

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LOWER HOLKER VILLAGE  
HALL ON WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016**

**PRESENT**

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

16/001 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from County Councillor S Sanderson.

16/002 **Requests for Dispensations**

None.

16/003 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

16/004 **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved** The acceptance of the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016 was proposed by Councillor Ryland, seconded by Councillor Dawson, agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

16/005 **Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)**

None.

16/006 **Police**

PCSO Firth reported he has returned to work after several months off due to health problems. He reported that in the last 4 weeks, the following incidents have been reported to the Police: Flookburgh: 1 Anti-social behaviour, 2 suspicious incidents, 1 robbery, 1 road related offence, 2 domestics. Cark: 1 Anti-social behaviour, 1 concern for welfare. 1 suspicious incident. An incident regarding a vehicle travelling too fast and too close to horses on Moor Lane has been reported to the Police. There have been 3 similar reported incidents in the last 12 months. He is going to speak with the Manager at Lakeland Leisure. Previous reports of speeding on Moor Lane have been shown to involve vehicles of employees or visitors to Lakeland Leisure. The Police have put a Speed Indicator Device on Moor Lane to record the vehicle speeds for analysis. He also advised that he has arranged for a Police Officer to undertake speed checks on Moor Lane.

16/007 **District and County Councillors**

a) District Councillor Gill Gardner reported:

- i) She has been helping a resident who has had problems related to a disability grant.
- ii) She has received dog fouling notification notices from South Lakeland District Council, for distribution in the Parish.

b) County Councillor Sue Sanderson was absent, but provided the following written report:

- i) She has met with Victoria Upton and confirmed the Parish Council has received the funding for white lining on the market Square and opposite Jack Manning's house.
- ii) She has raised the issue of Moor lane: horses and playground and 30 mph signs. She has agreed to talk to the manager of the Leisure Park again and it was agreed that the matter needed addressing. The reports to the Police have helped highlight the issues.
- iii) A Neighbourhood Forum grant was awarded to the Flookburgh Recreational Charity and other grants from the County/District Councils have been awarded to Cartmel Township Initiative and Grange Chamber of Trade.

16/008 **Planning Applications**

The following Planning Applications were considered:

- a) SL/2016/0175. 12-13 Stockdale Farm, Moor Lane Flookburgh Grange Over Sands LA11 7LR.  
Internal alterations; installation of two roof lights and flue.

**Resolved** No objections to this application.

- b) BE/2016/0006. 45 Jutland Avenue Ravenstown, Flookburgh Grange Over Sands LA11 7LF. Single storey rear extension extending 5metres beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling, with a maximum height of 3.5metres and height to eaves of 2.3metres.  
**Resolved** No objections to this application.

16/009 **Planning Decisions**

The following Planning Decisions were noted

- a) SL/2015/1113. W Keith and Son Ltd, Moor Lane, Flookburgh, Grange over Sands Cumbria LA11 7LS. Erection of light industrial unit. (Use Classification B1c). Granted with 9 conditions.  
b) SL/2016/0071 11 Somme Avenue, Ravenstown, Flookburgh, Cumbria LA11 7LJ. Single storey extension to side and rear and front porch extension. Granted.

16/010 **Online Petition – Parish Councils to have right to appeal Planning Decisions**

The Parish Council considered supporting an online petition which could give Parish Councils the right to appeal to the Planning Inspectorate against granted Planning Permissions where the Parish Council objects to the application. Following a debate regarding planning processes and the complexity involved requiring in-depth knowledge required in the decision making process a vote was taken.

**Resolved** Not to support the online petition.

16/011 **2015/16 Audit**

The Clerk reported that she has received a notification from the external auditors BDO that their deadline is 20 June 2016. She has therefore arranged for the internal audit to be carried out in early May, so the Parish Council can approve the final accounts at the June meeting.

16/012 **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 2015/16. No amendments have been made from the previous year.  
b) Proposed Scope of Internal Audit 2015/16. No amendments have been made from the previous year.

**Resolved** The Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit and Scope of Internal Audit were approved.

16/013 **Review of Risk Assessment Document**

The Risk Assessment and Management (financial) for period 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016 were distributed and explained to the Council by the Clerk. No amendments have been made from the previous year.

**Resolved** The Risk Assessment was approved.

16/014 **Review of Asset Register**

The Asset Register as at 31 March 2016 was reviewed. Purchases made in the last year have been added, no assets have been disposed.

