

CALDBECK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the annual meeting held at Caldbeck Parish Hall on Tuesday 9th May 2017 at 7:42 p.m..

Cllrs Present: Norman Atkinson (Chairman), Alastair MacFadzean Paul Doherty, Alan Tyson, Richard Hellon, Ian Shaw, Angela Glendinning & Christina Coulthard.

Also Present: Andrea McCallum (Locum Clerk) & Cllr Fairbairn (County & Borough Councillor – entered at 8:25 p.m.). Eight members of the public.

09/05-1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Resolved: proposed Alan Tyson, seconded Alastair MacFadzean, to elect Norman Atkinson as Chairman for the next Council year.

09/05-2 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

As a copy was not available at the meeting, Chairman to sign the Declaration of Office at the June meeting.

09/05-3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Resolved: proposed Alastair MacFadzean, seconded Ian Shaw, to elect Richard Hellon as Vice Chairman for the next Council year.

09/05-4 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received & accepted from Tim Cartmell & Colin Smithson

09/05-5 MINUTES

The minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting held on 27th March 2017 were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

09/05-6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

a) No requests for dispensations were received.

b) Christina Coulthard declared an interest in agenda item 15 - Call for Sites 2017, due to a family member submitting a site for consideration.

09/05-7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a) Cllr Fairbairn's report advised on his re-election to the County Council and thanked the parish for its support. Reported that a lot of highways maintenance is due to be undertaken in the near future, with the B5305 from Churchtown to the A595 due to be resurfaced before the end of May. Cllr advised that dates on the road closure signs for some works currently undertaken in the area were incorrect and that this had caused confusion for road users. On checking the Cumbria County Council web site for confirmation Cllr had also found that the road closures were not displayed – so the web site was not correct/up-to-date. Also advised that the alternate routes offered were not always the shortest. Cllr D Fairbairn advised that diversions must always be along a same class of road - so this could be why some alternate routes may seem questionable.

Resolved: Ian Shaw to contact Highways advising that incorrect dates had been displayed on road closure signs and the lack of information contained on the web site.

Cllrs enquired if Hesket Lonning was due to be re-surfaced this year? Cllr D Fairbairn advised that he would personally pursue this. He advised that the road at the back of Caldbeck Green was included on the schedule of those to be resurfaced this year.

b) No report from PCSO 5326 Harris was made available.

c) Cllr Paul Doherty gave a report on superfast broadband connectivity within the county and parish. This included that we are currently in Phase 2 of the project with 12,000 premises now being connected in Cumbria. A total of 600 cabinets had been installed and over 90% of the county is now able to connect to high speed broadband - if they wish. The overall aim is to get 97% coverage for the county, but it is envisaged that the last 7% of 'hard to reach' properties will have to be connected via other methods such as satellite. Reported that new connectivity methods are also being developed and tested all the time. However, advised that if you are not able to connect at the moment then it maybe some time before connection is made possible.

d) Mr David Ward, Caldbeck Parish Representative, Northern Fells Group gave a report on activities undertaken over the previous year. These included benefits assistance/advice, youth activities, music groups, 'men in sheds' group, oil buying syndicates, poetry & computer classes, etc. Advised that the minibus is greatly used and currently costs £86k/annum to run. This is funded via Parish Council contributions, grants and paying users. Caldbeck PC currently contributes £300/annum, which is considered in-line with other councils

contribution rates. David was thanked by the Chairman for his work on behalf of the council which is greatly appreciated.

09/05-8 PLANNING DECISIONS & APPLICATIONS

a) **Applications: T/2017/0069** – Coppice 3 trees – Bobbin Mill Gate, Caldbeck– **No Objection**, but Cllr Paul Doherty to write to National Park and advise that ownership of the land on which the trees are situated needs to be clarified.

Decisions - 7/2017/2011 – Erection of a cow shed, Midtown Farm, Caldbeck – **Approved**.

7/2017/2057 – Rear extension to provide a sun room, utility area and store/workshop area – School Cottage, Heskett Newmarket, CA7 8JU – **Approved**.

09/05-9 PROPOSED FOOT & CYCLE PATH ALONG HESKET LONNING

Chairman reported that Mr S Watson had now signed the option papers. Advised that a meeting was held with Cumbria County Council Officers looking to progress the Footpath Creation Order. Following this a letter had been sent to Mr Stuart Young, Elected Leader of Cumbria County Council and Environment portfolio holder, Janet Willis, promoting the benefits of the project. Due to the recent election, a brief holding response had been received, but this would be pursued by the Parish Council following the General Election.

