

**LOWER HOLKER PARISH
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Flookburgh Village Hall at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 2nd May 2018

MINUTES

Present

Parish Councillors R Airey (Vice Chairman), B Dawson, G Gardner (& District Councillor), M Keith, S Rawsthorn & T Wilson (Chairman), County Councillor S Sanderson, Parish Clerk L Prescott & 7 members of the public.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Parish Councillor Ryland, PCSO H Firth and Paul Jenkison (Lower Holker Village Hall) were received and accepted.

2 Minutes of Last Meeting

Acceptance of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd May 2017 was proposed by Councillor Dawson, Seconded by Councillor Airey and signed by the Vice Chairman.

3 Annual Parish Council Report

The Chairman 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). The Councillors have between them 99 years of service as Lower Holker Parish Councillors, the most longstanding being Councillors Rawsthorn, Keith and Ryland.

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.

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

Grange & District Wellbeing Group

Finances

The Parish Precept for 2017/18 was set at £13407.58 and other income was received from Grants, VAT repayment, Grants, Community Infrastructure Levy and Bank Interest, so total receipts were £212,494.49. Over the year £206,796.12 was spent, leaving a Bank balance at the end of the year of £23,503.33. (Receipts & Payments Account attached). Grants have been made to support the Flookburgh & Cark Christmas Lights, Flookburgh Village Hall, Lower Holker Village Hall 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, Policies and Procedures and financial details of the Parish Council. It receives around 150 unique visits a month, mainly from UK but including USA, Ireland, Germany and Russia. The Parish Council Facebook page was launched in 2012 and includes local information and news items. It currently has 145 likes and the most views of a posting this year was 2,328 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 General Data Protection Regulation Training and the Cumbria Association of Parish Councils' Clerks' Forums which provide information on current and future issues for Parish Councils.

Planning Applications

Twenty six 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 and responded to a range of issues.

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 has prepared and distributed a Community Emergency Plan with details of contacts in case of a major incident within the Parish.
- The Parish Council has bought a Speed Gun, jointly with Lower Allithwaite Parish Council. Volunteers have been trained by Cumbria Police and regular speed monitoring is taking place.

Highways

- Reports of potholes, drainage problems, street light faults and other defects are regularly reported to the County Council Highways department using the new HIMs reporting system.
- 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 and improvements have been made, particularly in signage.

Flookburgh Community Playground

The new playground on Moor Lane has now been installed. There is a dedicated car park, play equipment for all ages, and a kickabout area with goalposts. This is the result of over 10 years' work by the Parish Council and Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity with the support of the local community and grants from local and national organisations.

Public Participation

Several members of the public have contacted the Parish Council and attended to speak at or observe Parish Council meetings. Reports have also been received from the Friends of Cark Station, Love Flookburgh Group & Patient Participation Group.

Lower Holker Parish Council					
Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2018					
Previous Year		2017/18	Previous Year		2017/18
	Receipts			Payments	
£14,976.05	Precept	£13,407.58	£4,137.48	Clerk's Salary	£4,306.20
£1,246.03	Council Tax Support Grant	£1,078.42	£160.00	Clerk's Telephone	£160.00
£1,027.43	VAT Refund	£32,318.79	£665.18	Administration	£695.86
£0.00	Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity Grant re Flookburgh Community Playground	£114,429.48	£10.00	Training	£10.00
£0.00	WREN Grant re Flookburgh Community Playground	£49,391.00	£200.00	Grants (Sec 137)	£100.00
£700.00	SLDC District Councillor Locality Budget (Road safety signs for Moor Lane)	£1,000.00	£450.00	Grants	£900.00
£0.00	SLDC Community Infrastructure Levy	868.57	£400.55	Street Lighting Expenses	£772.51
£346.00	Local Area Partnership Grant (Flookburgh Square Noticeboard)	£0.00	£417.09	Insurance	£953.93
£500.00	The Cumbria Steam Gathering (Flookburgh Square tarmacking)	£0.00	£3,219.79	VAT	£32,480.14
£0.88	Bank Interest	£0.65	£200.00	Newsletter	£200.00
			£94.89	Website	£24.99
			£3,219.50	Toilet Running Expenses	£3,393.16
			£0.00	Clock Repairs & Maintenance	£0.00
			£63.08	Parish Council Elections	£0.00
			£372.32	Public Safety and Environment	£1,506.81
			£12,684.57	Flookburgh Square Improvement Works	£0.00
			£600.00	Saturday Bus Service grant	£0.00
			£0.00	Flookburgh Community Playground	£161,292.52
£18,796.39		£212,494.49	£26,894.45		£206,796.12

