

MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LOWER HOLKER VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 PM ON FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2013

PRESENT

Parish Councillors R Airey, M Keith, S Rawsthorn, J Rowlandson, T Wilson, Parish & District Councillor G Gardner, County Councillor R Wilson, Parish Clerk L Prescott, PCSO H Firth (Cumbria Police).

13/167 Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Parish Councillor J Ryland were received and accepted.

13/168 Requests For Dispensations

None.

13/169 Declarations Of Interest

None.

13/170 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1st November were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

13/171 Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

None

13/172 Police

- a) PCSO Firth reported that over the last 30 days, the following incidents in Lower Holker have been reported to the Police: Anti-social behaviour, road traffic collisions, highway disruptions, concerns for welfare, criminal damage, theft, fraud & civil dispute.
- b) PCSO Firth has made 2 visits to lessons at Flookburgh Primary School during National Road Safety Week.
- c) Restorative justice is in process for the incidents in Cark reported to the last meeting and the parents are being very supportive.

13/173 District and County Councillors

- a) District Councillor Gardner reported that SLDC will be considering the 2014/15 budget at this month's meeting.
- b) County Councillor Wilson reported that the County Council is undertaking a budget consultation on their 2014/15 budget and the Chairman agreed that the County Councillor could speak at the Agenda item regarding the Budget Consultation.

13/174 Planning Applications

None.

13/175 Planning Decisions

The following decisions were noted:

- a) Planning Decisions made by South Lakeland District Council:
 - i) BE/2013/0012 14 Jutland Avenue, Flookburgh, Grange-Over-Sands LA11 7LF Rear Extension. Granted.
 - ii) SL/2013/0883 Canon Winder, Flookburgh, Grange-over-Sands LA11 7LL. Slurry Lagoon. Granted with conditions regarding lining material.
 - iii) SL/2013/0931 St Johns The Baptist Church, 33 Allithwaite Road, Flookburgh Grange-Over-Sands LA11 7JR. Discharge Of Condition 5, 6 And 9. Discharged.
- b) Planning Decision made by the Planning Inspectorate:
 - i) APP/M0933/A/13/2198530 Low Bankside Farm, Cark-in-Cartmel, Grange-over-Sands, LA11 7NR. Agricultural buildings change of use. Appeal allowed subject to conditions.

13/176 **Financial Reports**

- a) The Financial Report as at 24th November 2013, which includes no deviations from the budget, was accepted unanimously.
- b) The Clerk reported a National Association of Local Councils Meeting with Community and Local Government Minister Brandon Lewis MP confirmed that District Councils must pass Council Tax Benefit Support Grant to Parish/Town Councils and there are no plans to cap Parish Council Precepts. The Parish Council budget amounts for 2014/5 will be reduced for the Website (£500 to £50), increased by £200 to empty the new litter bin, increased Clerk Salary due to pay scales amendment (£3108 to £3240). **Resolved** to include additional items in Budget for 2014/15 to be considered at January meeting – additional Litter bin, Flookburgh Sign Replacement & Lengthsman.

13/177 **Payment of Accounts**

The authorisation of the following payments were agreed unanimously:

Clerk's Salary November 2013	£207.20
HM Revenue & Customs PAYE re November Clerk's Salary	£51.80
Glasdon (Litter Bin) – amended price	£282.74
South Lakes Services (Toilet Cleaning) October 2013 (SO)	£247.26
E.On (Street Lighting - Electricity) (1/10/2013 – 31/10/2013) (DD)	£19.74
N Power (Electricity – Cark Toilets) 1/10/2013-31/10/2013 (DD)	£15.76
Cark Community River Improvement Group Meeting Room Hire (2)	£24.00
CALC Clerks' forum	£5.00
Viking (Printer Ink)	£80.20
Parish Magazine	£200.00

13/178 **Grant Requests**

The applications for grants from the following groups were considered.

- a) Cark Village Fund (tree lighting). **Resolved** to award £150.
- b) Flookburgh Tree Lighting Committee. **Resolved** to award £150.

