

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT FLOOKBURGH VILLAGE HALL
ON WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2015**

PRESENT

Parish Councillors R Airey, B Dawson, G Gardner (& District Councillor), M Keith, S Rawsthorn & T Wilson, County Councillor S Sanderson and Parish Clerk L Prescott

- 15/154 **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillor J Ryland, Police Sergeant W Nolan & The North West Ambulance Service.
- 15/155 **Requests for Dispensations**
None
- 15/156 **Declarations of Interest**
None
- 15/157 **Minutes of the Last Meeting**
Resolved The acceptance of the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 7TH October 2015 was agreed unanimously and signed by the Vice Chairman.
- 15/158 **Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)**
None
- 15/159 **Police**
Police Sergeant W Nolan was absent however he sent a written Police report for October 2015 for Lower Holker as follows:
There have been 52 calls for service, 12 crime-related, only 1 linked to Lakeland Leisure Park. Sergeant Nolan plans to meet with Lakeland Leisure management prior to next year's season in order to see where they can work together to reduce the number of calls. He spoke to Councillor Gardner at the Neighbourhood Forum regarding dog fouling on the approach to Flookburgh Primary School and has provided some signage regarding this. There are proposed Government cuts to Cumbria Police which would affect their ability to maintain a police presence. PCSO Firth is expected to return to duties later this month. Sergeant Nolan hopes to attend the next Parish Council meeting and Councillors can contact him if they wish to discuss any issues.
- 15/160 **North West Ambulance Service**
A representative was unable to attend this meeting as planned, but will attend the December meeting.
- 15/161 **District and County Councils**
a) District Councillor Gill Gardner reported
i) She has received dog fouling signs from the police, these are being laminated and will be put up on the route to Flookburgh Primary School shortly.
ii) Only one person came to take part in the litter pick on 17th October.
iii) She has been unable to get the school bus pick up in Ravenstown reinstated, despite a petition, photographs and letters being submitted to Cumbria County Council. The Council state that the bus cannot drive round Ravenstown to turn round due to the parked vehicles on the road and Ravenstown Club will not allow them to turn round in their car park.
b) County Councillor Sue Sanderson reported:
i) A new draft County Council Plan and Budget Consultation is taking place. This includes proposals to reduce the number of fire stations. Due to the fall in number of fires, retained fire fighters now have less experience than previously. Adult Social Care is a major concern and services will be changing. There will be an estimated 25% of the population in Cumbria over 65 years by 2020. Children with disabilities are living longer so they develop further health issues and need extra care. They are working with the District Council to try to find solutions as 300 more units of extra care will be needed.

- ii) The Cumbria County and District Councils have submitted a joint document to the Government as part of the Devolution agenda. As part of this proposal, a Mayor of Cumbria would be appointed. They now have met with Michael Heseltine who praised the document they prepared.
- iii) The County Council is carrying out a Service Review which will contribute to the savings required in the budget cuts.
- iv) Connecting Cumbria – some parish councils are unhappy with the fact that some areas won't get any broadband improvements even in the second phase of this process. BT will only cover 95% of consumers and some communities are installing their own connections (eg Lune Valley).
- v) Bin Collections are being amended in this area from the week beginning 16th November. Households will receive a Green Envelope, and even if the day does not change the time may change, so bins should be out for collection by 7 am.
- vi) The Boundary Commission is reviewing the election boundaries in South Lakeland due to the variations in the numbers District Councillors represent. One proposal is that larger wards are arranged so 3 members represent an area, rather than 1 per ward as at present.

15/162 **Planning Applications**

None

15/163 **Planning Decisions**

The following Planning Decisions were noted:

- a) SL/2015/0608. Church on Allithwaite Road Flookburgh Cumbria LA11 7JR. Conversion of redundant church to single dwelling. Granted with conditions relating to walls/structures at front of property and windows.
- b) SL/2015/0525. Land to north side of Caton Lane Cark in Cartmel Grange over Sands Cumbria LA6 1NT. Agricultural worker's dwelling and formation of vehicular access. Refused.
- c) L\1423\05 (5/15/9004). Winder Moor, Willow Lane, Flookburgh, Cumbria. Application to amend conditions specified in Planning Application 5/13/9002 – to infill site. Granted to extend hours from 8 am to 4 pm to 8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) and increase vehicles from 5 to 20 a day.
- d) TR/2015/0117. 3 Dobbie Bank Cark In Cartmel Grange Over Sands LA11 7PX. T1 Maple - Crown thin by 20%, Crown Clean and Crown Raise to create a 5.2 metre clearance over road and balance with property side of crown. Granted.

15/164 **Financial Report**

Resolved The Financial report including budget comparison and bank reconciliation as at 24 October 2015 was accepted unanimously.