4 **Report from Public Watering Place Charity**

The Clerk reported that during the last financial year the Income received totalled £1,195.98 (£263.48 from Share Dividends and £932.50 from field rents). Grants were paid to 6 students and Flookburgh Village Hall, totalling £450.00. The Charity Account balance on 1st April 2017 was £10,684.97, and on 31st March 2018 was £11,430.95.

5 **Report from County Councillor**

County Councillor Sue Sanderson reported:

She has met with Highways England to examine how the junction of the B5278 with the A590 at Haverthwaite could be improved including visibility, signage and improved refuge for pedestrian. She has had some success with Cumbria Highways installing a bollard to block the bridleway at School Lane and is reminding the traffic wardens to enforce the double yellow lines in the Parish.

6 **Report from District Councillor**

District Councillor Gill Gardner reported:

As usual she has had had a busy year. She has been litter picking with John Bland and picked at least 35 bags last year. Their first litter pick this year was on Moor Lane where they picked 14 bags of litter, aided by her grandson. However the following day there was more dog fouling. Dog fouling continues to be a problem and whilst the SLDC Officer is supportive, it continues. This week she had a photo of a dog fouling by the school entrance but she will continue the fight. She also had a great year involved in the installation of the new Playground. She has had some planning successes with a new business opened last June. Her committee work has been planning, licensing, and Lake administration but she has now resigned from planning but become a school governor. She would like to thank everyone who has supported her over the last 4 years as it's District elections tomorrow she hopes she will still be able to serve on the District Council however if not she will still be on the Parish Council.

7 **Report from Cumbria Police**

No Annual report has been received.

8 **Reports from local Organisations**

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

There was a consultation on the new timetable to start on 20th May and some amendments were agreed but due to delays in electrification elsewhere it has been amended. There are no problems with trains towards Barrow but there are with the return services. There are now only 4 trains to Manchester Airport and 3 from the Airport. There have been problems with services and representations have been made to Northern Rail and Network Rail.

There is now a Friends of Cark Station with 6 people who are assisting in the maintenance and improvement of the station. They have received grants from the Association of Community Rail Partnerships and Northern Rail which they have used to buy a brushcutter and will also buy planters and are making a horticultural plan. They have received positive comments about their work and are entered in Cumbria in Bloom. Northern Rail have confirmed they will provide mobile toilets for the day of the Boyzone concert in Cartmel.

b) Diane Turner of Flookburgh Band provided the following written report:

The band has had yet another successful, busy year. Making good use of the band room facilities in Flookburgh Village Hall. Flookburgh Band are fortunate to have a lot of local players and some members travelling in from all over the Furness area and as far as Lancaster including a three players who have moved to the area for work. They have

managed to keep up rehearsals twice a week, Monday and Thursday. This has not been easy with dwindling numbers for brass bands in general across Britain. We have given concerts at The Victoria Hall to sell out audiences this past year. A fund raising concert for the Victoria Hall, a shared concert with the Houghton Weavers, The Last night of the Proms with guest local singer Sue Harrison and our traditional Christmas concert. The band has also performed on various dates throughout the summer on Grange band stand and have also given a concert for Cartmel Priory. Here's to another successful year ahead.

