

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LOWER HOLKER VILLAGE  
HALL ON WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2016**

**PRESENT**

Parish Councillors R Airey, B Dawson, M Keith, S Rawsthorn, J Ryland & T Wilson, County Councillor S Sanderson & Parish Clerk L Prescott.

- 15/230     **Apologies for Absence**  
Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillor & District Councillor G Gardner and PCSO H Firth.
- 15/231     **Requests for Dispensations**  
None.
- 15/232     **Declarations of Interest**  
None
- 15/233     **Minutes of the Last Meeting**  
**Resolved** The acceptance of the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016 was proposed by Councillor Airey, seconded by Councillor Ryland, agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman.
- 15/234     **Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)**  
None.
- 15/235     **Police**  
PCSO Firth provided a written report that in the last 4 weeks the following incidents in the Parish have been reported to the Police: Missing persons 2, Suspicious incidents 2, Concern for welfare 3, Highway disruptions 2, Anti social behaviour 2, Assaults 1, RTCs 1, Traffic related offences 1, Civil disputes 2, Threats to kill 1.
- 15/236     **District and County Councils**  
a) District Councillor Gill Gardner was absent but she provided a written report:  
i) Dog fouling continues to be a problem. She had arranged an extra pavement clean with SLDC to deal with dog fouling. The visit to the School regarding dog fouling has led to photos being sent to her of people who are offending and they have been warned that a repetition will result in a report to the District Council. One incident was recorded on the Village Hall CCTV has been sent to enforcement officer Susan Scott at the District Council to deal with.  
ii) A Litter Pick has been arranged for 20<sup>th</sup> February at 10 am (weather permitting).  
iii) The Defibrillator training was very good and she hopes it won't be needed.  
b) County Councillor Sue Sanderson reported:  
i) The roll out of the plastics and cardboard recycling collections has been delayed due to the extra work required following the flooding. Ulverston is the first area where this will take place in March 2016. There have been some problems with recycling collections and 5 smaller lorries have been ordered to improve their access to properties.  
ii) 2,800 properties were flooding in South Lakeland, the largest number in any Cumbrian district. Flood prevention and mitigation is now part of the Council plan. She has been working on the Flood Recovery Group (FRG) which includes County & District Councils together with voluntary organisations including Age UK, Churches Together and the Red Cross. Kendal has a relief centre and there are 2 buses adapted as mobile support units. The FRG is to help both residents and businesses including issues related to insurance. The Government is working with insurers to set up 'Flood Re' so by 2017 all residents in flood risk areas will be able to have affordable insurance. The FRG has a weekly telephone call with Ministers. Partnership meetings are being held, the first in Cockermouth, then Kent & Leven. Lake Windermere has been affected by the sluice at Newby Bridge and United Utilities taking water for water supplies. Rory Stewart MP has set up a flood partnership with the county. People have been very generous with donations and volunteering. The Cumbria Flood Factsheet provides

information about help available. The Cumbria Community Foundation has £6 million, of which £2 million is available for residents & businesses affected by flooding in South Lakeland.

- iii) The Cark and Flookburgh Traffic Regulations Orders have been agreed at County Council Local Committee.
- iv) The County Council contribution towards the marking out of Flookburgh Square should be paid to the Parish Council shortly. Jack Manning has complained that the white lines have not been replaced by his house and this could possibly be done as part of the Square work.
- v) Funding for Village Halls may be available from the Neighbourhood Forum, halls need to put a bid in for funding. Carol Last is the contact (carol.last@cumbria.gov.uk or 01539 713180).

15/237 **Planning Applications**

None.

15/238 **Planning Decision**

- a) SL/2015/1061 Holker Hall, Holker, Grange- over-Sands LA11 7PL. Alterations and Refurbishment. Granted.

15/239 **Financial Reports**

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

15/240 **Payment of Accounts**

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

Clerk's Salary (January 2016)	£268.80
PAYE for Clerk's Salary (January 2016)	£67.20
Clerk's Telephone & Internet 1/2/2015-31/1/2016	£160.00
South Lakes Services – Toilets Cleaning (January 2016) SO	£247.26
Website Domain Name and Hosting (20/1/2016-19/1/2017)	£36.59
Npower Electricity – Toilets (1/10/15-6/10/15) DD	£9.79
E.On Electricity – Street Lighting (1/12/2015-31/12/2015) DD	£36.05

15/241 **Pensions Act 2008 & Parish Council as employer**

This act requires all employers to provide a pension scheme for employees, provided they are over 22 and earn more than £833 a month by a prescribed staging date, which for Lower Holker Parish Council is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. Employees who do not satisfy this criteria can still request a pension scheme be provided. The Clerk has registered with HMRC and checked that automatic enrolment isn't required for the Parish Clerk and advises that she does not request to be enrolled in an optional pension scheme. The Parish Council can select a Pension Scheme so that if one is requested or required in the future there would not be any delay in enrolling. The one recommended by CALC is the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST), which was set up by the Government in 2012.

**Resolved**

- i) To not set up a pension scheme at the present time as the only employee (Parish Clerk) does not currently satisfy the prescribed criteria and the Parish Clerk does not request to be enrolled in an optional pension scheme.
- ii) To select the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) as the pension scheme to be used for employees if required by Lower Holker Parish Council at a future date.