Cllr D Fairbairn entered the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

09/05-10 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

A review of the Annual Parish Meeting was undertaken and consideration was given to the request from Fellview School that grass cutting costs over the summer holiday period are funded by the Parish Council. Consideration was also given to the production of a new Parish/Neighbourhood Plan.

Resolved: both items to be included for consideration at the June meeting.

09/05-11 FELL VIEW SCHOOL OUTDOOR PLAY EQUIPMENT

Consideration was given to a request from Fellview School Governors for a donation of £5,000 towards new play area equipment that was to cost £12,099. Discussion on the issue included if the council could legitimately fund the equipment due to it being situated on school premises, for which school funding was a function of CCC (advice being gained from CALC). The amount requested also represented approximately 50% of the Council's budget, upon which there other calls. Suggestions for other grant funding options were to be provided.

Resolved: No donation to be given. Chairman to contact School Governors to this effect.

09/05-12 PARISH MAINTENANCE

- a) The following updates were received; (i) restoration of sign at Brewery Lane – advised that Highways response had been to send an IT link to a repair company based at Gilsland. **Agreed:** Cllr Richard Hellon to progress the issue with Highways. (ii) Newlands Bridge, trees and debris washed down river and lying against bridge supports. **Agreed:** to monitor for further developments. (iii) Gradient warning signs on Wath Brow required & (iv) no entry sign for long vehicles at the top and bottom of Faulds Brow required – Chairman contacted Highways but they seemed unsure of locations and therefore provided accurate detail. **Agreed:** Cllr Christina Coulthard to pursue and arrange site visit with highways. (v) Farm mud on Heskett Lonning – advised that local residents to progress as required. (vi) pothole on the Heskett Newmarket to Newlands road at Heskett side of the bridge – Vice Chairman advised that he had not located the hole but would look again and report it if necessary.
- b) Provision of a new street light on the road to the school between Hodden Croft & Marlow Cottage – approximate costs of £2,700 to £6,500 had been advised, the overall cost dependant on where a connection could be made to existing electricity cables. **Agreed:** Cllr Phil Doherty to determine where the existing electricity cables are located.
- c) Other urgent matters regarding parish maintenance included; tress in the river at the Howk water gate are lodged in rocks and thought to pose a risk of damaging the water gate. **Agreed:** Cllr Alastair MacFadzean to contact Environment Agency about removal. Resident had reported that pot holes existed in the road surface outside Commercial Row. **Agreed:** Cllr Alastair MacFadzean to progress with Highways. Problems with highway drainage reported again at Commercial Row/B5299. Cllrs unsure if this is due to a spring or surface water drainage from adjacent fields. **Agreed:** Cllr Alan Tyson to arrange a site meeting with Highways and residents are to be invited to attend alongside Cllr D Fairbairn.

09/05-13 NORTHERN FELLS GROUP

Resolved: Mr David Ward was re-appointed as the Caldbeck parish representative on the Board of Trustees for the Northern Fells Group.

09/05-14 HESKET NEWMARKET ALLOTMENTS

Councillors considered the request from HNM Allotment Association, via Sue Braithwaite, that vacant plots could be offered to residents within the NFG area, if after 2 months there was no take up from residents in Caldbeck Parish. All agreed it was better to have the plots in use. **Resolved:** Tenancy agreements to be amended in the future to reflect this.

09/05-15 LDNP CALL FOR SITES 2017

Consideration was given to sites within the parish that may have the potential for future development. Discussion was undertaken on possible suitable sites and if it was appropriate for councillors to suggest sites that had not been agreed to be put forward by landowners. Any individual or landowner can submit ideas for sites direct to the LDNPA. Any site submitted would have to go through the normal planning process and could be rejected by the LDNPA as unsuitable. Closing date for suggestions is 2 June 2017.

Resolved: to submit only sites where the Parish Council knew that the land-owner had previously indicated that they considered the site suitable for housing development. This included the field to the north between Beckstones and Maiden's Hill, Caldbeck owned by Mr A. Coulthard. Also the field to the rear of the Parish Hall owned by Mr M. Hodgson. Cllr Paul Doherty to advise the National Park of this. Generic LDNPA 'Call for Sites' posters to be placed on parish notice boards.

09/05-16 COMMUNITY LED HOUSING

Covered in the Chairman's Annual Report. Allerdale has a grant available for groups or individuals who would like to develop community led housing, in particular where affordable housing is an issue for young people. An item was placed in the parish magazine, May edition, to gauge interest.