- c) Katie Wood of Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity Trust reported:
2017 was a fantastic year for Flookburgh and District Recreational Trust. We had received two large grants from WREN and SLDC in 2016 and following this other organisations saw the potential of this project and also pledged their money. As we were getting close to raising our total project cost of £175k we decided to take action. The ground works started in June 2017 and we placed the order for the playground equipment. Once the grass took hold and became much thicker we were able to start the playground build in September. Seeing the equipment arrive on site was a brilliant moment for the committee who had worked tirelessly to get to this point. The workforce building the playground battled through several weeks of torrential rain which ultimately turned the field into a mud bath. But it wasn't enough to dampen our spirits. We held our official opening day on Sunday 25th November. Money continued to come in from a number of funders during the build phase and this allowed us to buy an additional piece of equipment which was not on the original plans and will also allow us to buy two gates and a height restriction barrier for the car park in the next few months. The trust has now handed the park over to Lower Holker Parish Council who will maintain the park on our behalf. However FDRC's work is not complete. We are taking a short and well deserved break from fundraising. Our next community event will be our annual duck race on the 4th June. Our strategy for expansion of Flookburgh Community Playground is yet to be put in place but we have already been discussing some ideas and will certainly be engaging with the wider community for inspiration.

- d) Barry Dawson of Flookburgh Library and Flookburgh Village Hall reported:

The Village Hall has had a fantastic year and the Friday Library Club is very popular. The main hall and most of the rest of the hall has been painted due to fundraising and a grant from the Public Watering Place Charity. The CCTV was not working and has been replaced. The side door is rotting and will be replaced with an improved door, partly funded by a Parish Council grant, which will enable wheelchair access.

- e) Lyn Prescott of Flocks 4 Youth (Youth Club) reported:

The Senior Youth Club had to be suspended due to behaviour and vandalism, however the Junior Club restarted in the Autumn and there are now an average of 10 members aged 8 to 11 years attending, taking part in various activities and now starting to use the Playground on Moor Lane.

- f) Paul Jenkison of Lower Holker Village Hall provided a written report:

The Hall was built in 1908, is owned by Holker Estates and leased to the 12 Trustees who are responsible for the maintenance and improvement of the Hall. Funds are raised from room hire, green hire, grants & fund raising. Fundraising included 200 Club, Craft Fair, Quiz Nights, Christmas Bingo and Ulverston Victoria High School Band Concert. Three trustees have retired/moved and replacements are needed. The 5 year electrical inspection was carried out. Heating improvement works in the Main Hall have been carried using a National Lottery Grant and the next phase is for a boiler to improve the heating for the billiard room. The garage roof has been replaced with a grant from the Parish Council. The Hall also has facilities for table tennis and badminton available and use of these and the hall rooms is needed to continue to operate.

g) Janet Mardon of Lower Holker WI reported:

Lower Holker WI meet on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month. We no longer meet in the evenings as a lot of our members do not wish to go out in the evenings especially in the winter. We start our meeting at 1pm to discuss WI business then guests/visitors are welcomed at 2pm to listen to the Speaker or demonstration. We welcome men as visitors too as some of our speakers are of particular interest to all genders and age groups eg July meeting will be Rod David talking about Germans and Austrians in Cumbria. Visitors pay £3.00 which includes light refreshment. We are still low in numbers but hoping our numbers increase membership costs £41 per annum and will increase by £2 next year, members save monthly for this. We support many other village events and take a full part in our County WI events too. There are many different interests covered by the WI movement and membership opens many doors.

h) Linda Youd of the Patient Participation Group provided a written report:

The group attending an Integrated Care Community Conference in March where there were reports of 12 health projects which have been undertaken. They include Falls Prevention, Sleep difficulties in Children, Drug and Alcohol problems & Children's mental health. They are awaiting a report from the meeting. They stated to the Chief Executive that these schemes should be rolled out in all areas and publicised. There is a Falls Prevention session at Flookburgh Library this Friday. There are now some evening appointments available at the Surgery on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30 pm. Appointments can be booked by phone and a GP (not regular GP) and Health Care Assistant will be available. There is now an agreement between all the local surgeries to take on Temporary Patients from Haven Caravan Park and there is an alphabetical list of local doctors at Haven. The Walking for Health only has 1 volunteer, at least 2 more are needed to make it possible.

10 **Close**

Chairman Trevor Wilson thanked all those on the Parish Council and within the many groups who worked to improve the community. We need to celebrate this work and the contribution it makes to our community.