

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LOWER HOLKER  
VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2016**

**PRESENT**

Parish Councillors R Airey, B Dawson, G Gardner (& District Councillor), M Keith, S Rawsthorn, & T Wilson, County Councillor S Sanderson, Parish Clerk L Prescott, Ms D Radcliffe (Natural England), Ms A Harker (Natural England) & Mr H Barker

**16/056 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillor J Ryland.

**16/057 Requests for Dispensations**

None.

**16/058 Declarations of Interest**

None.

**16/059 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved** The acceptance of the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016 was proposed by Councillor Airey, seconded by Councillor Rawsthorn, agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

**16/060 Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)**

Mr Barker was given leave by the Chairman to speak at Item 16/061 (England Coast Path)

**16/061 England Coast Path**

Ms Harker and Ms Radcliffe of Natural England reported to the meeting on plans for the England Coast Path around the country and through the Parish. The path follows from the UK Marine & Coastal Access Path Act 2009 which sets out plans to have a long distance walking trail and coastal access rights between the path and the foreshore around the whole of England. The path is expected to be in place for 20 years and where there is erosion it will 'roll back'. The benefits are expected to be health, links between communities & boosting local economies. Natural England have to balance what the walkers want (good views, close to the sea etc) and landowners need (land management, operational needs and privacy). Landowners will have the lowest level of liability towards users. There can be exclusions of certain areas eg if unsafe – marshland and restrictions (eg dogs on leads for lambing/bird nesting). There is a 5 stage process:

Stage 1: Information gathering (from landowners, drop ins, local groups eg parish councils)

Stage 2: Site visits with landowners regarding land management & sensitive/unsafe features.

Stage 3: Proposals published by Natural England and sent to Secretary of State (copies sent to interested parties).

Stage 4: 8 week consultation period – for objections/representations/comments. The final recommendations sent to Secretary of State for Approval. If there is a disagreement between landowners and Natural England regarding the proposed route, the Secretary of State makes the final decision.

Stage 5: Work starts on path (installing signposts/gates). Installation and maintenance will be by Cumbria County Council paid by grants from Natural England. Estimate 1 year to set up. The earliest date it will be in place locally is 2019.

Councillors and Mr Barker raised the following issues:

- Dogs not on leads and the risks to livestock
- Walkers are coming through a farm working environment - they would not be allowed to walk through BAE/Glaxo.

- Kissing gates should be installed as walkers don't always close gates leading to stock escaping, which takes farmer's time and can cause a loss of livestock.
- Most people want a circular 5/6 mile walk not a long distance path.
- Farmers support conservation measures, but walkers will disturb the wildlife. Nesting birds are on the foreshore which could be part of the coastal margin and so will be disturbed.
- During Foot & Mouth when the coast was closed the wildlife doubled.
- There is no safe coastal route from Wyke to Grange.

Natural England representatives responded:

- Advisory notices can be installed by Natural England regarding keeping dogs on leads and seasonal restrictions to protect lambs and nesting birds.
- Kissing gates can be installed where appropriate.
- The Act does not include the provision of circular walks.
- Inland routes will be considered where it is unsafe to walk near the coast.

The Councillors considered the responses and resolved to respond to the Consultation as follows:

**Resolved**

- 1 The Coastal margin should be kept as narrow as possible
- 2 For 2 months in the Spring all dogs should be on leads to protect ground nesting birds
- 3 During the lambing season all dogs should be on leads to protect pregnant sheep and their lambs.

16/062 **Police**

No report has been received.

16/063 **District and County Councillors**

a) District Councillor Gill Gardner reported:

- i) She is now a representative on the Licensing Committee.
- ii) She will be holding a litter pick at 10 am on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June, meeting at Flookburgh Square.
- iii) She has called in Tony Hadwin's planning application to the Planning Committee.

b) County Councillor Sue Sanderson reported:

- i) She has met with Cumbria Highways and gone through the Parish Council Highways issues.
- ii) She is yet to organise a meeting with the Caravan Park, but will advise the Parish Clerk once arranged so the Parish Council representatives can attend.
- iii) She has spoken to the Police about the traffic incidents on Moor Lane.
- iv) White lines needed opposite/near several homes on Main Street where residents are unable to access/leave their properties were noted.
- v) She is working with the Strategic Waste Partnership, which is County and District Councils working together.
- vi) She is working with the Flood Recovery Group which is meeting fortnightly and residents have recently been discovered to still be living with the aftereffects of flooding. 600 tonnes of flood waste has been collected. There will be a Section 19 Investigation about the flooding events. There will be a Flood Forum on 6<sup>th</sup> July from 6 to 9 pm in Backbarrow.
- vii) Kerbside plastic and cardboard collections are being rolled out, smaller lorries have been delivered and all residents should have these collections by March 2017.

