

MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LOWER HOLKER VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2018

PRESENT

Parish Councillors R Airey, B Dawson, M Keith, S Rawsthorn, J Ryland & T Wilson (part), Parish Clerk L Prescott, PCSOs H Firth & J Park and 3 members of the public.

18/145 Apologies for Absence

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

18/146 World War I Soldiers & Casualties

The Clerk read the names commemorated on the Flookburgh War Memorial for the First World War: Henry Atkinson, Michael Bayliff, Richard Bayliff, George Benson, William Benson, Anthony Blair, Henry Bransden, Harold Burrow, John Cavendish, Henry Chilton, Thomas Davis, Henry Hadwin, Frank Hodgson, William Hutton, John Langstreth, William Langstreth, Fred Mackereth, James Moorby, John Park, John Prickett, Parker Rodgerson, Thomas Rodgerson, Thomas Rodgerson, John Smith, John Tomlinson, James Townson, Haslam Tyson, Joseph Waite, Frank Webster. This was followed by a 2 minute silence to recognise the contribution of those local men who served and those who were casualties in the First World War.

18/147 Requests for Dispensations

None.

18/148 Declarations of Interest

None.

18/149 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved The acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October 2018 were agreed unanimously and signed by the Vice Chairman.

18/150 Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

- a) Mrs Lomas advised she had read complaints in the Parish Council Minutes about their construction of a building for alpacas on Willow Lane and the caravan temporarily situated on the site whilst building took place. She advised that though the original application was refused due to a technicality, a further application resulted in it being recognised as a permitted agricultural development. The alpacas are now onsite and visitors are welcome. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had not been notified by the District Council of this further application nor the results of the application. The Clerk will clarify the situation to the community by a report in the Parish Link.
- b) Mrs A Monkman-Brushett advised that she was concerned following a knock on her door by a representative of Morrisons Data Services purporting to be taking gas meter readings when the property did not have a gas supply. She reported this to the Police online but did not receive any reply. PCSO Firth advised he was aware of this company who do appear to be legitimate. He had not received a notification of Mrs Monkman-Brushett's report and he will check the Police records. He recommended recording the number plate of any suspicious vehicle and advised that non-urgent incidents can be reported by phoning 101.

The Chair of the Parish Council (Councillor T Wilson) arrived and took over the Chair.

18/151 Police

PCSO Firth provided a report on calls for Police service over the past 30 days
Flookburgh 12 Calls - Road Related Offence 1, Assaults 3, Sudden Death 1, ASB 1, RTC 3, Harassment 1, Concern For Welfare 1, Civil Dispute 1.
Cark 8 Calls - RTC 2, Concern For Welfare. 2, Suspicious Incident 2.

18/151 District and County Councillors

a) District Councillor Gardner was absent, but provided the following report:

- i) The new District ward now includes 5 Parish Councils so she will only attend alternate meetings, unless there is an urgent matter. Residents can always contact her.
- ii) Sue Scott of SLDC is bringing a new cleaner to clean School Lane, and she requests that Mr Rhodes is asked to cut back his side of the hedge by this lane.
- iii) She has had a request to put lights on the Railway Bridge on Allithwaite Road, to make it safer for pedestrians.
- iv) She had a meeting with the enforcement officer regarding the development on Willow Lane and he is investigating.
- v) She has called in to Planning Committee a Planning application on Jutland Avenue.
- vi) Nights are drawing in and therefore more dog poo! She asked if the Clerk could print more reminders for dog walkers to be put up in the Parish.

b) County Councillor Sanderson was absent but sent the following report:

- i) She had a meeting with Victoria she confirmed the whitelining and signage including Main Street with another Keep Clear space as discussed with the Clerk. They discussed Moor Lane and they just need a bit more funding to widen the pavement down to the playground. Cumbria Highways have funded some, the Councillor's funding allocation has been added in but they wondered if the Parish Council would be willing to contribute towards this. She investigated Moorside and it is BT who has held everything up so they are going to send me a contact name and BT would be responsible for making everything good. We get statistics on the parking enforcement and Flookburgh is included in the Cartmel numbers. There had been 4 PCNs issued last month.
- ii) She continues to work with a range of agencies in my cabinet role. She is fortunate to be able to visit schools. School funding remains a serious issue with growing demand. This replicates the growing pressures on the Council i.e. growth in Looked after children, children with SEN. She attended a meeting in London with organisations objecting to the reductions in funding for children and young adults with special educational needs and delivered a petition of 35,000 signatures to the DFE. She also attended a parliamentary meeting about school funding.
- iii) Councillors may have seen the information that the Leader of the County Liberal Democratic group died recently very suddenly Ian Stewart Councillor for Arnside. As a Cabinet member she worked with him a lot, he was also on the District Council.

18/152 Flookburgh Primary School

The Clerk reported that from January 2019 Flookburgh Nursery provision will be increasing from 15 hours to 30 hours a week. It is free for eligible families. There are also plans for a Breakfast Club & After School Club which would result potential care from 8 am to 6 pm.

