

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LOWER HOLKER VILLAGE  
HALL AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015**

**PRESENT**

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

**14/192 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors J Ryland & T Wilson and PCSO H Firth.

**14/193 Requests for Dispensations**

Parish Councillors Airey, Gardner, Keith, Rawsthorn and Rowlandson have requested dispensations which have been granted in respect of Setting the Council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 where as members they hold property interests within the district (including owning or renting a home within the district).

**14/194 Declarations of Interest**

None.

**14/195 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved** The acceptance of the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 was agreed unanimously and signed by the Vice Chairman.

**14/196 Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)**

None

**14/197 Police**

No Police report has been received.

**14/198 District and County Councillors**

a) District Councillor Gardner reported:

The District Council has been quiet over the holiday period.

b) Councillor Wilson reported:

- i) The County Council are planning to build a new office in Carlisle for which there is a sound financial case as repairs for existing properties would cost £13 million.
- ii) A Consultation on the County Council Budget for 2015/16 is currently taking place.
- iii) On 19<sup>th</sup> January there will be a meeting at Lower Holker Village Hall about parking and traffic management related to second/holiday homes in Cark, Kelly Alty will attend and maps will be used to identify the problem areas.
- iv) Stagecoach have announced that they are withdrawing their 532 Bus service and their 530 Saturday service from 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015, so there will be no local bus service on Saturdays from that date.

**14/199 Planning Applications**

None.

**14/200 Planning Decisions**

None.

**14/201 Financial Report**

The Financial report as at 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014 was received.

**Resolved** to be accepted unanimously.

**14/202 Payment of Accounts**

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

Clerk's Salary December 2014	£257.08
HM Revenue & Customs PAYE re December Clerk's Salary	£64.20

South Lakes Services (Toilet Cleaning) November 2014 (SO)	£247.26
United Utilities (Water & Wastewater - Toilets) (8/9/14-9/12/14) (DD)	£366.45
E.On Electricity (Street Lighting) (1/11/14-30/11/14) (DD)	£20.11
South Lakeland Services (Grass Cutting – south of Stockdale Farm)	£36.00
Viking Direct (Envelopes & Labels re Community Led Plan)	£160.75
South Lakeland District Council (Printing Questionnaire re Community Led Plan)	£453.60

#### 14/203 Grant Application

The following grant applications was considered: Mower maintenance for churchyard (request from volunteer). Volunteers cut the grass and the mowers require winter maintenance to be able to continue this work. **Resolved** to award £150.

#### 14/204 Precept 2015/16

The Clerk circulated a report outlining the current budget, estimated spend to the end of the financial year and proposed a budget for 2015/6 to include additional items agreed at the December 2014 meeting and also allowing for the estimated VAT refund which will be submitted related to purchases made in the 2014/15 year. The budget includes an increase in the Clerk's Salary (NALC salary rate as increased in November 2014); decreases in the budgets for Administration/Stationery, Community Led Plan (actions), Lengthsman, Litter Bins (emptying only) and additional items of Defibrillator & Cover and Information Sign. This would lead to an overall reduction in Budget/Precept of £856.

**Resolved** To set the following Budget/Precept for 2015/16:

#### BUDGET FOR PRECEPT 2015/16

Clerks salary	£4,032
Clerks telephone/internet	£160
Street lighting	£300
Lighting maintenance	£300
Audit comm.	£120
Insurance	£500
Int audit	£60
CALC subs	£282
Training	£100
Donations including S137	£1,000
Newsletter	£200
Clock maintenance	£200
Clock repairs	£100
Administration/stationary	£300
Clerks Direct	£90
Toilets	£4,000
Community Led Plan (Actions)	£1,000
Website	£0
Contingency Fund	£1,000
Lengthsman	£300
Emptying 2 Litter Bins	£450
Defibrillator & Cover (Flookburgh)	£1,700
Information Sign (Flookburgh Square)	£700
Total	£16,894
<u>Less</u>	
Estimated VAT refund 2014/15	1000
<b>2015/16 Budget for Precept</b>	<b>£15,894.00</b>