16/064 **Planning Applications**

The following Planning Applications were considered:

- a) SL/2016/0468. Garden Cottage, The Fold, Cark In Cartmel LA11 7PA. One self-build dwelling.

**Resolved** To fully support this application for the following reasons:

- The applicant has lived in Cark his whole life and this will enable him to remain in his local community.
- A similar planning application SL/2015/1146 at Thrushwood, Allithwaite where a development was just outside the development boundary was recently granted by South Lakeland District Council, creating a precedent.
- Another new house is currently being built off Caton Lane (SL/2014/0958 Gainsboro Yard adjacent to Hereford Cottage).
- The application is for a single house for a local resident and is not part of a larger development plan.
- The development will improve the site by clearing the existing old buildings.
- The development would be infilling and rounding off the village of Cark.
- The South Lakeland District Council website states regarding Self build “It is encouraged in the National Planning Policy Framework and the government is considering plans for Right to Build to support self builders.”

b) SL/2016/0214. Willow House, Moor Lane, Flookburgh Cumbria LA11 7LS. Erection of storage building

**Resolved** To support his application as it will infill the site and provide essential storage to support the continuation and development of this local business and employer.

c) SL/2016/0374. Orchard View, Winder Lane, Flookburgh Grange over Sands LA11 7LE. Extension of domestic curtilage into part of adjoining field and erection of detached domestic garage.

**Resolved** To support this application as it will round off the village and will not be detrimental to any neighbouring properties.

d) SL/2016/0501. 6 Cark House Court, Cark In Cartmel, Grange over Sands LA11 7PE. Small side one storey extension

**Resolved** To support this application as it will not be detrimental to any neighbouring properties.

#### 16/065 **Planning Decisions**

The following Planning Decision was noted:

a) SL/2016/0058. Land adjacent to Guides Farm, Cark in Cartmel, Grange over Sands Cumbria LA11 7LD. Erection of countryside workers dwelling with vehicular access. Granted with conditions relating to occupation, highways, landscaping and materials.

#### 16/066 **Audit 2015/16**

a) Report from the Internal Auditor. The Clerk read the report from the Internal Auditor which stated that the accounts appear to have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Regulations adopted by the Parish Council and no errors or omissions were found during the internal audit checks.

b) The Annual Governance Statement for the year ending 31 March 2016 for Lower Holker Parish Council was approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman and the Parish Clerk on Page 2 prior to submission to the Audit Commission.

c) The Accounting Statements 2015/16 for Lower Holker Parish Council were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman and the Responsible Financial Officer (Parish Clerk) on Page 3 prior to submission to the Audit Commission.

#### 16/067 **Financial Reports**

**Resolved** The Financial report, including budget comparison and bank reconciliation as at 24 April 2016, was accepted unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

#### 16/068 **Payment of Accounts**

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

Clerk's Salary (May 2016)	£276.48
PAYE for Clerk's Salary (May 2016)	£69.10
Internal Audit (Tim Owen)	£60.00
E.On Electricity (Street Lighting) (1/4/16-30/4/16) DD	£34.89

16/069

**SLDC – Environmental Partnership Fund**

Funding is available from SLDC to make improvements to the local environment to encourage and increase trading and business activity and preserve and enhance the character of South Lakeland key towns & Villages. Funding up to £10,000 is available, however for applications in excess of £2,500 it is expected that some match funding will be put forward. Potential local environment improvements suggested at the May meeting were considered (ie cycle rack at Cark Toilets, picnic bench in Cark Park, seat between Cark and Flookburgh) and an additional seat on the way from Cark to Cartmel (right hand side just beyond the edge of the village).

**Resolved** To apply for funding for a cycle rack at Cark Toilets, picnic bench in Cark Park, Seat outside the Railway station Flookburgh entrance (site of removed telephone box) and a Seat on parking area leaving Cark towards Cartmel. The Clerk will obtain quotations for these works and submit the application to South Lakeland District Council by the end of June 2016.

16/070

**Local Government Boundary Commission**

The Boundary Commission has proposed changes to South Lakeland District Council representation arrangements. The current arrangement is that one SLDC Councillor represents Holker which comprises Lower Holker Parish and Upper Holker Ward of Lower Allithwaite Parish. The proposal from the Boundary Commission would be for 3 SLDC Councillors to represent Holker and Lyth Valley and the area would comprise the parishes of Lower Holker, part of Lower Allithwaite (Cartmel), Broughton East, Upper Allithwaite, Staveley-in-Cartmel, Cartmel Fell, Meathop & Ulpha, Witherslack, Crosthwaite & Lyth and Underbarrow & Bradleyfield. This covers an area from Lower Holker north to just south of Bowness and East to the outskirts of Kendal.

