

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT FLOOKBURGH VILLAGE
HALL AT 7.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2014**

PRESENT

Parish Councillors R Airey, G Gardner, M Keith, S Rawsthorn, J Rowlandson, J Ryland (part), T Wilson, Parish Clerk L Prescott, Mr J Coates (Environment Agency) and 20 members of the public.

14/117 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Wilson and PCSO Firth.

14/118 Requests for Dispensations

None.

14/119 Declarations of Interest

None.

14/120 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved The acceptance of the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 3rd September 2014 was proposed by Councillor Airey, Seconded by Councillor Rawsthorn, agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

14/121 Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

Members of the public were given dispensation by the Chairman to participate in the questions following the presentation by Mr Coates of the Environment Agency.

14/122 Presentation by Mr J Coates of the Environment Agency regarding Flood Resilience

Mr Coates is a Community Engagement Officer with the Flood Resilience Team at the Environment Agency. He explained that following the very damaging flash flooding event at Bowcastle, Cornwall in 2004, a detailed study was undertaken to identify communities across England & Wales at risk of flash flooding. Cark has been identified as at risk of flash flooding from the River Eea. Flash flooding, the warning signs and risks involved to people and property were then outlined, together with the warning signs and guidance as to what to do and what advance preparations can be made both individually (personal flood plan and grab bag) and by the community (by preparing a community emergency plan). The Environment Agency can work with communities to prepare their emergency plan. This presentation was the first step in alerting the community to the risk of flash flooding and providing relevant information and contacts. Mr Coates (JC) then responded to several points, summarised as follows:

- i) The Environment Agency (EA) has been observed looking for the Mill Race (now filled in).
JC - The EA is currently updating their records and mapping regarding the river and its environment, local knowledge would be appreciated by the EA.
- ii) A tree is overhanging the River Eea near to the north of the Engine Inn Bridge, which will eventually fall into the River and block it. It has been reported to the EA but nothing has been done and is leaning more since first reported.
JC - Will report this to the EA team at Levens and relay their response. Works to clear trees/debris from the River can be done by the community, provided they have consent from the EA.
- iii) The risk is due to both the River Eea and the tidal flow from Morecambe Bay. Homes near Cark Farm have been flooded in recent years. The River has narrowed by 4 metres due to lack of any dredging/maintenance works by the EA and silting up is taking place in Morecambe Bay. A barrier on land above Cark (on Low Bankside Farm) was suggested to flood land in cases of high rainfall and reduce the risk of houses flooding in Cark.
JC - The EA has limited funds which are concentrated on areas with the greatest number of people and properties are affected, so it will not undertake dredging/widening works on the River, however if the community want to undertake their own works then permission would be needed from the EA. Photographs of flooding and information on flood events can be sent to JC for their records. If specific problems are identified they can be considered for a bid for work in Cumbria.

- iv) Home insurance premiums have increased in areas around the River Eea including homes in the same postcode which are on higher land and not at risk of flooding.
JC – Insurance companies should be using an up to date flood risk map, available from the Environment Agency.
- v) Up to £5000 is Funding is available to assist at risk householders in preparing flood defences.
JC – Will find out details to pass on to at risk households.

The Chair thanked Mr Coates for his presentation and responding to the points raised.

14/123 Police

PCSO Firth was absent and no report has been received.

14/124 District and County Councillors

- a) District Councillor Gardner reported:
She is in the process of arranging a meeting with several residents who have complaints regarding holiday homes. Dates being considered for this are 19th or 29th October.
- b) County Councillor Wilson
Councillor Wilson was absent and a written update on the Square has been received.

14/125 Planning Applications

The following Planning Applications were considered:

- a) TR/2014/0121. 7 Dobbie Bank, Cark In Cartmel Grange-Over-Sands LA11 7PX T1 Sweet Chestnut - Crown Clean, Crown Reduce by 20% and Crown Raise to 5.2 metres clearance over the highway T2 Sycamore - Crown Reduce by 25% Crown Raise to 5.2 metres over the highway. **Resolved** No objections.
- b) SL/2014/0870 Trino, Willow Lane, Flookburgh Grange-over-Sands LA11 7LU. Detached garage. **Resolved** No objections.