**Resolved** To accept the reviewed Asset Register.

16/015 **Financial Regulations**

The Clerk reported that the National Association of Local Councils have recommended amendments to Parish Council Financial Regulations in relation to breach of regulations, disclosable interests and contracts (incorporating the specific requirements of The Public Contracts Regulations 2015).

**Resolved** To approve the amendments to the Parish Council Financial Regulations.

16/016 **Financial Reports**

**Resolved** The Financial report, including budget comparison and bank reconciliation as at 24 March 2016, was accepted unanimously.

16/017

### Payment of Accounts

**Resolved** The authorisation of the following payments was agreed unanimously:

Clerk's Salary (March 2016)	£268.80
PAYE for Clerk's Salary (March 2016)	£67.20
South Lakes Services – Toilets Cleaning (March 2016) SO	£247.26
Npower – Electricity (Cark Toilets) (1/12/15-1/3/16) DD	£65.81
E.On Electricity – Street Lighting (1/2/2016-29/2/2016) DD	£33.73
T W Electrical (Repair 2 lights in toilets at Cark)	£40.51
Clerks & Councils Direct (Magazine Subscription)	£84.00

16/018

### Highways

a) A report was made to the Police regarding a vehicle travelling too fast and too close to horses on Moor Lane, Police speed checks are planned and a Speed Indicator Device is currently in place on Moor Lane. [16/0006]. County Councillor Sanderson is arranging to meet with the manager of Lakeland Leisure to discuss the issue of speeding/unsafe vehicles on Moor Lane. [16/007] Councillor Ryland reported that the rumble strips have been refreshed on Moor Lane. Councillor Gardner reported that the Community Radar Group has limited numbers so are not currently undertaking speed checks. She also reported concerns regarding speeding on Moor Lane affecting the safety of children using the new playground being planned.

**Resolved** To arrange a joint meeting with County Councillor Sanderson and the Manager at Lakeland Leisure

b) The Clerk reported that she has spoken to Nikki Wingfield of Sustrans (who nationally oversee cycleways) who advised that a similar problem with speeding cyclists was experienced around Gleeston where cyclists were using a GPS system Strava to post their times on specific routes. The local PCSO flagged these routes and the situation improved. The Clerk has identified 2 routes on Strava through Holker, Cark and Flookburgh where cyclists have posted speeds up to 40 km/h and has emailed Strava to request that these routes be removed.

c) Councillor Gardner reported that Mr Rhodes has cut the side of the hedge adjoining his field which was overhanging the bridleway by the side of the Primary School. The side adjoining the school is still uncut.

**Resolved** To write to the School reminding them that the hedge needs to be cut back to stop it blocking the bridleway.

d) Councillor Rawsthorn reported that the road cleaning requested on the road above Low Bankside Farm has still not taken place. Pot holes have been filled around Flookburgh Square, but there are several in Cark which require filling.

**Resolved** To remind the County Council to undertake the cleaning works and report the potholes in Cark.

16/019

### Bus Services

a) The weekday circular bus service (532) has been reduced from 9<sup>th</sup> March, with the last bus service of the day being removed, so the last bus from Grange during the week is at 1332 hours. The clerk has been advised by Cumbria County Council that the company (Travellers Choice) found this service was uneconomic and that was the basis of their decision. They state that their decision was not connected to the contract they have for the reinstated Saturday bus service which started on 19<sup>th</sup> March and is financially supported by the local parish & town councils. Councillor Keith reported that a Cark resident has contacted MP Tim Farron about this issue as they were stranded in Grange on a return journey so had to pay to return by train, whereas they were entitled to free bus transport. Mr Farron was not aware of the changes and they are awaiting a further reply on this matter.

**Resolved** Councillor Gardner to speak to Mr Farron regarding this matter.

b) A resident has suggested that a bus shelter be installed in Flookburgh to protect bus travellers. A discussion followed considering where a bus shelter could be located and the risk of vandalism to a shelter.

**Resolved** Not to support the installation of a bus shelter as there is no suitable location.

16/020

### Dog Fouling

The Clerk reported that South Lakeland District Councillors have patrolled in the Parish as asked on early mornings to educate dog walkers and undertake enforcement action as appropriate.

Information regarding the timing of incidents or offenders should be given to the Officers to make the best use of their limited time. They have also undertaken a leaflet drop in some areas to raise awareness. Councillor Gardner has received a batch of leaflets to report dog fouling incidents. Councillor Gardner plans to put dog bags out for use. The Parish Clerk has put up 20 laminated posters in the Parish and posted reminders on the Facebook Page and Website about dog fouling.