15/242 **Consultations**

a) South Lakeland District Council

Request suggestions for potential work for their Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

**Resolved** No topics to be suggested.

b) South Lakeland District Council

Annual review of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) including plans to revise the structure of the IDP into geographic areas to provide greater focus on different parts of the district and on previously expressed community aspirations.

**Resolved** To confirm the strong Parish Council support for a Pedestrian Bridge over the railway at Allithwaite Road, in order to improve pedestrian safety, particularly given the increasing traffic on the B5277 road.

c) Natural England

Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary - potential extension of the Special Protection Area (pSPA) designation, specifically relating to sandwich and little terns.

**Resolved** No objections to this extension.

15/243

**Highways**

- a) The Clerk reported that she has contacted Cumbria Highways regarding the excess soil deposits on the single track road behind Low Bankside Farm and they will arrange for a sweeper and men with shovels to remove the soil.
- b) The Clerk reported that she has contacted the Environment Agency regarding the unrepaired walls adjoining the River Eea in front of and behind the Engine Inn, who advised to report it to Cumbria Highways. She is awaiting a reply from Cumbria Highways.
- c) Several Councillors reported that groups of cyclists on the new Bay Cycle Way are dangerously crossing Flookburgh Square and exhibiting dangerous and impolite behaviour towards other road users.

**Resolved** To report to Cumbria Highways and Cumbria Police.

15/244

**River Eea**

The Clerk reported that she has been in contact with Jo Ratcliffe at the Environment Agency (as Natalie Bibby is on maternity leave). Jo advised they thought the River group was maintaining the river but they have offered help to them from Mike at the South Cumbria Rivers Trust, however the Clerk has found having contacted the River group they are not proceeding with this. Jo has provided a contact person (Andy Knipe) at the Environment Agency for the removal of larger items (eg tree branches) and regarding the damaged walls adjoining the river and road suggested contacted Cumbria Highways. The Clerk has contacted Andy Knipe to report wood stuck on a pipe near the Engine Inn and Cumbria Highways regarding the holes in walls near the Engine Inn. A meeting has not yet been arranged regarding the flooding risk in Cark.

**Resolved** To arrange a site meeting with the Environment Agency regarding the flooding risk and invite the Environment Agency to a Parish Council meeting.

15/245

**Moor Lane Field**

The Clerk reported that the fencing has not yet been completed by John Sidwell and she will send a reminder.

15/246

**Public Toilets**

- a) The Clerk has measured the door to the cleaning cupboard and will check with Councillor Airey as to whether she has a door of a size appropriate for a replacement.
- b) The Clerk has placed notices on vehicles parking for longer than the prescribed time adjoining the Toilets and received a response from a local business asking if the notices are official.

15/247

**Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity**

An Easter Egg Hunt has been arranged for Good Friday (25<sup>th</sup> March) to fundraise and raise awareness of the project. Funding applications are being prepared and a reminder will be sent to Neill Price Ltd regarding levelling the site.

15/248

**Cark Railway Station**

Two new community notice boards (one each side) have been put up at Cark Station, providing information about the location of local services and transport.

15/249

**Saturday Bus Service**

Councillor Dawson reported that he attended a meeting of the Saturday Bus Service committee. The Service will be provided by Travellers Choice, starting on 19<sup>th</sup> March to a timetable agreed by the Parish Councils. The funding for the shortfall in income is being provided by the local town/parish councils on the Cartmel Peninsula. There will be a meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July to review the service.

**Resolved** To publicise the service within the parish on the Parish Council Website, Facebook, in the noticeboards and the Parish Magazine to encourage use by residents.

15/250 **England Coastal Path**

National England report that they will be starting work on the section of this path from Silecroft to Silverdale on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. They will be contacting landowners and arranging stakeholder meetings in April. They will be arranging joint consultation drop ins with the Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary potential extension of the Special Protection Area (pSPA) group. No detailed route has yet been provided.

15/251 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a Cumbria County Council  
Flookburgh Square project funding form (Victoria Upton)
- b South Lakeland District Council  
Suggestions for potential work for Overview & Scrutiny Committee  
Overview & Scrutiny Committee – effectiveness review  
Infrastructure Delivery Plan – annual review.  
Walney Extension Community Fund - Public Events (8<sup>th</sup> February in Grange)  
District Association Meeting – 7pm on 4<sup>th</sup> February at Gilpin Bridge  
Clerks' Forum – 9<sup>th</sup> February at Derby Arms  
Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Beacon lighting – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016
- c Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)  
Community Buildings Event at Grizebeck Community Hall – 3<sup>rd</sup> February  
Interactive UK Community Rights Map  
Audit Arrangements 2017 – smaller authorities Update 1  
Radioactive Waste Management Bulletin
- d Neighbourhood Alerts  
Courier Scam – phone to arrange to collect your bank card.  
Alzheimer's Side by Side volunteer scheme.
- e Cumbria Volunteer Services  
Bulletin – training & funding information.
- f Great North Air Ambulance  
Thank you letter for contribution

15/252 **Forthcoming Events**

The following were noted:

4th February, 7 pm, CALC District meeting at Gilpin Bridge

8th February, 12 noon to 3 pm, Walney Extension Community Fund at Victoria Hall, Grange.

9th February, 6.30 pm, CALC Clerks' Forum, Derby Arms at Witherslack.

15/253 **Date of Next meeting**

The date of the next meeting was noted:

Wednesday 2nd March 2016 at Flookburgh Village Hall at 7.00 pm

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