

2 September 2019

14 October 2019

2 December 2019

13 January 2020

The meeting closed at 9:05pm.