

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LOWER HOLKER
VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY 2019**

PRESENT

Parish Councillors R Airey, B Dawson, G Gardner (& District Councillor), M Keith, S Rawsthorn, J Ryland & T Wilson, County Councillor S Sanderson, Parish Clerk L Prescott, Mr D Chalmers (Friends of the Lake District) and 2 members of the public.

19/076 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from District Councillor M Cornah and PCSO H Firth.

19/077 **Requests for Dispensations**

None.

19/078 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

19/079 **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Resolved The acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2019 was proposed by Councillor Ryland, seconded by Councillor Rawsthorn, agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

19/080 **Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)**

None.

19/081 **Proposed Extension to Lake District National Park Southern Boundary**

Mr Chalmers (CEO of Friends of the Lake District) outlined the application the Friends of the Lake District (FOLD) have made to Natural England to extend the southern boundary of the Lake District National Park. FOLD are a charity formed in 1934 to campaign for the creation of the Lake District National Park. The initial suggestion for this extension came from a group of Parish Councils on the south western side of Cumbria. FOLD have employed a landscape specialist (Alison Farmer) to prepare a report on the landscape features of the land south of the current Lake District boundary and the proposed new boundary (which includes Cark, Holker and part of Flookburgh) is based on her recommendations. Natural England will consider the proposal and if they decide to proceed further then local residents will have the opportunity to comment on those proposals. The area around the Howgills which was designated in recent years took many years to be included. FOLD have successfully applied for funds from the Heritage Lottery for landscape conservation in the Howgills area.

Councillors raised a number of queries and comments:

Why is the line where it is? Based on landscape being similar to the rest of the National Park. *What differences would there be in relation to Planning?* Higher standards for planning application requiring landscape not to be damaged, better quality buildings and local occupancy clauses on new housing. *Increasing the National Park designation would lead to a reduced area for those services which cannot be put in the national park and would increase pressure on these areas. It would also mean increased house prices and lower school numbers as residents were unable to afford to live in the National Park.* FOLD support a change of use requirement for houses if they are to be changed to second homes. *What knowledge do the National Park have of Morecambe Bay as they are a Lake District National Park?* It may be more appropriate to designate some of the area on the Cartmel Peninsula as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) as Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB. *Why should this change take place?* Brexit may reduce funds to farmers and protected landscapes would be prioritised.

19/082 **Police**

PCSO Firth was absent and no report has been received.

19/083 **District and County Councillors**

a) District Councillor Gill Gardner reported:

- i) There are insufficient people available to effectively use the Speed Gun in the Parish. Councillors Dawson and Ryland offered to join the other volunteers.
- ii) There are dog fouling problems in Cark, South Lakeland District Council are street cleaning in Cark and the lane by the School. They will be cleaning in the Parish on 17th July then every fortnight thereafter. She requested that the dates were published on the Parish Council Facebook page so vehicles can be parked elsewhere to allow cleaning.

b) County Councillor Sue Sanderson reported:

- i) She was contacted by a local resident regarding the County Council representation on the North West Inshore Fisheries Committee. The two CCC representatives were from the North and West of the County and none from the South. She has spoken to the Councillors and the one in the West of the County has agreed to step down so a Councillor from the South can be appointed.
- ii) She investigated the extended closure of Green Lane due to the scaffolding on the Crown Inn, where the builders had extended the time without seeking permission from the County Council and it was removed within a week of her inquiries.
- iii) Cars parked on the pavement in Flookburgh have received penalty notices and she will circulate the most recent details of penalty notices issued in the Parish. She received a complaint from a resident about vehicles parking inappropriately near the Hope and Anchor forcing pedestrians, including with pushchairs to walk in the road. There are now more Traffic Wardens available which has increased the frequency of their visits.
- iv) Cartmel Racecourse used to have regular meetings with the Parish Council but since a change of management this no longer takes place. Councillor Rawsthorn advised that Cartmel School was closed when racing took place on Friday and security staff stopped people using public rights of way around the racecourse area.

19/084 **Planning Application**

The following Planning Application was considered:

- a) SL/2019/0460.121 Station Road Cark-In-Cartmel LA11 7NY. Installation of mural wiring, gel filled wall box to be installed on the gable wall of 121 Station Road and alteration of services in the parking/driveway area of 115 Station Road

Resolved No objections to this application as it would not adversely impact neighbouring houses.

19/085 **Planning Decisions**

The following Planning Decision was noted:

- a) SL/2019/0295. 107 Station Road Cark-In-Cartmel LA11 7NY. Single storey rear extension (revised scheme SL/2019/0015). Granted with conditions relating to plans and materials.

19/086 **Financial Reports**

Resolved The Financial report, including budget comparison and bank reconciliation as at 24 June 2019, was accepted unanimously.

19/087 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolved

The authorisation of the following payments was agreed unanimously:

Clerk's Salary (June 2019)	£304.80
PAYE for Clerk's Salary (June 2019)	£76.20
South Lakes Services – Toilets (June 2019) SO	£259.20
Waterplus (Toilets – Water & Waste Water) (12/3/2019-27/5/2019) DD	£64.36
Parish Noticeboard Company (50% balance for new Noticeboard)	£537.00
SSE Electricity for Street Lighting (1/2/2019-3/6/2019) DD	£197.17

N Power – Electricity (Toilets) 1/5/19-1/6/19 DD
Viking (Paper and Printer Ink)

£36.08
£121.70

19/088 **Electricity Contract Renewal – Toilets**

The Clerk reported that she had been contacted by Npower regarding their contract to supply electricity to Cark Toilets. The contract expires on 6/10/2019 and if the Parish Council plans to change suppliers it will need to cancel the contract by 6/9/2019. The current charge is 14.06 ppkwh, the quotation from Npower for a 1 year contract is 15.5 ppkwh or for a longer contract 16.6 ppkwh. She has contacted Utility Aid to receive quotations from alternative suppliers.