13/179 **Litter Bin**

The Clerk reported she has met with South Lakeland District Council and they are in agreement with the new bin being located near to Cark House, would install for a charge of £100 plus VAT and will empty it weekly at a cost of £3.25 plus VAT per empty. They have also agreed to relocating the least used bin, located near Stockdale Farm, to near bus stop at entrance to Ravenstown free of charge. **Resolved** to arrange a local tradesman to fit new bin near the Chains and arrange for weekly emptying by SLDC.

13/180 **Allotments**

The Clerk reported she has received a request for an allotment in the Parish. **Resolved** to contact Holker Estates who operate the allotments near Cark to establish whether there is an unused plot.

13/181 **Consultations**

The following consultations were considered.

- a) Cumbria County Council 2014/15 Budget Consultation
County Councillor Wilson advised that the Council has to reduce the budget by £24.4 million which includes 500 to 600 voluntary redundancies, reducing services to only those where they are legally required and a reduction in numbers of upper management. The items which could particularly affect Lower Holker are the removal of support for Post 16 Transport to education (from 2014 all students must stay in education, apprenticeship or training until 18); removal of the Bus Service subsidy (affecting 532 and X6). Other items include on street parking, Young Peoples services, reduced road maintenance and health and social care reconfiguration. **Resolved** to defer response until January meeting, with Post 16 Transport and Bus Subsidies being of most concern.

- b) South Lakeland District Council 2014/15 Budget Consultation
Deferred to January meeting.
- c) South Lakeland District Council Plan 2014-19
The Clerk reported the District Councils have the themes of More Local, Our Economy, Housing Environment and Health. Plans include working more closely with Town & Parish Councils and other organisations, Encourage companies to locate in the area, improve availability of affordable housing, extend kerbside recycling, and set up a credit union. **Resolved** no comments.
- d) South Lakeland District Council Polling District & Places Review
The Clerk reported that the review proposes that polling arrangements remain the same. **Resolved** No objections.

13/182 **Website**

The Clerk reported that the website will be in place within the next 1 or 2 months. A domain name will need to be purchased and proposed content is the area; what the council do; when/where they meet; how to contact Councillors and the Clerk; Register of Interests; Minutes; and information about the Community Led Plan, Flookburgh Recreational Trust and details about facilities and useful contacts. **Resolved** a) The domain name to be lowerholkerparishcouncil. b) Councillor contact details to be their phone number (landline except Councillors Rowlandson and Wilson who prefer mobile) c) Individual Councillor photos and a photograph of the whole council to be included (taken at next meeting) d) Content as listed, with Clerk to include additional information as required.

13/183 **CALC District Meeting**

The Clerk reported that the new head of local Highways Nick Raymond advised that due to the changes there are fewer staff, retraining is needed for some existing staff and recruitment is underway for some vacancies. They expect to be up to speed by April 2014. They are holding a Meet & Greet 1pm on 13th December for Parish Councils at their depot in Kendal on Mintsfeet estate.

13/184 **South Lakeland District Council Planning Service Workshop**

The Clerk reported that from January 2014 there will only be a 21 day (rather than the current 28 day) consultation period for Parish Councils for Planning Applications. There are Executive Powers in place so the Clerk can, after consultation with Councillors, prepare a response on the Parish Council's behalf. Alternatively an additional meeting could be called, however that procedure is not set out within the current Standing Orders. The Clerk also reported that there will be changes, expected in late 2014, where a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will be introduced for new buildings, 85% to go to the District Council and 15% to go to the Parish Council. The Parish Councils who have a Neighbourhood Plan in place receive 25%. The District Council will send out a guide to Parish Councils on how to object to Planning Applications. **Resolved** that the Parish Clerk respond to Planning Applications where the Consultation period does not coincide with a Parish Council meeting as set out and the Standing Orders be amended to allow the calling of an additional meeting in relation to such Planning Applications to be considered at the January meeting.