**Resolved** To oppose the proposed changes due to the following reasons:

- a) The proposed area is too large for District Councillors to properly represent electors. The District Councillor currently attends most Parish Council meetings and maintains close contact with the Parish and this would not be possible with the proposed arrangements.
- b) The area does not reflect the community of Lower Holker which does not have links with many of the villages within the proposed areas as they are so far away, but it does have links with other local villages/towns eg Allithwaite, Kents Bank, Grange-over-Sands which have been placed in another ward ie Grange.
- c) The average electorate per Councillor in 2015 and 2021 is almost identical to the present and estimated electors for Holker.

16/071

**Allocations Policy Consultation**

Proposals to amend Cumbria Choice Allocations Policy for letting social housing across Cumbria.

**Resolved** Noted.

16/072

**Highways**

- a) Councillor Wilson reported that Lower Allithwaite Parish Council are considering purchasing a Radar Gun jointly with other parishes.  
**Resolved** To contact Lower Allithwaite Parish Council for more details.
- b) Speeding and unsafe driving affecting horses on Moor Lane  
County Councillor Sanderson is arranging a meeting with Lakeland Leisure's site manager.
- c) Cyclists causing issues with other road users  
The Clerk reported that Strava were unwilling to flag the routes through Holker, Cark & Flookburgh and she has asked why they don't respond to concerns from road users other than cyclists and is awaiting a response. Concerns regarding the safety of road cycling through the villages were considered and how to alert cyclists to the risks through contacting cycle clubs were considered.

**Resolved** To contact local cycle clubs (as far afield as Barrow, Lancaster etc) to highlight residents' concerns and ask that they take care when travelling through the villages.

- d) Road maintenance/Cleaning  
Additional potholes have been reported to Cumbria Highways. Councillor Sanderson reported that whilst the County Council undertake gully cleaning, the District Council undertake street cleaning.
- e) Safety of road layout near Cark Station Railway bridge on B5278.  
Councillor Sanderson is dealing with Cumbria Highways about this.
- f) Safety of B5278 road bridge over River Eea near the Engine Inn.  
Councillor Sanderson is dealing with Cumbria Highways about this.
- g) Caravan deliveries to/from Lakeland Leisure outside specified hours (deliveries should only be between 10 am to 4 pm.)  
No response has yet been received.
- h) Allithwaite Road Railway Bridge  
A resident has reported concerns over pedestrian safety whilst travelling over the railway bridge at Allithwaite Road.

**Resolved** To contact Cumbria Highways to discuss options this issue.

16/072 **Flookburgh Square**

The Clerk reported that resurfacing and improvement works will take place the week beginning Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June, notice has been/will be given to clear the area of vehicles by the Parish Magazine, Website, Facebook and notices on the Square.

16/073 **Flookburgh Primary School Playing Field**

The Clerk reported that Headteacher Mrs Gill had advised her that unauthorised use of the School Playing Field was taking place. The Clerk posted this information on the Parish Council Facebook Page. Flookburgh Youth Club has been given authority to use the field on Club nights (Thursdays) with prior notice and notification has been given to residents in homes adjoining the school playing field.

16/074 **River Eea**

The Environment Agency are meeting with United Utilities on 9<sup>th</sup> June and preventing sewage overflows close to the Cark Farm treatment works will be discussed.

16/075 **Bus Services**

No report has yet been received regarding MP Tim Farron's response to changes to the weekday service.

16/076 **Public Toilets & Cark Park**

The Parish Clerk reported she has now received the donations box and padlock. Councillor M Keith reported that a picnic bench bought by locally-raised funds had been vandalised. She reported this to the Police and the Parish Clerk posted a photograph on Facebook. The bench then disappeared and Councillor Keith found that SLDC had removed it so she persuaded them to bring it back together with the one they removed some years ago.

16/077 **Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity**

Councillor Gardner reported that a Duck Race will be held in Cark on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June, Ducks are £1 each. Funding applications are being submitted and advice is being sought on spraying the site so levelling works can take place.

16/078 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a Cumbria County Council  
Cumbria Minerals and Waste Draft Local Plan 2015-2030  
Surface Dressing notification – road from junction with B5278 in Cark to Cartmel

- b South Lakeland District Council  
Notice of Referendum (Economic Union)
  
- c Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)  
Monthly Circular & Training  
CCC Rights of Way presentation  
Connecting Cumbria presentation  
Invitation to United Utilities' drought consultation event  
Cumbria Community Fund - Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund: Resistance & Resilience Top-Up Grants
  
- d Neighbourhood Alerts  
Peter McCall elected as the new Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner.  
Cumbria Neighbourhood Watch Association seeks Volunteers for Board  
Cold calling scams & Apple Id/Icloud Phishing Scam.
  
- e National Grid  
National Grid – undertaking marine surveys in Morecambe Bay ready for consultation this year on North West Coast
  
- f Cumbria CVS  
Training courses, Funding & Flood Recovery Update

16/079

**Date of Next meeting**

The following meeting was noted:

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday 6th July 2016 at Flookburgh Village Hall.

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