15/165 **Payment of Accounts**

a) Resolved The authorisation of the following payments was agreed unanimously:

Clerk's Salary (October 2015)	£268.80
PAYE for Clerk's Salary (October 2015)	£67.20
South Lakes Services – Toilets Cleaning (October 2015) SO	£247.26
E.On Electricity – Street Lighting (1/9/2015-30/9/2015) DD	£34.89
Npower Electricity (Toilets) 1/8/2015-30/9/2015) DD	£27.76
Green Urban – 2 ecopad Defibrillator Cabinets	£1788.00
T & M Rowlandson (Toilet repairs)	£36.00
Parish Link Newsletter	£200.00

b) Noted that a Credit of £599.78 has been received from United Utilities due to the faulty water meter at Cark in Cartmel Toilets.

15/166 **Superfast Broadband**

The Parish Clerk reported that the Parish has now been connected as part of the Connecting Cumbria project. Speeds are now available up to 80 Mbs, though new service contracts need to be made to achieve this and costs may vary depending on the provider. There is a link on the Parish Council Website and Facebook page to check availability.

15/167

Allotments

Inquiries have been received from 2 people regarding the availability of allotments in the Parish. These were directed to Holker Estates who have allotments near Cark, however they were advised that there are currently no vacant plots. A list of 9 persons interested in allotments (7 in the Parish, 2 in adjoining parishes) was then submitted to the Parish Council. A Parish Council has a duty to provide allotments under the Allotment Act 1908 if there is a request from 6 or more electors, however there is not a specified time limit for this and they do not have to be within the Parish boundary. Options include leasing farm land or using any parish land. Councillors advised that some of the current allotments appear to be underutilised.

Resolved To contact Holker Estates to enquire as to whether the current allotments are fully utilised and whether they may have additional suitable land available.

15/168

Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) Consultation

CALC is consulting on proposed amendments to their Constitution and processes as follows:

a) Service of notice of a General or Annual General meeting to each member Parish/Town Council by email to the last notified email address of the Parish Clerk.

Resolved To approve this amendment.

b) Where a vacancy arises through the resignation, or otherwise, of a directly elected member of the Executive Committee, such casual vacancy shall be filled by election at the next available General Meeting and the member so elected shall serve for the remainder of the normal three year term of directly elected members.

Resolved To approve this amendment.

c) It is also suggested that the makeup of the membership of the CALC Executive committee should be considered. Is there a way to resolve the potential risk that the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the CALC Executive may not be elected to CALC by their District Association, therefore leaving CALC without leadership until the next AGM?

Resolved No comments regarding this issue.

15/169

Electoral Review of South Lakeland

The Boundary Commission is undertaking an Electoral Review of South Lakeland District due to the wide variation in number of electors in each Ward. This review is to consider the total number of Councillors, the number of Wards, the number of Councillors representing each Ward, Ward boundaries & Ward names. There are currently 51 District Councillors and their Electors range between 1324 and 1889 per Councillor. Lower Holker Parish is within the Holker Ward, which comprises 1605 Electors from Lower Holker Parish and the Upper Holker Ward of Lower Allithwaite Parish and is represented by 1 District Councillor. There is a proposal to have larger 3-Councillor Wards, rather than the existing 1-Councillor Wards, which would mean more frequent elections and potentially lose the established relationship between 1 Councillor and their Ward.

Resolved To support the existing 1-Councillor Ward arrangement, with the current Ward Boundaries to remain.

15/170

Highways

a) The Parish Clerk reported:

i) Dropped Pavements – the Clerk has taken photographs, prepared a map of sites and forwarded this to the County Councillor for submission to Cumbria Highways.

ii) Parking blocking pavement at Holiday Cottage on Station Road – the Clerk contacted the letting agent and the owner has advised that he will remind visitors not to park on the pavement. Mr Owen advises that visitors continue to park on the pavement.

Resolved To monitor the situation and advise the owner of this continuing problem.

b) County Councillor Sanderson reported:

i) Cumbria Highways will not tarmac the area adjoining Flookburgh Square but would mark the white lines once it is tarmacked or contribute £1,500 towards white lining by the contractor who is tarmacking the Square.

Resolved To contact the contractor and see if he would be able to undertake the white lining for the budgeted amount.

ii) She has passed on all the requests for white lines to Cumbria Highways but has no record of a ghost footpath outside the Hope & Anchor. She was advised by Councillors that KEEP CLEAR lines have been painted outside the Hope & Anchor.

- iii) Information about the Horse warning signs on Moor Lane have been passed to Victoria Upton and she will speak to Sergeant Nolan prior to his meeting with Lakeland Leisure.
- iv) There will be a consultation about the proposed Yellow Lines in Cark & Flookburgh, details of the timing and way the consultation will be managed is not yet available.
- v) Requests that any Highways works that have occurred eg line painting, to be notified to the County Councillor as Highways are not currently notifying her when works are being done.

