

## CALDBECK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held at Caldbeck Parish Hall on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015

### PRESENT

Norman Atkinson, Chairman	Ann Armstrong
Roy Knowles	Angela Glendinning
Audrey Noble	Colin Smithson
Alan Armstrong	Alan Tyson

Antoinette Ward (Clerk)

Duncan Fairbairn (District and County Councillor), Paul Doherty (Northern Fells Broadband Group)

### 26/01-95 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Anne Cartmell (holiday), William Cowx (PCC meeting), the Police who sent a report and Cath Johnston (LDNP Ranger) who had sent an email with updated information re the LDNP.

### 26/01-96 MINUTES

The minutes of the additional meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

### 26/01-97 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No pecuniary, personal or prejudicial interests were declared.

### 26/01-98 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. The Police Community Support Officers had sent their apologies but sent a report stating there had been no incidents reported in the parish since the last meeting. No further information had been forthcoming regarding the theft from a container reported in the local paper just before the December meeting.
2. Paul Doherty, Northern Fells Broadband Group representative, gave a report giving up to date information on broadband developments. Heskett Newmarket and Caldbeck villages now have their new cabinet and we are just waiting for it to be enabled, (within the next six months). 56,000 households in Cumbria are now able to access superfast broadband. However in the Northern Fells area NFB predict that only 28% of households will eventually be enabled under current plans (approximately 64% in Caldbeck parish because of the number of households in the two villages). Unfortunately the documents issued by CCC for the second phase broadband consultation were only draft documents and the maps were poor quality. Support from both BT and CCC for the Northern Fells Broadband project has been very disappointing. In response to the consultation NF Broadband (and Caldbeck PC) put the suggestion that those with almost no broadband or none should be the priority for the next phase of grant money. At present the promise is a minimum 2 MB/s connection speed for everyone but it is currently unclear how that may be achieved.

EE have issued a helpline for those using the EE Home 4G service: 0800 9566 083

The Chairman thanked Paul very much for his report.

3. Duncan Fairbairn arrived later in the meeting because he had attended another meeting first. The Chairman asked him for any news he had for the Council. Duncan confirmed what Paul Doherty had reported earlier re the Broadband roll out and said that the effects locally had been very disappointing. He also mentioned that BT are taking over EE.

### 26/01-99 PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPLICATIONS

a) **Decisions:** None

b) **Applications:** T/2015/0008 Priests Mill, Church Terrace, Caldbeck, CA7 8DR. Felling and limb works to prevent overcrowding. It was **resolved to support** the proposals for the reasons given in the application.

### 26/01-100 PROPOSED FOOT AND CYCLE PATH ALONG HESKETT LONNING

The Chairman reported that the next meeting of the Working Group would be on 30<sup>th</sup> January and the Clerk would report to the Council following that meeting.

### 26/01-101 BUS SERVICES

- a) The Clerk reported that Mrs Watson, CCC Community Transport Officer, had spoken to Mr Tyson of Tysons' Coaches about residents from Caldbeck and Sebergham parish wanting transport to Carlisle now that the 72 bus service had been withdrawn. Mr Tyson had offered to provide a weekly coach trip to Carlisle and these trips had commenced on the 7<sup>th</sup> January. Helen Sturges, Northern Fells Village Agent had agreed to take the bookings for the trips and about twelve people a week were booking for the trips including two from Sebergham parish. The Council expressed its appreciation of Mr Tyson's help for members of the parish needing to get to Carlisle for shopping and other appointments.
- b) The Clerk had notified Council members of a meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> January for Caldbeck and neighbouring parish councillors, and interested residents, regarding publicity for the 73 Caldbeck Rambler service from its recommencement on 28<sup>th</sup> March onward through the Spring and Summer, with the aim of increasing its numbers, perhaps to the point where a Winter 2015/16 service might be viable.

26/01-102      PROTECTION OF COMMUNITY ASSETS

The School Field, the Allotments, Heskett Newmarket Play Area and the Parish Hall are the Assets still being considered for registration. The Clerk said that unfortunately because she had been busy with the bus liaison and other matters she had not had time to follow up the issues under consideration.

26/01-103      PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION COSTS

The Chairman reported that David Caxton from CALC had asked the six Cumbrian District Councils about their policies for charging Parish Councils for election costs. All except Carlisle District made a charge to parish councils but had not detailed the proportion of the costs. The Clerk had contacted Allerdale again to ask exactly by how much the Government grant is reduced if there is a parish council election and whether the parish council might be charged for only those additional costs directly attributable to the parish council election if it is on the same day as a National election. However the Allerdale Election Consultant Steve Phillips is on holiday until February and the colleague of his she spoke to has not got back in touch with the information requested. The Clerk will contact Mr Phillips when he is back from his holiday and she was also directed to write to Rory Stewart MP to explain what we have discovered regarding the diminishing national grant paid if there is a parish council election and the fact that there are considerable discrepancies in how district councils manage the national grant.

