

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LOWER HOLKER
VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 PM ON WEDNESDAY 2nd APRIL 2014**

PRESENT

Parish Councillors R Airey, M Keith, S Rawsthorn, J Ryland, Parish & District Councillor G Gardner, Parish Clerk L Prescott and Mr T Ryland.

14/001 Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Parish Councillors J Rowlandson & T Wilson and County Councillor R Wilson were received and accepted.

14/002 Requests For Dispensations

None.

14/003 Declarations Of Interest

None.

14/004 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The acceptance of the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 5th March 2014 was proposed by Councillor Ryland, seconded by Councillor Gardner, accepted unanimously and signed by the Vice Chairman.

14/005 Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

None

14/006 Police

No Police Report received.

14/007 District and County Councillors

a) District Councillor Gardner reported that Her Councillor Locality Budget has been allocated: £700 to Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity Trust and £300 to Flookburgh Community Playgroup.

b) No County Councillor report received.

14/008 Planning Applications

None

14/009 Planning Decisions

None

14/010 Review of Risk Assessment Document.

The Risk Assessment and Management (financial) for period 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014 were distributed and explained to the Council by the Clerk. No amendments have been made from the previous year.

Resolved The Risk Assessment was accepted.

14/011 Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit

The following documents were distributed and explained to the Council by the Clerk:

a) Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit – un-amended from 2012/13.

b) An Asset Register – amended due to disposal of Lexmark Printer bought in 2006 for £50.00

a) Proposed Scope of Internal Audit – un-amended from 2012/13.

Resolved These documents were accepted.

14/012 **Financial Reports**

The Financial Report as at 24th March 2014, included no deviations from the budget.

Resolved accepted unanimously.

14/013 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolved The authorisation of the following payments was agreed unanimously:

Clerk's Salary March 2014	£207.20
HM Revenue & Customs PAYE re March Clerk's Salary	£51.80
Cumbria Association of Local Councils Subscription 2014/15	£273.00
Clerks & Councils Direct Subscription	£84.00
South Lakes Services (Toilet Cleaning) February 2014 (SO)	£247.26
E.On (Street Lighting) 1/2/2014-28/2/2014 (DD)	£18.77

14/014 **Consultations/Surveys**

The following consultations were considered.

- i) South Lakeland District Council Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Consultation
Consultation on the proposal to introduce a CIL which developers will pay to SLDC and that would then be spent on Infrastructure improvements. A proportion of the CIL would be available to Parish Councils for infrastructure improvements in their parish.

Resolved to respond:

- CIL Rate for Sheltered/Retirement Housing and Extra Care Housing should be reduced to £35/m² for housing for the more vulnerable members of the community.
- Agree to policy for paying the chargeable amounts in instalments.
- Other infrastructure needs – Pedestrian Bridge over Railway at Allithwaite Road, Flookburgh as the bridge is currently unsafe for pedestrians to cross.

- ii) External Audit and Data Transparency Consultation

Consultation on the implementation of the changes brought in by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 – Parish Councils with a turnover under £25,000 will be exempt from routine external audit but will be required to publish online the accounts, meeting minutes, details of land, councilor responsibilities by 1st July each year

Resolved to respond:

Question 1 – Code Mandatory for parish councils with a turnover not exceeding £25,000? Agree.

Question 2 – Parish Meetings exempt from the Code? Agree.

Question 3 – Threshold above which individual items of expenditure be published? Agree to a threshold of £100.

Question 4 – Should there be any exemptions to publication? Disagree.

Question 5 – Electronic Publication of data and information? Agree.

Question 6 – How much additional staff time and cost? Not prohibitive.

- iii) Better Care Together – 100 point survey on priorities for health care.

Resolved to allocate 100 points for priorities as follows:

20 - Patients get best results for them

15 - Safe Services

15 - Travel to specialist doctors

10 - Continuity of Care

10 - Treatment of patients and carers

10 - Care provided in the best place (which may not be a hospital)

10 - Change health services to support self-care

10 - Value for money

- iv) Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Suggestions sought for topics or areas for consideration within its work programme.

Resolved No suggestions.

