

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD REMOTELY ON
WEDNESDAY 1st JULY 2020**

PRESENT

Parish Councillors R Airey, B Dawson, G Gardner (& District Councillor), M Keith & J Ryland, County Councillor S Sanderson & Parish Clerk L Prescott.

20/048 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors S Rawsthorn and T Wilson and PCSO H Firth.

20/049 Requests for Dispensations

None.

20/050 Declarations of Interest

None.

20/051 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved Approved unanimously. To be signed by the Chairman in due course.

20/052 Public Participation

None

20/053 Police

A written report has been received from PCSO H Firth on reports to the Police for Cark and Flookburgh area in the last 30 days: There were 18 Calls for Service: 4 Suspicious incidents, 3 Thefts, 1 Weapons, 3 ASB, 1 Wildlife incident, 2 Domestic, 1 Criminal Damage, 1 Public Order & 1 Harassment.

20/054 District and County Councillors

a) County Councillor S Sanderson reported:

- i) It is good that life is slowly returning to some normality so she has attended two school governing body meetings virtually and now a Parish Council. She apologises for missing the last meeting, she did manage to get on but was summarily rejected and could not get back on.
- ii) She is still working very hard as the Cabinet member for schools: all of them did open with a range of attendance some nearly fully and some with just vulnerable children and children of key workers. They supported them in their work. They are now approaching the end of term, summer holidays and the return in September with little information on how it will work. The County Council have put plans in place to support schools in managing all three. One cannot underestimate the pressure Headteachers are under at the moment and it is principally because of the uncertainty of everything. Heads were also concerned they would be asked to stay open during the summer holidays and they did not think that was acceptable as many staff had worked through Easter and two half terms already. As a Council they took the decision to state we would not be expecting teachers to be working through the summer holidays. To this end two officers have been working with other agencies to create a programme of summer activities available for children and families. She has been working with a senior officer support schools to prepare for September. They will probably have to have several plans to cope with alternative scenarios: need to support staffing as it has often been lack of staffing that has been the main issue, school and public transport, exams and qualifications, post 16 provision – issue around apprenticeships, transition, emotional wellbeing of staff and children to name but a few. We need to ensure that parents understand every school is different and will manage things differently. Schools do not want to be in competition with each other.
- iii) She is on a call tomorrow with the Rural services network they represent all the County and Unitary councils who have significant rural populations so it will be interesting to hear about other councils.
- iv) Funding remains an issue for the County despite promises being made to cover the additional costs owing to COVID 19 there is a gap between what has been spent and what has been given.

- b) District Councillor G Gardner reported:
 - i) She has continued to be contacted by residents and local businesses regarding local issues including bed and breakfasts and housing.
 - ii) She has attended a lot of meeting, including full Council.

20/055 **Planning Applications**

- a) SL/2020/0364. Cark Manor Cark-In-Cartmel LA11 7PG. Application for the change of use from residential dwelling (Class C3) to a mixed use of residential dwelling (Class C3) and country house hotel (Class C1).
This application had been posted on SLDC's website but has since been removed. District Councillor Gardner reported that complaints have been received by SLDC regarding works which have already commenced and it will be dealt with by the Planning Committee. The Planning Application will be reinstated on the website in due course and an additional (Extraordinary), Parish Council meeting may be required as the next Parish Council meeting is not due to take place until September.
- b) SL/2020/0344. Ex Duckys Park Farm Moor Lane Flookburgh LA11 7LS. Variation of condition 5 (occupancy) attached to planning permission SL/2018/0841 (Extension to existing caravan site for the provision of 20 static caravan pitches and access drive to the associated hard-standings).
Resolved No response to be made.

20/056 **Planning Decisions**

The following Planning Decision was noted:

- a) SL/2020/0014. Laisbys, Wilkinsons Joinery and Caravan Store Moor Lane Flookburgh LA11 7LS. Demolition of three industrial units and one dwelling and erection of three industrial units, one office building and one dwelling, creation of new vehicle access points and alterations to car parking layout. Refused.

20/057 **Audit 2019/20**

Noted the confirmation of receipt and logging of the exempt status for the year end 31 March 2020 by the External Auditors PKF Littlejohn and notification there is no review to be performed and consequently no auditor certificate and report, or any other closure documentation, will be issued by them for this reporting year.