Resolved To proceed with the most competitive quotation for supply.

19/089 **The Pensions Regulator**

The Clerk reported that the Pensions Regulator has notified the Parish Council that it has to offer an optional pension scheme to the Clerk. The Clerk does not wish to enter into a pension scheme and has registered a declaration of compliance with the Pensions Regulator.

19/090 **Highways**

a) Reports requiring Highways Maintenance
None.

b) Reports requiring maintenance (not County Council)

A complaint has been received from a resident at Stockdale Farm about the uncut grass on land to the south of Stockdale Farm which does not have an owner. The Clerk has arranged for a contractor to cut back the grass (as last year) and Councillors considered whether it needs regular cutting and if so how often.

Resolved To have the grass cut once, then leave until later in the summer (unless further complaints are received).

c) Highways matters in process with Cumbria County Council.

The Highways Engineer has advised that:

i) Sunny Bank Road, Cark – no actions is required at present. The responsibility is the landowners who have been notified by the County Council.

ii) The Engine Inn, Cark – this is not currently unsafe, Highway Authority have no responsibility to repair this damage on private land, or powers to force the landowner to undertake repairs. They will continue to monitor the situation during routine highway inspections and General Bridge Inspections, and take action should the defects deteriorate to a degree that the highway is adversely affected.

d) Highways matters in process (not County Council)
None.

e) Parking enforcement

A resident advised the Clerk that cars continue to park on the pavement and yellow lines at Low Row in Cark. Also see County Councillor's report 19/083 b iii.

19/091 **Public Access to farmland**

The Clerk suggested that improved signage may raise public awareness of their responsibilities when accessing farmland. This has been highlighted due to recent sheep worrying incidents. Councillor Wilson advised that it is illegal to let a dog run loose on the salt marsh as it is designated as an SSSI.

Resolved To put up suitable notices reminding dog walkers of their responsibilities on popular walking routes in the Parish.

19/092 **Proposed Extension to Lake District National Park Southern Boundary**

See 19/081.

19/093 South Lakeland District Council Tree Planting Scheme

The Clerk reported that South Lakeland District Council have a new scheme to increase the number of trees in the District. They would plant and maintain the trees for a year then the responsibility would be handed over to the landowner.

Resolved Suggestions for locations for additional trees to be given to the Clerk to forward to SLDC.

19/094 Defibrillators

The Clerk reported that both defibrillators have been installed (Ravenstown Club and Cark Toilets) and are operational. Councillor Keith reported that a young person was seen throwing rocks at the one at Cark Toilets and she will advise the Clerk of his name. Defibrillator training will be arranged and Ravenstown Club has offered to be a venue. Roadsign signs indicating the location of defibrillators are available from CCC Highways for £25 each and would be fitted free of charge. Wording and location of signs was considered.

Resolved

- a) The Clerk will liaise with Ravenstown Club and Grange First Responders to arrange and publicise training.
- b) The roadsigns to include all 5 defibrillator locations and to be situated at the entrance to each village and at the junction of Main Street and Winder Lane in Flookburgh.

19/095 Community Emergency Plan

The Clerk reported that she has updated the Emergency Plan as follows: Chairman's new address, new District Councillor, Radio Stations, sandbags available in parish, additional defibrillator locations and map with defibrillator locations marked. Councillor Gardner advised that her mobile telephone number should be used as a contact.

Resolved To amend Councillor Gardner's contact details and print and distribute copies as previously.

19/096 Noticeboard

The Noticeboard has been received and she has asked a local contractor to install.

19/097 Public Toilets

The Clerk reported that she contacted SLDC to request that the small and damaged car park sign indicating that parking is time and use limited be replaced. SLDC advised they wouldn't replace it as they didn't own the car park. She has advised them that they own both the car park and the adjoining playground and toilets and is awaiting a response.

19/098 Flookburgh Community Playground/Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity

Councillor Gardner reported that she has removed some trees from the Playground that have died. The grass cutting is going well. The Fun day planned for September has had to be cancelled due to Trustee commitments. Councillor Keith reported a fault with the roundabout on the playground. SLDC have reported that the two bins at the playground are being emptied every 2 or 3 days as when one is triggered by the sensor the other is emptied as well. SLDC suggested Councillors might wish to monitor the situation and possibly move one or more of the bins. The cost for emptying the bins on this basis would be 2 or 3 times the budgeted cost (of weekly emptying) if it continued year round, however it would be expected to reduce in the winter months due to reduced use of the Playground and fewer visitors at Lakeland Leisure.

Resolved To continue with the present litter bin emptying and reconsider in the autumn.

19/099 Speed Monitoring

The Clerk reported that she has advised the County Council speed monitoring required prior to the Parish Council installing a sign on Moor Lane should be operational in the next couple of weeks.

19/100 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) Cumbria County Council
Notification regarding wall at Sunny Bank, Cark.
Grange & Cartmel Wellbeing Group information.
- b) South Lakeland District Council
SLDCs Green Team weekly tip.
Parish Tree Planting Scheme.
- c) Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)
Monthly newsletter and training. NALC Council Spotlight nominations.
- d) Cumbria Police/Neighbourhood Alerts
Scam HMRC telephone calls. Scam advance payments by bank transfer for agricultural machinery. Scam telephone calls from Police/Bank asking for cash to be handed over to a courier.

19/101 **Date of Next meeting**

The following meeting was noted:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday 4th September 2019 in Flookburgh Village Hall.

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