18/153 Planning Applications

The following Planning Applications were considered:

- a) SL/2018/0841 Land adjacent to Airfield Farm, Moor Lane, Flookburgh. Extension to caravan site and access drive to associated vehicle hard-standings.
Resolved To support this application for no more than 20 additional static caravan pitches as it will create additional employment in the local area.
- b) SL/2018/0829. Part of OS Field No 0005, off Green Lane, Flookburgh. Siting of a welfare shelter and installation of a septic tank (Resubmission SL/2018/0635)
Resolved To object to this application as it is virtually identical to the application SL/2018/0635 except for the addition of skids and higher hedging. There is a lack of demonstrated need for a welfare shelter where there is an existing animal shelter and the applicant only lives ½ mile from the field. If granted it would create a precedent for every farmer to build a welfare shelter in every field which was out of sight of their home.

- c) SL/2018/0771. Bridgelands Cottage, Station Road, Cark-in-Cartmel. Replacement of blown concrete render on a gable wall with a lime render to match neighbouring property and formation of door entrance in garden wall.
Resolved No objections to this application.
- d) SL/2018/0796. 121 Station Road Cark-In-Cartmel LA11 7NY. Installation of electricity supply cable on gable end wall of 121 Station Road & Bridgelands Cottage, altering service from parking area & gardens of 115 Station Road. Application granted prior to Parish Council meeting.
- e) SL/2018/0881. Cark Manor, Cark in Cartmel LA11 7PG. Hard standing for parking.
Resolved No objections to this application.

18/154 **Planning Decisions**

The following Planning Decisions were noted:

- a) SL/2018/0584. 3 Field Head Place Flookburgh LA11 7LW. Detached garage. Granted.
- b) SL/2018/0170 Caton Lane House Cark in Cartmel LA11 7NZ. Installation of 10 replacement double glazed timber windows to the side and rear elevations and 2 external timber doors to each side elevation. Granted.
- c) SL/2017/1092. Crown Inn, Market Street Flookburgh LA11 7JS. Conversion of public house to 4 No. dwellings with first floor side extension. Granted with conditions relating to materials, windows & doors, landscaping, survey, parking, gates & construction/demolition hours.
- d) SL/2017/0260 & Planning Appeal APP/M0933/W/18/3194949. Land opposite Cark House, near Sunny Bank, Cark, Cark In Cartmel, LA11 7PE. Appeal Dismissed.

18/155 **Financial Reports**

Resolved The Financial report, including budget comparison and bank reconciliation as at 24 October 2018, was accepted unanimously.

18/156 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolved The authorisation of the following payments was agreed unanimously:

Clerk's Salary (October 2018)	£294.80
PAYE for Clerk's Salary (October 2018)	£73.70
South Lakes Services – Toilets Cleaning (October 2018) SO	£259.20
E.On Electricity (Street Lighting) (1/9/18-30/9/18) DD	£50.36
N Power – Electricity (Toilets) 1/9/18-1/10/18 DD	£23.96
Bin emptying (1/7/18 – 30/9/18)	£56.94

18/157 **Utility Contracts**

The Clerk reported she had been contacted by a Utility Broker (Utility Aid) who can investigate as to whether there are better contracts for utilities available. She has provided them with details of the current utility usage and is awaiting their response.

18/158 **Highways**

- a) Reports requiring Highways Maintenance
Static caravans were unable to travel through Cark recently due to parking near The Cabin and drivers had to be found to move their vehicles.
Resolved Traffic wardens be requested to attend more frequently.
- b) Highways matters in process with Cumbria County Council
The Clerk reported that she had been notified that Cumbria Highways had filled 3 of the potholes reported.
- c) Highways matters (non County Council)
The Clerk reported that she had engaged Dean Shaw to cut the grass near Stockdale House.

18/159 **Defibrillator**

- a) The Clerk has been advised that Ravenstown Club have been unable to obtain a free defibrillator from the British Heart Foundation to be located at the Club. The next nearest defibrillator for visitors to the Club or residents of Ravenstown is at Flookburgh School.

The Parish Council has sufficient funds available to purchase and install an external defibrillator at Ravenstown Club.

Resolved To install an additional defibrillator at Ravenstown Club.

- b) The Clerk reported she hadn't proceeded with the defibrillator at Cark Toilets awaiting a decision about Ravenstown Club but will proceed with both at once. The Clerk also reported that Upper Allithwaite Parish Council have installed roadside signs which indicate the location of the defibrillators in the area. They are prepared and installed by Cumbria Highways at a reasonable cost.

Resolved To arrange for roadside signs once the 2 new defibrillators are installed.

18/160 **Speed Monitoring**

The Clerk has requested that Cumbria Police undertake speed monitoring on Moor Lane, Flookburgh due to the excessive speeds recorded whilst monitoring with the Parish Council Speed Gun.

18/161 **River Eea – water level**

The Clerk has received a response from the Environment Agency to the Parish Council's questions as follows:

How the extraction is monitored by the Environment Agency to ensure that water is not extracted beyond the permitted amounts?