20/058 **Financial Reports**

The Clerk reported on the Parish Council Finances, including budget comparison and bank reconciliation as at 24 June 2020.

Resolved Accepted unanimously. Financial Report and Bank Statement to be signed by the Chairman in due course.

20/059 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolved The authorisation of the following payments was agreed unanimously:

Clerk's Salary (June 2020)	£313.60
PAYE for Clerk's Salary (June 2020)	£78.40
Npower (Electricity – Toilets) (2/5/2020 – 1/6/2020) DD	£36.90
SSE (Electricity – Street Lighting) (2/5/2020 – 1/6/2020)	£49.67
T W Electrical Cumbria Ltd (Replacement of hand drier in toilets)	£218.95
South Lakeland District Council (2019 Election costs)	£65.00

20/060 **Highways**

- a) Highways matters to be reported:

Councillor Ryland reported that the pavement on the B5278 between Holker gates and Old Park junction is impassable, causing pedestrians to walk on the road.

Councillor Dawson reported that the hedges adjoining bridlepath alongside the Primary School are becoming overgrown and need to be cut back.

Resolved To report the pavement to Highways and report the bridlepath hedges to the adjoining landowners, who are responsible for their maintenance.

- b) Highways matters reported.

None.

20/061 **Flookburgh Community Playground**

The Government announced on 23rd June 2020 that outdoor playgrounds may re-open from 4th July and released detailed guidance on how this should take place on 26th June. The Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity have met twice since the guidance was released and have set out a detailed plan for the re-opening of the playground in line with Government guidance as follows:

- Prepare a Risk Assessment
- Reinstate SLDC monthly equipment checks (suspended in March 2020).
- Arrange for grass to be cut on playground area (already cut for hay on football pitch by Stephen Morris) by contractors, cost for initial cut will be higher than usual cut due to excess grass.
- Install a locked hand sanitiser dispenser at the entrance to the playground (to be removed at closing time and replaced prior to opening time).*
- Purchase cleaning spray (as used in gyms) and spray on equipment/surfaces once a day on closure of playground.*
- Reduce opening hours to 10 am to 6 pm (to allow for equipment cleaning).
- Install signs to advise to use hand sanitiser, keep social distancing and limit numbers in areas (particularly toddler playground area).
- Install signs to indicate new opening hours and conditions of use

*Volunteers will be needed on a rota basis to open up/close up the Playground each day.

As these preparations could not be completed by 4th July (the SLDC equipment checks can't be completed until after 7th July as the person who does the checks is on holiday), put up 'holding' notices at the playground and on Facebook and the Website to advise that preparations are being made and asking users to be patient.

Resolved To proceed with re-opening the Playground on the basis outlined.

20/062 **Website Accessibility**

The Clerk reported that Councils are required to ensure that their websites are accessible to people with disabilities. Councils must check the guidance and make changes to their websites ensure they are accessible. The Council must have a plan of action and an accessibility statement by 23 September 2020. The Clerk will examine the guidance and the website and prepare a plan to be considered at the September Parish Council meeting.

20/063 **Carl Toilets & Carl Park/Playground.**

Noted that the Toilets remain open and are being disinfected twice daily and SLDC will re-open its play areas on 4th July.

20/064 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) Cumbria County Council
Street parking enforcement recommencing.
Updates and information on support available.
- b) South Lakeland District Council
Car Park charges recommencing.
Continuation of the Appointment of the Independent Person
Social Housing Scheme Consultation
- c) Cumbria Association of Local Councils
NALC Legal updates on Elections and Procurement. Review – high streets and dementia research. Covid-19 Risk Assessment Guidance.
Local Government Association New Model Code of Conduct Consultation.
Community Buildings Update (ACT)
Updates and Coronavirus information
- d) Cumbria Voluntary Service
Information on Advice and support available.
- e) Cumbria Community Foundation
Updates including funding available
- f) Action for Health and Mental Health Provider Forum Bulletin
Information on patient transport, face coverings for hospital visits, cyber security, how to get tested and Cumbria Jobs Fuse.
- g) Morecambe Bay Health Trust

Coronavirus Update

h) Connecting Cumbria

Digital broadband funding scheme for home and businesses not having access to broadband services of at least 30 Mbps download. The funding will pay towards the cost of installing gigabit-capable broadband to premises when part of a group project.

20/065 **Date of Next meeting**

Noted that the next meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 2nd September 2020.

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