15/171 **Defibrillators**

The Parish Clerk reported that two defibrillator boxes have been bought and installed at Cockles and at Flookburgh Primary School. The Defibrillators need to be installed, all the paperwork completed and they need to be registered with North West Ambulance Service before they can be used, this is being undertaken by the First Responders. Training will be arranged for School staff and local residents.

15/172 **Speed Gun**

Councillor Gardner reported that they have had 2 sessions using the borrowed speed gun and had 2 speeding incidents recorded. More people are needed to train in order to continue. There are plans to train more volunteers and undertake more speed gun sessions in the Spring.

15/173 **Moor Lane Field**

A letter was received from NWA Professional on behalf of Mrs J Wilson regarding the boundary hedge between the Parish Council field and Mrs Wilson's field. Councillor T Wilson attended a site meeting and the condition of the boundary near the field gate at the opposite end of the field to the road was found to be inadequate and there was some standing water in Mrs Wilson's field which Mr & Mrs Wilson consider may be connected to the infilling of the Parish Council field. Councillor Wilson advised that the drains in the field do not run in the direction of the Parish Council field. Mr P Wilson is to clean out the ditch in Mrs Wilson's field.

- Resolved**
- i) To organise a repair to stockproof the inadequate boundary fence near the gate.
 - ii) To check the situation regarding the standing water once the ditch has been cleaned out.

15/174 **Cark Station**

Councillor Airey and the Parish Clerk attended the official unveiling of a mural designed by children from Flookburgh Primary School at Cark Station. Cark Station has recently had electronic signs installed which provide up to date information on train services to the station. The new Noticeboard should be installed within the next few weeks.

15/175 **Public Toilets**

- a) There has been an overflow problem at the toilets which hasn't been able to be fixed and the plumbers are to look at it again.
- b) NPS advised the Clerk that they cannot install an access ramp to the disabled toilet as the Car Park is part of the toilets lease and they estimate the cost of such an installation would be £500.

Resolved To investigate options to provide a ramp from the Car Park to the Disabled Toilet.

15/176 **Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity**

Councillor Gardner reported that Kompan have been selected as the preferred contractor. The site is not level enough to install equipment, however it is not clear whether contractor Neil Price was required to level the site once infilling was completed. The site must be levelled and reseeded before equipment can be installed.

Resolved

- i) Parish Clerk will check the paperwork regarding the agreement with Neill Price about levelling.
- ii) The site needs to be rotavated/levelled/weedkilled and reseeded before equipment is installed.

15/177

Local Area Partnership Saturday Bus Sub-Committee

A draft timetable for Saturday buses has been provided by Carol Last. The timetable is for a circular bus service from Lindale and around the peninsula villages including Cark, Flookburgh and Ravenstown, 7 services starting at 0920 and finishing at 1620 hours. No details of the proposed contribution from the Parish/Town Councils on the route towards the estimated £4,500 shortfall have been received.

Resolved To defer agreement until further information is received on the proposed contribution to the service.

15/178

Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

- a Cumbria County Council
Draft Cumbria Minerals & Waste Local Plan 2014 to 2029 Supplementary Sites Consultation
- b South Lakeland District Council
Updated Guidance for Members on Gifts and Hospitality
- c Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)
Executive Committee – casual vacancy
Transparency Fund update
Newsletters & Circulars
Tourism business development/infrastructure funding.
Community Buildings Event – 17th October – for Village Halls
South Cumbria Rivers Trust alert regarding invasive Zebra Mussels and Killer Shrimp.
Tesco Local Community Scheme - funding for green spaces
Parish workshops on using social media and setting up a simple website
HGV Overnight Parking concerns (Tebay Parish Council)
- d Walney Windfarm Extension
Community Fund Online Consultation Survey Summary.
- e Neighbourhood Alerts
Chief Constable speaks out about Cumbria Police funding cuts of £26 million/Petition.
Police Autumn Newsletter.
Neighbourhood Watch AGM on 15th October in Shap.
Credit card theft and fraud targeting elderly residents, Police SPAM email, TalkTalk Cyber attack, Pension scam (pension transfer), Council Tax rebate scam.
- f Cumbria Volunteer Services
Annual General Meeting – 9.45 am on 5th November, The Forum, Barrow
E-Bulletin.
South Lakeland Community News

15/179

Forthcoming Events

The following events were noted:

- 6.30 pm on 11th November at Haverthwaite Church - Grange & Cartmel LAP meeting
- 10.30 am on 14th November at West Lakes Science & Technology Park, Whitehaven - CALC AGM
- 2 pm on 19th November at Ulverston Town Hall - CALC Pensions Enrolment Workshop
- 7 pm on 26th November at Gilpin Bridge Inn - CALC District meeting

15/180

Date of Next meeting

The date of the next meeting was noted:

Wednesday 9th December 2015 at Lower Holker Village Hall at 7.30 pm

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

DRAFT