

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD REMOTELY ON
WEDNESDAY 6TH JANUARY 2021**

PRESENT

Parish Councillors R Airey, B Dawson, G Gardner (& District Councillor) S Rawsthorn, J Ryland, & T Wilson, District Councillor M Cornah, Parish Clerk L Prescott and one member of the public.

20/147 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Keith and County Councillor Sanderson.

20/148 **Requests for Dispensations**

Parish Councillors Airey, Dawson, Gardner, Rawsthorn, Ryland & Wilson 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).

20/149 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

20/150 **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Resolved Approved unanimously. To be signed physically in due course.

20/151 **Public Participation**

Mr T Austin addressed the meeting and advised he would be interested in joining the Council when a vacancy occurs and is particularly interested in item 20/160 Local Government Reorganisation.

20/152 **Police**

A report has been received from PCSO D Ross. There were 11 incidents in Lower Holker Parish area reported to Police between 2nd December 2020 and 6th January 2021 as follows: 1 harassment, 1 missing person (found safe and well), 1 antisocial behaviour, 1 highway disruption, 2 concerns for welfare (all in order), 1 suspicious incident & 4 possible breaches of covid regulations.

20/153 **District and County Councillors**

a) District Councillor G Gardner advised she had nothing to report.

b) District Councillor M Cornah reported:

- i) The District Council has been quiet over the last month with the exception of the Planning Committee. Full Planning Permission has been granted for a large development of houses at Kents Bank and outline Planning Permission has also been granted for special care housing and a shop on the same site. In addition Planning Permission has been granted to Spar for a retail store and petrol station on the site currently occupied by Age UK and previously by Batemans in Grange.
- ii) He has been put back on the medical register in order to assist with the roll out of the vaccination programme locally. Councillor Rawsthorn advised that Bridge House residents are receiving the vaccine today.
- iii) Councillor Wilson raised the issue of two allocated sites for development in the Local Plan in Flookburgh where the Parish Council had supported them on the basis that developers of both sites would be required to financially support the installation of a pedestrian footbridge over the Railway on Allithwaite Road in order to improve road safety. This was amended by the District Council and the final document does not make this stipulation clear. Councillor Cornah advised that on receipt of an email regarding this he will follow up on this issue.

- c) County Councillor S Sanderson was absent, but has provided the following report:
 - i) She is still awaiting a response regarding the requested zebra crossing.
 - ii) She has spoken to a resident about holiday lets being let over Christmas.

20/154 **Planning Applications**

The following Planning Applications were considered:

- a) SL/2020/0953. 5 Airfield Approach, Business Park, Moor Lane, Flookburgh LA11 7NG. Change of use of B8 storage and distribution unit to Mixed use B8 storage and distribution and B1(c) light industrial unit.
Resolved to support the application as it does not affect the external footprint of the building and would provide additional employment.
- b) SL/2020/0970 20 Marne Avenue, Ravenstown LA11 7LH. Single storey rear and side extension with rear balcony and off road parking for two vehicles. Forming kitchen, dining room, utility, extended bathroom and porch.
Resolved to support the application as it does not adversely affect neighbouring properties.

20/155 **Planning Decisions**

The following Planning Decisions were noted:

- a) SL/2020/0226. Land at Sunny Bank Cark-In-Cartmel. Erection of building for office (class A2/B1) with associated new access, car parking and landscaping
Withdrawn.
- b) SL/2020/0740. Cark House Cottage Cark House Court Cark-In-Cartmel LA11 7PE. Dormer extension to east side elevation. Refused.
- c) SL/2020/0745. 72 Jutland Avenue Ravenstown LA11 7LQ. Two storey rear extension. Granted with conditions relating to plans, materials and bird boxes.

20/156 **Financial Report**

The Clerk presented the Financial Report as at 24th December 2020 including the Budget Monitoring and Bank Reconciliation.

Resolved To approve the Financial Report.

20/157 **Precept 2021/22**

A report on the Council's Budget and Finances was presented by the Clerk in relation to the Precept for 2021/22. Some listed items have a budget of £0 due to underspent budgets in previous years which will be utilised to pay for the listed items in 2021/22. The Precept has been reduced by 19% compared to the 2020/21 Precept.

Resolved To set a Precept for 2021/22 of £12,732.18 based on the following Budget:

| 2021/2022 BUDGET/PRECEPT | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Clerk's salary | £4,796.40 |
| Clerk's telephone/internet | £160.00 |
| Street lighting | £600.00 |
| Lighting maintenance | £350.00 |
| External Audit | £0.00 |
| Insurance | £800.00 |
| Internal audit | £70.00 |
| CALC subs | £315.00 |
| Training | £50.00 |
| Donations S 137/other | £1,000.00 |
| Newsletter | £0.00 |
| Admin/stationary | £150.00 |
| Clerks Direct | £84.00 |
| Toilets | £6,000.00 |
| Website | £0.00 |
| Emptying Bins | £1,350.00 |
| Playground running costs | £1,500.00 |
| Lengthsman | £100.00 |
| Seat Maintenance | £80.00 |
| Speed Gun (Calibration) | £150.00 |
| New Data Protection Legislation | £0.00 |
| Christmas Lights/Decorations | £0.00 |
| Defibrillator maintenance | £100.00 |
| Total Budget | £17,655.40 |
| Less VAT refund (estimate) | £3,000.00 |
| Sub total | £14,655.40 |
| Less CIL Receipts (estimate) | £1,000.00 |
| Subtotal | £13,655.40 |
| Less SLDC Grant | £923.22 |
| Precept | £12,732.18 |