- 14/205 **Consultation - Connecting Cumbria Phase 2 Consultation**  
 The Clerk advised that this consultation relates to a second phase of the project to improve the internet connections available in Cumbria. Areas have been identified in Cumbria where no or limited internet connections would be available at the completion of the first phase and these areas, which include some areas on Lower Holker Parish would be earmarked for improvements in the second phase provided a successful bid was made to the Government for funding.  
**Resolved** To support the Phase 2 consultation.
- 14/206 **Environment Agency - Flood Resilience**  
 The Parish Councilors met prior to the Parish Council meeting with Jonathan Coates of the Environment Agency.
- i) He will prepare a Community Flood Action Plan for the area around the River Eea, providing the Parish Council forward the required information to him. He has provided a map of the area and examples of plans together with a list of required information.
  - ii) A date for the site meeting on land above Cark is yet to be arranged.
- 14/207 **Land South of Stockdale Farm**  
 The Parish Clerk has contacted the company which manage the land owned by South Lakeland District Council and they advise they have no knowledge of its ownership and suggest it may be owned by Cumbria County Council.  
**Resolved** County Councillor Wilson will contact the County Council to establish whether they accept ownership of the land.
- 14/208 **Cark Public Toilets**
- i) The Clerk has prepared a sign outlining the ownership, operation and access for the Toilets.
  - ii) Councillor Rowlandson advises he is unable to reduce the tap flow but the taps are already of the water saving type and he has re-installed the hedgehog guttering.
- 14/209 **Highways**
- i) The Pavement on Winder Lane is deteriorating causing water to accumulate into puddles which freeze in icy weather causing a hazard for pedestrians.  
**Resolved** County Councillor Wilson will report this to Graham Wheelhouse at Cumbria Highways.
  - ii) There is no grit bin on Winder Lane so in icy weather the pavement is hazardous. Cumbria Highways will only install a grit bin if they consider it necessary. If they don't consider it necessary then the Parish Council could purchase and install one but the Parish Council would then have to pay each time for it to be filled with grit.  
**Resolved** Councillor Wilson will discuss this with Graham Wheelhouse at Cumbria Highways.
  - iii) Street Lights at Bank Top have been repaired. Blocked Guttering through Holker has, according to Cumbria Highways, been resolved, however the Councilors disagree. Fallen leaves reported as a problem throughout Holker have not been resolved. The deteriorating pavement on Allithwaite Road has not been repaired.  
**Resolved** To repeat reports of blocked guttering and leaves at Holker and pavement at Allithwaite Road to Cumbria Highways.
- 14/210 **Flookburgh Square**  
 The contractor has been notified regarding the tarmacing and the preferred time ie Spring 2015. The County Council will be drawing up plans for the Square. The Community Led Plan currently being distributed includes a question related to the preferred use of the Square.
- 14/211 **Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity**  
 The next meeting date has been changed to 9<sup>th</sup> February at 7 pm.
- 14/212 **Flookburgh Youth Club (Flooks 4 Youth)**  
 Legal and practical arrangements are being made prior to the Junior Club restarting, date to be advised.

**14/213 Lower Holker Community Led Plan**

The Questionnaire is being distributed this week, to be completed on paper or online by 31 January 2015.

**14/214 Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted with resolutions as specified:

a South Lakeland District Council

Advance Notification of CIL Examination Hearing from 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

Green Deal Home Improvement Fund – up to £5,600 available from Government for installation of energy saving measures.

b Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)

Buckingham Palace Garden Party Nominations. **Resolved** to nominate Councillors Airey and Keith.

CALC Circular (December/January)

Salary Scales and Minibus Fund

NALC Newsletter

Connecting Cumbria Consultation

c Morecambe Bay Partnership

Bay Birdlife Safeguarding workshops ie minimising impact of recreational use on birds (East Plain, West Plain and Chapel Island) – 6 to 9 pm on 19<sup>th</sup> February in Ulverston

d Cumbria Voluntary Service

Newsletter

e Neighbourhood Alerts

2 Vacancies on Cumbria Police Joint Audit and Standards Committee. Requirement to attend 5 meetings a year in Penrith. Paid post. Closing date 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

Police & Crime Commissioner's December Newsletter.

**14/215 Forthcoming Events**

The following forthcoming events were noted:

6.30 pm, 8th January, Clerk Network Forum, Derby Arms, Witherslack

7.30 pm, 12th January, Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity meeting, 32 Jutland (now rescheduled to 7 pm on 9<sup>th</sup> February)

6.30 pm, 13th January, Grange & District Local Area Partnership, Victoria Hall, Grange

6.30 pm, 19th January, Parking Group, Lower Holker Village Hall.

**14/216 Date of Next meeting**

Noted that the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at Flookburgh Village Hall at 7.30 pm

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