**Resolved**

- i) The leaflets received by Councillor Gardner to be made available in Flookburgh Village Hall by Councillor Dawson. If enough additional leaflets are received from SLDC, then distribute them with the Parish Magazine.
- ii) The Facebook page to suggest a 'Name and Shame' approach to dog fouling.

16/021 **Flookburgh Square**

The Clerk reported that she has arranged a site meeting with the contractors (Darren Chaplow) at 2 pm on 14<sup>th</sup> April. The plan, date for works and bollard choice need to be finalised. £1,500 has been received from Cumbria County Council towards the lining works for this project.

16/022 **Public Toilets**

The Clerk reported that

- a) She has received a zero 2016/17 business rates invoice for the Toilets.
- b) She has applied to SLDC's representatives for permission to install a donations box, this is proceeding and an agreement will have to be signed before this can take place.
- c) She also reported that the gents toilet has been deliberately blocked and a mess made of the cubicle. She has asked the cleaners (SLS) to resolve this problem. Councillor Keith confirmed this problem in the gents toilet. This is the second incident of vandalism at the toilets in recent months and it is suspected to be the fault of local youths.

**Resolved**

- i) To report the incident to the Police
- ii) To write to the Primary and Secondary Schools advising what vandalism has taken place and asking them to remind pupils that this behaviour is not acceptable and there will be repercussions for identified perpetrators.

16/023 **Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity**

- a) A revision to the Agreement between Lower Holker Parish Council and Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity to remove a clause in the 2014 agreement relating to the Moor Lane site "Either party can give 6 months' notice to withdraw from the agreement" was considered.

**Resolved** To sign a new Agreement, with the clause removed.

- b) Councillor Gardner reported that fundraising is ongoing with the Easter Egg Hunt on Good Friday being well attended and £216 raised. The next fundraising activities are the Non-event in April and the Duck Race on 8<sup>th</sup> May in Cartmel.

16/024 **Local Area Partnership**

Councillor Airey reported that the main topic discussed was flooding with predictions that this will recur more frequently than previously thought and a suggestion that houses need to be built to allow for this situation. It has been reported that the most flooded homes are in Kendal and that some applicants for the £5,000 resilience grants won't receive them. Also discussed was Highways and how Parish Councils can influence their works in our parishes and how planning applications are considered by Parishes and whether our responses to the District Council affect the outcome.

16/025 **Cark Railway Station**

The Clerk reported that Tim Owen of the Community Rail Partnership (CRP) has advised that the franchise for rail services through Cark changed to Arriva on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 and the CRP are establishing links with the new contacts. There are no plans at present to improve the waiting areas, but there will be some funds available from the new franchise to improve facilities. A suggestion has been received from a resident to improve the waiting area on the Lancaster-bound side of the station.

**Resolved** To write to Tim Owen to express the Parish Council's support for improvements on the Lancaster-bound waiting area.

16/026

### **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a Cumbria County Council  
Notification of temporary road closure on 21<sup>st</sup> March of section of Moor Lane.
- b South Lakeland District Council  
Community Infrastructure Levy Update advising details of payments and when any payments will be paid to parishes by SLDC (28<sup>th</sup> October & 28<sup>th</sup> April each year).  
South Lakeland Flood Factsheet  
Kendal Flood Forum Events
- c Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)  
Parish Clerk Vacancies at Dent and Broughton East  
NALC revised recommended Financial Regulations  
NALC briefing re S137 Expenditure limits for 2016/17  
Training courses for Councillors/Clerks  
Monthly Circular  
Online petition to vote to have appeal rights against planning decisions
- d Neighbourhood Alerts  
Trailer thefts and High Wray.
- e Lower Hoker Village Hall  
Appeal for new members to join the Committee and support the Village Hall.
- f Cumbria Police & Crime Commissioner  
Elections for new Commissioner to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> May.
- g Cumbria CVS  
Training courses

16/027

### **Forthcoming Events**

The following forthcoming event was noted:

2pm, 14th April, Flookburgh Square meeting with Darren Chaplow of J Chaplow & Sons

16/028

### **Date of Next meetings**

The following meetings were noted:

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday 4th May 2016 at Flookburgh Village Hall. The Parish Annual Meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 18th May at Lower Holker Village Hall.

Clerk to the Council: - Lyn Prescott, 13 Church Walk, Flookburgh, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11 7JX