20/158 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolved to approve the following payments.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Clerk's Salary (December 2020) | £313.60 |
| PAYE for Clerk's Salary (December 2020) | £78.40 |
| Waterplus (Water/Wastewater – Toilets) (15/9/2020-25/11/2020) DD | £72.19 |
| SSE (Electricity – Street Lighting) (3/11/2020 – 1/12/2020) DD | £46.63 |
| Npower (Electricity – Toilets) (2/11/2020 – 1/12/2020) DD | £37.77 |
| Orian/SLS (Toilet Cleaning/Sani Bins) (November 2020 invoice less balancing figure from standing orders made until June 2020) | £17.26 |
| Skype (charge for telephone meeting participation) | £10.00 |
| CALC (Code of Conduct Course) | £20.00 |
| Pass Ltd (replacement hand sanitiser box for Playground) | £47.99 |

20/159 **Grant Applications**

The following grant applications were considered:

- a) Flookburgh Christmas Tree
- b) Cark Christmas Tree
- c) Flookburgh Cemetery

Resolved to award a grant of £300 to each.

20/160 **Local Government Reorganisation**

The Clerk reported that four unitary council proposals for Cumbria have been submitted to the Government as follows:

1. Cumbria County Council is proposing one unitary authority covering the whole of Cumbria
2. Copeland Borough Council and Allerdale Borough Council are proposing two unitary authorities splitting into Cumbria East (Eden, South Lakes and Barrow) and Cumbria West (Copeland, Allerdale and Carlisle)
3. Eden District Council and Carlisle City Council are proposing two unitary authorities splitting into Cumbria North (Eden, Carlisle and Allerdale) and Cumbria South (South Lakes, Barrow and Copeland)
4. South Lakeland District Council and Barrow Borough Council are proposing two unitary authorities splitting into 'The Bay' (South Lakes, Barrow and Lancaster City Council) and also Cumbria North (Copeland, Allerdale, Carlisle and Eden).

There will be a public consultation once the Government has considered these proposals.

20/161 **Highways**

- a) Highways matters to report
None

- b) Highways matters reported

Pot holes have been filled on Flookburgh Square. The overgrown hedge opposite the Church and close to Fairfield was reported to Highways, however they will not cut it back. The Council has a lengthsman budget which could be used to undertake the work.

Resolved To engage a contractor to cut the hedge back

- c) To consider the installation of Speed Bumps on Winder Lane

Councillor Ryland reported that a resident has raised concerns about the speed of vehicles driving in the Ravenstown area and requested speed bumps be installed.

Resolved To report to the County Councillor to investigate and consider options.

- d) To consider installing a fence or gate behind the post box in Cark

Councillor Airey reported her concerns regarding the large drop into the River Eea behind the post box on Station Road in Cark and suggested a fence or gate be installed.

Resolved To contact the adjoining householders advising the proposals and provided there are no objections engage a local contractor to undertake the work.

20/162 **Parish Link**

As an alternative to a local publication, the option of distributing a publication as an insert to Grange Now or a regular monthly article was proposed.

Resolved To contact Grange Now regarding a regular article submission.

20/163 **Flookburgh Community Playground**

The Clerk reported that the hand sanitiser box was vandalised twice in December, she managed to repair the first time but has been unable to do the second time and has ordered a replacement box.

20/164 **Cark Toilets & Cark Park/Playground**

- a) The Clerk reported that no response has been received from South Lakeland District Council to the proposal that a larger 'no dogs' sign be installed at the entrance to cark park/playground.
- b) The Clerk reported on the site meeting at Cark Toilets to consider possible locations for bicycle stands. The proposal from the site meeting is to install one stand on the path between the gents and ladies toilets and one at the rear of the area where the disabled toilet is located. Each stand could accommodate two bicycles.

Resolved To proceed with the proposed plan and contact SLDC to request their permission for the Parish Council to install the stands.

20/165 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) Cumbria County Council
Notification of Tier 4 introduction.
- b) South Lakeland District Council
Parish Precept Forms
Closure of South Lakeland House due to Tier 4 introduction.
Period poverty supplies over Christmas period (available from Cockles in Flookburgh, Co-op in Grange and Waste Not Want Not in Cartmel)
Government funding for new projects – Kendal Town Regeneration and increase in places for rough sleepers.
500th new affordable home in South Lakeland to rent since 2014.
Avian flu in Ulverston swans.
- c) Cumbria Association of Local Councils
CALC Training programme for 2021.
Cumbria in Bloom AGM report.
Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill update
England Coast Path Update – Silecroft to Silverdale – approved in part (Silecroft to Green Road Station) and representations for rest of route with Secretary of State for consideration.
Letter of thanks from Local Government Minister to all levels of Local Government for continued service during Covid situation.
Local Government Reorganisation update

20/166 **Dates of 2021 Meetings**

The following meeting dates were noted:

3rd February 2021
3rd March 2021
7th April 2021
5th May 2021
2nd June 2021
7th July 2021
1st September 2021
6th October 2021
3rd November 2021
1st December 2021

20/167 **Date of Next meeting**

Noted that the next meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 3rd February 2021.

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