

**LOWER HOLKER PARISH  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Flookburgh Village Hall at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017

**MINUTES**

Present

Parish Councillors R Airey (Vice Chairman), B Dawson, G Gardner (& District Councillor), M Keith, S Rawsthorn & T Wilson (Chairman), Parish Clerk L Prescott & 14 members of the public.

1 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies from PCSO H Firth were received and accepted.

2 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Acceptance of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 was agreed unanimously and signed by the Vice Chairman.

3 **Annual Parish Council Report**

Chairman Trevor Wilson took the Chair and presented the following Annual Report:

**Councillors**

Lower Holker Parish is represented by 7 Parish Councillors: Ruth Airey (Vice Chair), Barry Dawson, Gill Gardner, Margaret Keith, Susan Rawsthorn, Jonathan Ryland and Trevor Wilson (Chair).

**Meetings**

Lower Holker Parish Council meets on the first Wednesday of every month, with the exception of August, alternating between Lower Holker and Flookburgh Village Hall. The Police and the District and County Councillors attend the majority of these meetings and provide regular reports. All residents are welcome to raise concerns with the Parish Council and attend any meeting. The Parish Council revised the Financial Regulations in April 2016 as recommended by the National Association of Local Councils in relation to breach of regulations, disclosable interests and contracts (incorporating the specific requirements of The Public Contracts Regulations 2015).

**Representation**

Parish Council representatives attended the following:

Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity meetings  
Cumbria Association of Local Councils – District meetings and Parish Clerk Forums  
Grange & Cartmel Local Area Partnership meetings  
Natural England England Coast Path event

**Finances**

The Parish Precept for 2016/17 was set at £14478.26 and other income was received from VAT repayment, Grants and Bank Interest, so total receipts were £18796.39. Over the year £26,894.45 was spent, leaving a Bank balance at the end of the year of £20,405.38 (Receipts & Payments Account attached). Grants have been made to support the Flookburgh & Cark Christmas Lights, Flookburgh Burial Ground and Great North Air Ambulance.

**Communication**

The Parish Council website was launched on in 2014 and includes the next meeting Agenda, Minutes of previous meetings, Council contact details, Community information, News items and financial details of the Parish Council. It receives around 150 unique visits a month, mainly from UK but including USA, Germany,

Japan, France, Bulgaria and India. The Parish Council Facebook page was launched in 2012 and includes meeting notifications, local information and news items. It currently has 126 likes and the most views of a posting this year was 1,763 people. The Parish Council also publishes a page in the monthly Parish Link newsletter and Agendas and Minutes are displayed in the Cark Noticeboard.

### **Training**

The Parish Clerk has attended the Cumbria Association of Parish Councils' Clerks' Forums which provide information on current and future issues for Parish Councils.

### **Planning Applications**

Seventeen Planning Applications via South Lakeland District within the Parish have been considered and responses submitted, relating to domestic and commercial use.

### **Consultations**

During the past year the Parish Council has been consulted/surveyed and responded to a range of issues raised by the Government, National Grid, Cumbria and South Lakeland Councils & Cumbria Police.

### **Public Safety & Environment**

- The Parish Council has continued to manage the Toilets at Cark, with assistance from Dave & Heather who open them and Mike & Marion who close them each day.
- The Parish Council continue to pay for street lighting and emptying 2 of the litter bins.
- The Parish Council is also providing a grant to support the reinstatement of the Saturday circular bus service, which restarted on 19 March 2016.

### **Highways**

- Reports of potholes, drainage problems, street light faults and other defects are regularly reported to the County Council Highways department.
- Meetings have been held with a Cumbria County Highways Engineer on a range of highways matters in the parish, including concerns relating to road safety.
- A meeting was arranged with Lakeland Leisure and Cumbria County Council and plans agreed to improve road safety on Moor Lane in relation to horseriders.
- Plans for yellow lines to stop inappropriate parking in Cark and Flookburgh have been implemented by Cumbria Highways.

### **Flookburgh Square**

The Parish Council has undertaken major improvements in Flookburgh Square, including retarmacing and marking out spaces for parking, disabled parking, a bus stop and pedestrian walkway. The majority of the funding for this has been from Parish Council reserves, but contributions have also been made by Cumbria County Council, South Lakeland District Council and Cumbria Steam Gathering.

### **Community Led Plan**

The Community Led Plan has continued to be on hold but should be completed in 2017.

### **Invited speakers & Public Participation**

Representatives from Natural England attended a meeting to outline the plans for the England Coast Path. Several members of the public have contacted the Parish Council and attended Parish Council meetings.

**5 Report from Public Watering Place Charity**

The Clerk reported that during the last financial year the Income received totalled £1003.28 (£258.28 from Share Dividends and £745 from field rents). Two grants were paid out to University students totalling £100. The Charity Account balance on 1st April 2015 was £9781.69, and on 31st March 2016 was £10,684.97.

**6 Report from County Councillor**

County Councillor Sue Sanderson reported:  
She has worked closely with the Parish Council, particularly on the Flookburgh Square improvements and white and yellow lining. She continues to work on local issues related to Highways including manhole covers and parking. She and the Clerk took the County Council Highways Engineer round the parish to examine a range of highways matters and plan improvement works. She has made reports to all Parish Council meetings and taken forward actions to the County Council. She serves on the Health, Social Care and Education committees, is Deputy Leader of South Lakeland District Council and supports joint working between the County and District Councils. She would like to thank everyone for their welcome over the past 2 years as the 4 year election cycle for the County Councillors takes place tomorrow.

**7 Report from District Councillor**

District Councillor Gill Gardner reported:  
She has continued to be busy on Planning, Licensing and Leisure Centre committees as well as full Council meetings. She has undertaken more litter picks with 48 bags of litter being collected this year. She continues to work on the dog fouling issue. She asks that anyone who has a problem to get in touch with her.

**8 Report from Cumbria Police**

No report has been received.

**9 Reports from local Organisations**

a) Tim Owen of Furness Line Community Rail Partnership reported:

The railway services has now settled now with the new franchise with Northern. There is now a trial for Scholar's Passes for 16 to 18 year olds travelling to Ulverston and Lancaster with a reasonable take up. There is a Station group in Cark comprising 3 people who meet on Tuesday morning at 10.30 am. There will be an improved service in 2018 with more direct trains to Manchester Airport and an improved weekend service. The recent strikes have meant limited timetables on strike days and these have been publicised on the Station noticeboard and via the Parish Council website and Facebook page.

b) Katie Wood of Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity Trust reported:

Work on the Car Park is progressing and the field drainage will soon be installed. The next stage will be re-seeding the site then installing equipment later this year. £145,000 has been raised or pledges with £29,000 to raise to complete all the works. Phase 1 comprises Adult and Toddler equipment and Phase 2 comprises Junior equipment. There is a Duck Race on 4<sup>th</sup> June in Cark and Gill Gardner will be cycling the Coast to Coast route in August to raise further funds.

c) Barry Dawson of Flookburgh Library and Flookburgh Village Hall reported:

The Village Hall has just had a new kitchen installed, with funds from the County and District Councils and roof repairs have also been completed. The Library continues to meet on a Friday, it was closed whilst the Kitchen was being installed but has now restarted.

d) Lyn Prescott of Flocks 4 Youth (Youth Club) reported:

The Youth Club has been suspended since February due insufficient staffing, but the Senior Club (11 to 16 years) will be restarting on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017 with 2 existing volunteers and one new volunteer.

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**Close**

Chairman Trevor Wilson thanked all those who worked within local organisations for making such a positive contribution to the community.