09/05-17 UPDATE REPORT FROM THE LDNPA REPRESENTATIVES

Advised that no update was available. This item to be included as an agenda item for the June meeting.

09/05-18 MONTHLY ACCOUNTS

a) The Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2017 was received from the Internal Auditor. Recommendations that had been brought to the councils attention included that a list of all expenditure for items exceeding £100 is required to be published on the web site prior to the 1st July 2017 – this being a new requirement of the Transparency Code. Also, that the current adopted Financial Regulation No. 2.2 requires that a councillor other than the Chairman signs the bank statements to verify the bank reconciliation.

Resolved: that these items be progressed when a new Clerk had been appointed.

b) The Annual Governance Statement 2016/17 was completed, approved and signed.

c) The Cashbook & Annual Return Accounting Statements 2016/17 were approved and signed.

d) Two quotes had been received for insurance, one from Zurich Municipal and one from AON, current provider at £412.97. Discussion was also undertaken as to if the council should enter into a three year agreement.

Resolved; to insure with AON from renewal on 1st June 2017, on an annual basis only.

e) The budget for 2016/17 was reviewed.

f) It was **resolved to** approve the monthly expenditure and record of income:

Receipts: Allerdale Borough Council, first half of Precept for 2017/18: £5905.85

Allerdale Borough Council, first half Council Tax Reduction Support Grant: £44.16

Payments: Jean Airey, Internal Audit: £50.00

E Clark, Salary(April): £247.56 Expenses: £17.18

HM Revenue & Customs, PAYE: £61.80

Colin Smithson, Fit new bench in HNM: £108.00

CALC Subscription 2017/18: £218.28

Eleanor Benson, Monitoring and cleaning disabled toilet at Chapel, Feb, March, April '16: £100.00

Mark Binney, Grasscutting - £172.50

Arnison Heelis Solicitors, J A Brownrigg Footpath - £700.00

AON Insurance: £412.97.

g) The council was notified of the current financial position;

HSBC Current A/C 8th April: £11754.14

HSBC Deposit A/C 8th April: £107963.57 (inc. £98627.80 for path project) Interest 8th April: £5.50

09/05-19 CORRESPONDENCE

To note items of correspondence received since the last meeting and take action as appropriate.

a) Minerals & Waste Planning Policy – Main Modifications & Sustainability Appraisal Update (emailed cllrs 2/4)

b) Rory Stewart – Reply to Bus Service 73/73A Complaint (emailed cllrs 2/4)

c) NALC – Revised Legal Topic Notes (emailed cllrs 2/4)

- d) CALC – Course Info (emailed cllrs 2/4)
- e) CALC – Flood Recovery Workshop (emailed cllrs 2/4)
- f) Healthcare for the Future – Update (emailed cllrs 2/4)
- g) Simon Gray – Planning Permission in Hesket (emailed cllrs 5/4)
- h) Cumbria Local Enterprise partnership – News Spring 2017 (emailed cllrs 11/4)
- i) CALC – Cumbria Leaders Board 17/03/17 (emailed cllrs 11/4)
- j) CALC – April Newsletter (emailed cllrs 11/4)
- k) CALC – ‘HIMS’ Launch (emailed cllrs 11/4) – Cllrs were asked to give feedback if using the system;
- l) CALC – CLB Strategy for Industry paper (emailed cllrs 11/4)
- m) Geoff Davies – March Report (emailed cllrs 11/4)
- n) My Cumbria – TV Village of the Year 2017 (emailed cllrs 11/4) – Cllrs were asked to consider progressing an entry into the competition. **Agreed:** not to enter.
- o) CALC – Friday Round Up (emailed cllrs 23/4)
- p) LDNP Local Plan Review – Call for Sites 2017 (emailed cllrs 23/4)
- q) CALC – Allerdale 3 tier Meeting Info (emailed cllrs 28/4)
- r) CALC – ‘Purdah’ Guidance (emailed cllrs 28/4)
- s) GNAA – April Newsletter (emailed cllrs 28/4)
- t) Hospice at Home – Donation Request (emailed cllrs 28/4). Consideration was given to a donation being made. **Agreed:** to undertake a review of all charitable giving and then re-consider the request. This item to be included on the agenda for the June meeting.
- u) Fell View School – Funding for Replacement Outdoor Play Eqp't (emailed cllrs 28/4). Agenda item 11.
- v) J Airey (Internal Auditor) – Audit Report 2016/17 (emailed Cllrs 28/4)

09/05-20 MEETING DATE

- a) It was noted that the next Meeting of the parish council will be Monday 19th June at 7.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.