The abstraction is measured by a meter installed and maintained by the operator and the volume abstracted is recorded by the operator. The operator is required to submit a summary record of their abstractions annually, which we then review and compare against their licences limits to ensure no over abstraction has occurred. Environment Agency staff make periodic site inspections. Due to concern expressed by members of the public about abstractions at the racecourse during the period of very dry weather and the very low water levels downstream, we carried out a site inspection on 13 July 2018. We concluded that abstraction from the river had been within the limits set by the licence.

Whether the Racecourse were ever stopped from extracting water this year during the extremely dry conditions this summer?

The Racecourse confirmed to us that their last abstraction from the river was on Saturday 30th June. Under their licence they can abstract provided that there is a minimum flow in the river immediately downstream of the abstraction point of 26.3 l/s. This condition is known as the Hands off Flow and helps to ensure sufficient flow in the river to protect the environment. When the flow in a water course drops below the Hands off Flow, no abstraction can take place. There are many methods of measuring the Hands of Flow, in this case it is done by a staff gauge. The staff gauge informs the licence holder what the current water level is, and from that they can infer what the flow in the river channel is. The staff gauge is installed and maintained by the licence holder. During the inspection we requested that the staff gauge be recalibrated before any further abstraction took place, to ensure accuracy of the readings and compliance with the Hands off Flow. The gauge was recalibrated but there was no further abstraction by the Racecourse from the river. The Racecourse were not stopped from abstracting but following discussion with ourselves, once the issue with flows in the river had been brought to our attention (at the very start of July), they did not abstract again.

Whether any monitoring below the extraction point takes place which would indicate the impact the extraction has on the River below Cartmel?

As per my answer above a requirement for abstraction is that it should not cause the flow in the river to fall below 26.3 l/s at the point immediately downstream of the point of abstraction. No routine monitoring is carried out further downstream on the basis that if the flow is at least at this level this should be sufficient to sustain the river.

The unusually dry weather this spring and summer put significant stresses on water courses across the country, and the River Eea was one of many in Cumbria that dried up, at least in part, due to the lack of rainfall. In a year where we experience 'normal' weather, we wouldn't expect the River Eea to dry up. Should it do so during unexceptional weather conditions then this would provide cause to review the Racecourse's abstraction licence.

18/162 **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**

The Clerk continues to examine Parish Council Documentation and remove if appropriate.

- 18/163 **Public Toilets**
Mr M Hemming has kindly repaired the guttering and refitted the gutter filler on the Toilets. The Clerk reported that the Heater was leaking, it has been checked by the plumbers who confirm it needs replacing. Options to replace as previous (30 litre) £1272 including fitting. Alternative (15 litre Ariston) £552 including fitting.
Resolved to proceed with replacement Ariston boiler.
- 18/164 **Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity**
a) The Clerk reported that the Auditor for Flookburgh & District Recreational Charity 2017 accounts recommended that the statement of funding payments in 2017 from the Charity to the Council for the new Play area be checked and confirmed by the Parish Council. The Clerk explained how the payments had been calculated in relation to invoices for work and VAT reclamations the Parish Council received.
Resolved To approve the statement of funding payments.
b) The Clerk reported that a height barrier to the Car Park and a gate from the Car Park into the Playground and gates from the road into the Playground have been installed. There is a problem with dogs being taken into the Playground, despite the 'no dogs' sign at the entrance. South Lakeland District Council have a Public Spaces Protection Order (previous Dog Control Order) which Parish Councils can utilise to have a legal recourse. She also recommended the installation of additional signs at both gates to reinforce the 'no dogs' status.
Resolved The Clerk will investigate the procedures required to proceed with a Public Spaces Protection Order and purchase and install dog signs at both gates.
- 18/165 **Correspondence**
The following correspondence was noted:
a) Cumbria County Council
Grange & Cartmel Wellbeing Group – Suicide Awareness Training
b) South Lakeland District Council
Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DM DPD) – Consultation on Main Modifications.
LAP Newsletter/Minutes and notification no LAP meetings for 6 months due to staffing changes.
Locally Important Projects applications - 5th November 2018 to 11 January 2019.
c) Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)
Monthly newsletter/training updates.
CALC AGM 10th November 2018 at Newbiggin Village Hall
North West Coastal Access – route options finalised & to be outlined early 2019.
ACT event - What does World Heritage Status mean if you live or work in the Lake District – 13th November in Coniston.
Notification that the Primary Care Assessment Service at Westmorland General Hospital at Kendal is now called an Urgent Treatment Centre.
d) Neighbourhood Alerts
Telephone Scams – PPI & Council Tax Rebate Company. Email scam – blackmail. Cold callers selling power tools.
Volunteers sought for Independent Custody Visiting Scheme.
Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter.
e) Cumbria Voluntary Service
Review of mental health services across Lancashire and South Cumbria on 28th November at The Villa, Levens.
- 18/166 **Date of Next meeting**
The following meeting was noted: The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday 5th December 2018 in Flookburgh Village Hall.