13/185 **Public Toilets**

The Clerk reported that there have been no more vandalism incidents. Parish Councillor Keith reported that the toilets are not always being opened in the mornings and due to illness she has not always been able to close them at night. She also suggested that the cleaning schedule for winter use could be different from summer use due to the reduction in usage. **Resolved** a) To request volunteers come forward to assist in opening and/or closing the toilets. b) To check the frequency of cleaning by SLS.

13/186 **Flookburgh & District Charitable Trust**

Councillor Gardner reported that the Trust is in need of a Treasurer. Neill Price has advised that he will be paying £10,000 for the infilling and is prepared to assist with the Planning Application. Claire Welburn is providing advice and assistance with the funding process. 3 Up to date quotations will

be required as the site infilling approaches completion. The Trust is unable to reclaim VAT and the site will need to be insured and maintained once set up. **Resolved** a) The Parish Council will pay for purchases on behalf of the Trust so the VAT can be reclaimed. b) The Parish Council will pay for insurance and ongoing maintenance once the site is in use.

13/187 Lower Holker Community Led Plan

The Clerk reported that the Committee has had 2 meetings since the last Parish Council meeting, is making progress preparing a questionnaire and the next meeting is on 22nd January.

13/188 River Eea

a) Councillor Gardner reported that she attended the Cark Community River Improvement Group (CCRIG) event on the River on 16th November together with local residents, the Rivers Trust and representatives from the Environment Agency where the maintenance of the river including the identification of where trees need to be cut back was discussed.

b) Andrew Frankish of the Environment Agency has reported he expects to shortly receive details of possible Pumping Station improvements works, which he will pass onto the Parish Council and the CCRIG.

13/189 Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

a Cumbria County Council

- i) Winter Warmth Fund – requesting donations of people’s winter fuel payments if not needed.
- ii) CCC Winter Driving Guide.

b South Lakeland District Council

- i) Annual Electoral Registration Canvas – reminder for electors to register.
- ii) South Lakeland Autumn Services Guide
- iii) Land Allocations Inspector’s Report

c Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)

- i) CALC AGM Notice of meeting 9th November 2013
- ii) Update on Council Tax Benefit Support Grant (NALC)
- iii) Connecting Cumbria Newsletter
- iv) Sustainable Communities Act
- v) Local Access Forum Annual Report

d Action with Communities in Cumbria

Winter 2013 Gazette

e Neighbourhood Alert

- i) Indesit Gas Cooker recall (sold October/November 2013)
- ii) Canon Gas Cooker recall (sold October/November 2013)
- iii) Hotpoint Dishwasher recall (DWF30-37 & DWF26)
- iv) Hotpoint Dishwasher recall (FDW20, FDW60 & FDW65A)
- v) Don’t let thieves steal Christmas reminder
- vi) Restorative Justice Week 19-26 November.
- vii) Toni & Guy Jumbo Hair Tongs recall (TGIR1921UK)
- viii) Frozen meat thefts from freezers in Ulverston area

f Grange & Cartmel Neighbourhood Forum

Minutes from October meeting

g Other

Thank you letter from Great North Air Ambulance
Thank you letter from North West Air Ambulance
Planning Inspectorate Website survey

13/190 Forthcoming Events

The following forthcoming events were noted:

11th December, 7 pm, Flookburgh Recreational Trust meeting at 32 Jutland Avenue, Ravestown

13th December, 1-3 pm, pm Better Highways Meet & Greet at the Maintenance Depot on Mintsfeet Estate, Kendal.

13/191 **Meeting Dates**

A change to the Parish Council meetings day and time was considered. **Resolved** to meet on Friday 10th January 2014 and thereafter on the 1st Wednesday for a 6 month trial period. Meetings to continue to commence at 7pm.

Date of Next meeting: To note that the next Council Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Friday, 10th January 2014 at Flookburgh Village Hall at 7.00 pm

Clerk to the Council: - Lyn Prescott, 13 Church Walk, Flookburgh, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11 7JX
lowerholkerpc@hotmail.co.uk (015395) 58224