14/015 **Issues raised by Residents**

The following issues raised by residents were considered:

- i) Grass cutting request re area by Norman's Seat (Stockdale Farm)

Resolved To arrange for area to be cut by Lengthsman

- ii) Dog fouling concerns in the community
Resolved
 a) Councillor Gardner is to arrange Lane Clean Ups
 b) A new litter bin will be bought and situated in an area where most needed.
- iii) Defibrillator(s) for the community
Resolved
 To support the purchase of defibrillators in the Parish. As fund raising is already in progress for one to be located at Lower Holker Club, to investigate funding options for a defibrillator in Flookburgh.
- i) Inquiry re land available to rent from the Parish Council
Resolved To respond that the Parish Council do not have any land but are Trustees for the Public Watering Charity which has 3 fields, 2 currently let on a yearly grazing agreement. These 2 fields will be publicly offered for tender on a 5 year Farm Business Tenancy to start on 1st January 2015.

14/016 Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC)

The Clerk reported that at the District Meeting included a presentation by Dr Alistair MacKenzie, Chair of the South Lakes Commissioning Group on the need to change in the Hospital services in the Morecambe Bay area as there are too many sites and not enough practice to employ and retain specialists. Drops ins and an online consultation is taking place to gather views of residents in the area. David Sykes of South Lakeland District Council outlined proposals to introduce controls on second homes under the Sustainable Communities Act to ensure that communities don't become unsustainable and lose essential services due to a shortage of permanent residents.

14/017 Local Area Partnership (LAP)

Councillor Airey reported that the Police reported that crime is low in the area. In addition the emphasis for the LAPs is for parishes to work together to provide or support the services for which the County and District Councils no longer have funding available.

14/018 Flookburgh Recreational Charity Trust

- i) Councillor Gardner reported that fund raising has been restarted, a new Treasurer has been appointed and she will be following up on the funds due from Neil Price and speak to the Highways about road calming as some young mothers are concerned about safety of young children using the site.
- ii) The Trust need a more formal agreement with the Parish Council in order to go forward with fund raising and propose a 10 year agreement as developers and managers of the site.
Resolved Agreed to drawing up a more formal 10 year agreement between the Trust and the Parish Council.

14/019 Public Toilets

The Clerk reported that an overflow problem had been reported and James Rowlandson has resolved this.

14/020 Highways

The following Highways issues were reported.
 Caton Lane – Speed Signs & Pot Holes.
 In front of Cark House – road in front has 2 'trenches' in tarmac.
 Dobbie Bank corner – drains blocked.
 Dobbie Bank – water hydrant near bottom drain is under soil
 Flookburgh Square – sign to indicate B5278 approaching from Allithwaite turns right, not down to Sandgate.
 Road past Holker entrance – drains blocked.
Resolved To report the issues to Cumbria Highways department.

14/0121 **Heartstart Course**

The Clerk reported that 12 people from teenagers to the retired attended the course and learned how to perform CPR and use a defibrillator. Attendees thought that defibrillators would be a very useful addition to the local area.

14/022 **River Eea**

The Caring for our River Day had a small attendance but representatives from United Utilities, the Environment Agency and United Utilities were present. A walk to the Grange Sewage works is being arranged for interested parties.

14/023 **Meeting dates**

The Clerk reported that the 6 month trial of meeting dates on Wednesdays will finish in July 2014 and that Flookburgh Village Hall have a new booking on Wednesdays in the autumn which would mean meetings could only start at 7.30 pm.

Resolved To continue to meet on a Wednesday but change the meeting time to 7.30 pm from September 2014.

14/024 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted.

- a Cumbria County Council
None
- b South Lakeland District Council
Community Infrastructure Levy Consultation
Council Plan published
- c Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)
External Audit and Data Transparency Consultation
Council Tax Support Grant – to be listed in Accounts under Grants not Precept
Better Health Together drop in dates
Rural Opportunities Bulletin
Action with Communities in Cumbria Spring Bulletin
CALC Circular
- d Cumbria Voluntary Service
Training Update – courses in Funding, Trustees and Business Planning
- e Neighbourhood Alert
Police & Crime Commissioners Newsletter
Failure to stop accident in Grange (red Citroen)
Klups Children's Mattress recall (flammable)
ASDA Plastic kettle recall (fire risk) Models WK8282H-B, WK8282H-W and WK8282H-S
- f BBC
Notification of Home Swop programme seeking residents in Holker and Cumbria.
- g Letter from resident asking if the Parish Council has land to rent.

Date of Next meeting: To note that the next Council Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on
Wednesday 7th May 2014 at Flookburgh Village Hall at 7.00 pm

Clerk to the Council: - Lyn Prescott, 13 Church Walk, Flookburgh, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11
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