26/01-104      PARISH MAINTENANCE

- a) **Drainage problems and ice Wath Brow.** The Clerk reported that Tim Shield, the Highways Engineer, and Andrew Harrison from Highways were meeting at Wath Brow later in the week. They were going to check which fields the water is draining from and if the field drainage is the problem they will ask the Clerk for the contact details for the landowners. The Clerk will continue to liaise with Highways regarding the problems.
- b) **Potholes on Heskett Lonning and Ratten Row** were reported to Highways prior to the parish council meeting.
- c) **Other Parish maintenance matters.** 1. The Clerk was asked to report to Highways water running down the road from Lonning Head to Haltcliffe Bridge causing sheet ice on the road. 2. The Clerk to ask Michael Bell if he might fill in the potholes on the School Green again like he did last year. 3. The Clerk to ask the LDNP Arborist if he would check the oak tree behind the Bowling Club on the Green at Caldbeck – a resident is concerned that it is splitting. 4. The Clerk to ask Highways when is the road down the back of the Green being resurfaced? It was originally scheduled for 'before winter'. 5. The Clerk to contact Highways about the potholes near the bridge on the Upton road – the road is due to be resurfaced in 2015/16 but the potholes need attention sooner than that.

26/01-105      RETIREMENT OF CLERK AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW CLERK

- a) The Council received and accepted notice of the Clerk's retirement at the end of April. She was thanked for her work for the Council over the last seven years.
- b) The Council approved the job description, the noticeboard advertisement which would also go to CALC for publication in the February Circular, and the contract of employment for the new Clerk.
- c) It was agreed that the Chairman Norman Atkinson and two other Councillors, Alan Tyson and Audrey Noble, would shortlist and interview applicants. Interviews would be held in March.

26/01-106      MONTHLY ACCOUNTS AND ANNUAL AUDIT

- a) Councillors reviewed the Audit Checklist sent by Jean Airey. It was noted that the checklist accords with the Caldbeck Parish Council systems except that the Council does not operate a petty cash system.

- b) It was **resolved** (proposed Councillor Roy Knowles, seconded Councillor Audrey Noble) that Jean Airey be appointed Internal Auditor.
- c) It was **resolved** to approve the monthly expenditure and record of income:  
**Receipts:** None  
**Payments:** Caldbeck Parish Hall: Meeting Room hire 2014: £99.00  
Mrs Eleanor Benson, Monitoring and cleaning disabled toilet at Chapel, Nov, Dec '14, Jan '15: £100.00  
Information Commissioner, Data Protection Registration 2015-16: £35.00 Direct Debit 6<sup>th</sup> February.
- The Council was notified of the current financial position;**  
HSBC Current A/C 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014: £2,075.21  
8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2015: £1,099.11  
HSBC Deposit A/C 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014: £10,604.79 Interest 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014: £0.61p  
8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2015: £10,605.42 Interest 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2015: £0.63p
- d) Notification of Precept 2015 – 16 posted to Allerdale BC on 15.1.15. Parish Council Funding Requirement = £10,900, made up of Council Tax Support Grant of £197.72 and Precept of £10,702.28. The Clerk notified the Council that the Council Tax Support Grant had been reduced from last year's figure. She was asked to query this reduction with Allerdale Finance Dept.

26/01-107 CORRESPONDENCE

1. David Bowen. Offer of another bench on the Green at Caldbeck, and ideas re the possible signage for the Cumbria Way in Caldbeck. It was **agreed** that Councillor Angela Glendinning would check with the Bowling Club as to the positioning of a bench near their hedge. The Clerk to write and thank David Bowen for his generous offer. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would write to the LDNPA to ask if the Authority might improve signage for the Cumbria Way. She would also do a map for the Transport board in Caldbeck village showing the arrival and leaving points for the Cumbria Way through the village.
2. Cath Johnson, LDNPA Ranger, re LDNP information. Emailed to Councillors 20.1.15. Noted with thanks.
3. Nigel Winter, Stagecoach, re 73 Bus service. Emailed to Councillors 21.1.15. Noted with thanks.
4. J Coates, Environment Agency, re Community Flood Planning. Emailed to Councillors 20.1.15. Noted.
5. CALC. Government Consultation on Parish Polls. Emailed to Councillors on 20.1.15. The Clerk to write in support of the proposals.
6. Allerdale Local Plan (Part 2): Site Allocations Issues and Options consultation - Additional Sites Submitted January 2015. Emailed to Councillors 20.1.15. The Chairman reported that Caldbeck was not mentioned in the plan due to its position in the LDNP.
7. CALC. Forwarded from the Dept for Communities and Local Government: Plain English guide to the planning system. Emailed to Councillors on 6th January. Noted.
8. Minutes of the CALC Allerdale meeting in December, attended by the Chairman. Emailed to Councillors on 6th January. Noted.
9. NALC briefing on the report of the Communities and Local Government Select Committee concerning the operation of the National Planning Policy Framework. Emailed to Councillors 20.1.15. Noted.
10. Allerdale Borough Council DRAFT Council Plan 2015-19 consultation. Emailed to Councillors for individual responses, due with Allerdale on 23rd January. Noted.
11. Police and Crime Commissioner's Newsletter, December, emailed to Councillors 30.12.14. Noted.
12. NALC Newsletter January 2015. Emailed to Councillors 20.1.15. Noted.

26/01-108 NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015, 7:30pm in Caldbeck Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.03pm.