

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LOWER HOLKER VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2017**

**PRESENT**

Parish Councillors R Airey, B Dawson, S Rawsthorn, J Ryland & T Wilson, Parish Clerk L Prescott, PCSO H Firth and 4 members of the public.

**16/231 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Parish Councillor M Keith, Parish & District Councillor G Gardner and County Councillor S Sanderson.

**16/232 Requests for Dispensations**

None

**16/233 Declarations of Interest**

None.

**16/234 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved** The acceptance of the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017 was proposed by Councillor Rawsthorn, seconded by Councillor Dawson, agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

**16/235 Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)**

Mr T Manning and Mrs H Manning advised the Parish Council that they are planning to submit a planning application for 2 self-build bungalows on land on Allithwaite Road. The 2 bungalows are to provide accommodation for Mrs Manning and her husband and for their son Mr T Manning (who is currently renting a property locally). The site is at the rear of other properties on Allithwaite Road and would result in rounding off the developed area. As part of this development they plan to improve the access road past the former church and provide a turning area at the end of the access road.

**16/236 Police**

PCSO Firth advises that in the last 30 days there have been 14 calls for service but no crimes reported. The calls included: 3 sudden deaths, 1 missing person, 1 RTC, 1 theft, 5 pre-planned events, 1 Anti-Social Behaviour and 1 suspicious incident.

**16/237 District and County Councillors**

a) District Councillor Gill Gardner was absent but sent the following report:

- i) She and local resident John Bland have collected 40 bags of litter from the roads around the parish.
- ii) She has been supporting residents with planning and finding out the best way forward for them.
- iii) She has attended committee meetings for Licencing, Planning and Lake administration.
- iv) She has spoken to Sue Scott from street scene who is arranging a talk at the Primary School.
- v) SLDC have done an extra street clean however because of parked cars an offending area where someone tipped their ashtray out on the street was not cleaned. The usual dog dirt appears to be worsening especially around Ravenstown and the area will be watched and targeted however School lane and by the school on Winder Lane is also bad.

- b) County Councillor Sue Sanderson was absent but sent the following report:
- i) There was a Flood Forum on February 16th at the Ladyholme centre, Windermere about the final flood investigation report for Windermere, Bowness, Lakeside, Newby Bridge and Backbarrow. Work continues with flood recovery and resilience, the group continues to meet monthly. SLDC have received over 1000 applications but it would be helpful to remind everyone that the closing date is 31st March 2017. As long as people have registered by 31st then their applications would be dealt with. Officers expect to continue working on them for a time later.
  - ii) SLDC and CCC continue to meet regularly to explore different ways of working together to increase efficiency and be more effective such as Extra Care housing. Big improvements to communications with Cumbria Highways were shared with members today.
  - iii) A meeting was held with Highways England about the A590 with Tim Farron and a further meeting was held with them, Haverthwaite Parish Council and LDNPA and funding had been agreed for some improvements including an enhanced pedestrian refuge at Newby Bridge and an agreement about the advisory right turn at the Swan. She also met with a County Council officer about the West of the M6 strategic study to discuss proposals for the future about Cumbria's infrastructure.
  - iv) Cumbria Highways have been following up on issues raised by the Parish Council. She has reminded them about the horse warning signs and about the white lining/ghost footpath in Cark. She has requested traffic enforcement to pop in as she noticed there were a number of vehicles parking on keep clear and double yellow lines in Flookburgh.

16/238 **Planning Application**

- a) SL/2017/0070. 35 Allithwaite Road Flookburgh Grange over Sands LA11 7JR. Replacement detached garage and workshop. Resolved to support this application as it will improve facilities for the property.

16/239 **Planning Decision**

The following planning decision was noted:

- a) SL/2016/1140. 36 Main Street, Flookburgh LA11 7LA. First floor side extension and single storey rear extension. Granted with conditions relating to matching external materials.

16/240 **2016/17 Audit**

The Clerk reported that this financial year (2016/17) is that last year where an Internal Audit will be followed by an External Audit by the appointed auditors BDO. Councils with an annual turnover (income or expenditure) of less than £25k will be able to complete a certificate of exemption from external audit from the start of the 2017/18 financial year but are subject from 1st April 2015 to the Government's transparency code for smaller authorities. Transparency code includes publishing on the website information regarding finances and meetings. Smaller councils will still be required to either remain with the new nationally appointed external auditor or to appoint their own external auditor in order to allow electors the right to make representations in relation to the council's accounts.

16/241 **Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit**

The following documents were distributed and explained to the Council by the Clerk:

- a) Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit 2016/17. No amendments have been made from the previous year.
- b) Proposed Scope of Internal Audit 2016/17. No amendments have been made from the previous year.

**Resolved** The Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit and Scope of Internal Audit were approved.

- 16/242 **Review of Risk Assessment Document**  
The Risk Assessment and Management (financial) for period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 were distributed and explained to the Council by the Clerk. No amendments have been made from the previous year.  
**Resolved** The Risk Assessment was approved.
- 16/243 **Review of Asset Register**  
The Asset Register as at 28 February 2017 was reviewed.  
**Resolved** To accept the Asset Register.
- 16/244 **Financial Report**  
**Resolved** The Financial report, including budget comparison and bank reconciliation as at 24 February 2017, was accepted unanimously and signed by the Chairman.
- 16/245 **Payment of Accounts**  
**Resolved** The authorisation of the following payments was agreed unanimously:
- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| Clerk's Salary (February 2017)                             | £276.48 |
| PAYE for Clerk's Salary (February 2017)                    | £69.12  |
| South Lakes Services – Toilets Cleaning (February 2017) SO | £247.26 |
| E.On (Electricity - Street Lighting) (1/1/17-31/1/17) DD   | £41.86  |
- 16/246 **Grant Application**  
Mr K Jackson has requested a grant towards the maintenance of the burial ground.  
**Resolved** to award £150 towards the maintenance of the burial ground.
- 16/247 **Highways**  
The following Highways matters were considered.
- a) Road maintenance. The Clerk reported that the gully work near to Holker is listed as being completed by Cumbria Highways. Councillor Rawsthorn advises that there are still excess leaves blocking the gullies. Councillor Airey reported that there is a dip in the road on either side of the railway bridge at Allithwaite Road.  
**Resolved** The Clerk will investigate the gulleys and report to the County Highways if more work needs to be done and report the road condition at the Allithwaite Road railway bridge to Cumbria Highways.
  - b) Highways matters currently under consideration by Cumbria Highways. No information received other than the report from the County Councillor (16/237).
  - c) Motor home parked in layby at Flookburgh Cemetery. The owner has sold the vehicle and it has been removed from the layby.
  - d) Hedges on Moor Lane. The Clerk has written to Mrs Latham explaining that the responsibility for cutting back hedges which overhang a right of way is with the landowner.
- 16/248 **Meeting on Rural Crime**  
High Furness and Grange and Cartmel LAPs are holding a joint meeting on rural crime and policing on Wednesday 10 May at 6.30pm. The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cumbria, Peter McCall, and rural Police Sergeants Bill Nolan and Grant Kelso will attend. Agenda items are requested for this meeting.  
**Resolved** to report the problem of speeding vehicles on rural roads, in particular on Moor Lane in Flookburgh.
- 16/249 **Public Toilets & Car Park**  
Nothing to report.
- 16/250 **Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity**  
The Clerk reported that the charity are having difficulty obtaining quotations for the groundworks on the site. Councillor Wilson suggested contacting Ian Crowe and Ian Shaw.

16/251 **CALC Clerk's Forum**

The Clerk reported that she attended the recent Clerk's Forum and there were some new Clerks in attendance. Topics discussed included the difference between working groups (not open to public) & sub committees (open to public); the new audit arrangements from 2017/18 financial year and that parishes should be notified by SLDC if there is an amendment to a planning application.

16/252 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) Cumbria County Council  
Better Care Together event notification.
- b) South Lakeland District Council  
Application for Small Business Rate Relief. South Lakeland Community News. High Furness and Grange and Cartmel LAP's are co-hosting a meeting on rural crime and policing on Wednesday 10 May at 6.30pm. The venue is likely to be Hawkshead.
- c) Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)  
Pre-election guidance (applies for 6 weeks before elections). Monthly Newsletter. Environment Agency briefings relating to extension of notice period for Water Level Management in the Waver Wampool and Lyth Valley catchments to 31 December 2020. Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner Property Fund. Community Resilience Support. Cumbria in Bloom 2017 details.
- d) Cumbria Voluntary Service  
Notification of training & events.
- e) Morecambe Bay Community Team  
Notification of preparation of Economic plan for Coastal Communities. Supported by Government. Meeting in Ulverston on 9<sup>th</sup> March.
- f) Neighbourhood Alerts  
Sheep worrying and the law clarification. Bogus callers claiming to be from HMRC/Inland Revenue.
- g) Other  
Thanks from Cark Village Fund and Flookburgh Christmas Tree Committee for grants awarded.

16/253 **Forthcoming Events**

The following forthcoming event was noted:

- 6 pm on 9th March 2017 – Morecambe Bay Community meeting at Coronation Hall, Ulverston.
- 7.00 pm on 9th March 2017 – CALC District Meeting at Gilpin Bridge Inn, Levens
- 6 to 8 pm on 14th March 2017 – Better Care Together at Victoria Hall, Grange.

16/254 **Date of Next meeting**

The next meeting was noted:

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at Flookburgh Village Hall.

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