14/126 Planning Information Enquiry

IE/2014/0141 Land at Stribers Farm, Haverthwaite, Ulverston, Proposed single wind turbine. A Planning Information Enquiry was received from South Lakeland District Council and circulated to the Parish Councillors. The response deadline was 25 September 2014. The Clerk received responses from the Parish Councillors and prepared and sent a response as follows: Potential impact on Lower Holker Parish residents a) Direct Impact – disruption during construction phase (if access through the parish); and visual impact. b) Indirect Impact - recreational (use of footpaths/bridleways close to site); travel disruption (during construction phase); ornithology (migrating birds from Morecambe Bay by parish).
Resolved To authorise the response made by the Clerk to South Lakeland District Council.

14/127 Planning Decisions

None

14/128 Consultations

The following Consultations were considered:

- i) **Your Police Your Say Cumbria Police Consultation on the Setting of Police Precept for 2015/2016 & 2016/201.**
Resolved to respond as follows:
 - Q1 How much do you know about what the Police in Cumbria do?
A fair amount.
 - Q2 Which option for Police part of Council tax for 2015/16 do you prefer?
The amount you pay for police services isn't increased.
 - Q3 Why is that your preferred option for 2014/15
No response.
 - Q4 What would be your preferred option for 2016/17
No Change.
 - Q5 How good a job do you think police in your local area are doing?
Good.

- Q6 Have you had any contact with the police in Cumbria in the last 12 months?
Yes.
- Q7 What contact have you had with the police in Cumbria in the last 12 months?
Regular attendance by PCSO at Parish Council meetings with reports provided by PCSO and concerns raised by Parish Council.
- Q8 Which type of area do you live in?
Village.
- Q9 to Q12 relate to specific individuals eg age, so no response appropriate.
- Q13 Which council tax district do you live in?
South Lakeland District Council.

ii) **North West Connections on the route options for a connection from a new Nuclear Power Station to the National Grid**

Resolved to support the preferred route which is a tunnel under Morecambe Bay and object to the alternate route on land through South Lakeland.

iii) **South Lakeland District Council Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – proposals for introduction of CIL**

Resolved to object to the option given where developers are given the option to either provide affordable housing or pay CIL. Due to the high house prices in South Lakeland, developers will choose and there is an option for affordable housing or CIL, where there should be a requirement for both affordable housing and CIL.

14/129 **Financial Reports**

a) **Annual return as externally audited by BDO for 2013/14 Financial Year.**

The Annual return has been returned from auditing by BDO stating that the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Resolved to Approve and Accept the Audited Accounts for 2013/14 Financial Year.

b) **The Financial Report as at 24th September 2014.**

Resolved accepted unanimously.

14/130 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolved The authorisation of the following payments was agreed unanimously:

Clerk's Salary September 2014	£257.20
HM Revenue & Customs PAYE re September Clerk's Salary	£64.08
South Lakes Services (Toilet Cleaning) August 2014 (SO)	£247.26
United Utilities (Toilets Water & Waste Water) 5/6/14-8/9/14 (DD)	£388.50
E.On Electricity (Street Lighting) (1/8/14-31/08/14) (DD)	£20.78
BDO (External Audit 2012/13)	£120.00
Flookburgh Village Hall (rooms for Community Led Plan meetings)	£87.50

14/131 **Cark Public Toilets**

The Clerk reported there are no matters of concern.

14/132 **Highways**

No updated information has been received.

14/133 **Flookburgh Square**

a) **To receive a progress report on the plans for Flookburgh Square.**

Local Committee has approved the plans and Cumbria Highways are preparing plans for the proposed layout of the Square. The contact, Victoria Upton, is currently on maternity leave.

b) **To consider quotations for tarmac and replacing the bollards on the area of Flookburgh Square owned by the Parish Council.**

Two updated quotations including bollards have been received, quotations from the other two companies are awaited. **Resolved** to consider at the next meeting when all quotations have been received.

14/134 Flookburgh Recreational Charity

The Charity Treasurer has resigned but the accounts are currently being finalised.

14/135 Flookburgh Youth Club (Flocks 4 Youth)

The Youth Club Steering Committee had a very useful meeting with the Cumbria Youth Alliance who are providing guidance, advice and support with fundraising with an aim of restarting the Junior Club after October half term. Some children will be featured in an article in Grange Now to publicise the application made to the Lloyds Community Fund where votes are needed to support the application.

14/136 Lower Holker Community Led Plan

The Questionnaire is being redrafted based on the feedback from the trialling with volunteers and the printers will be contacted with a view to finalising arrangements.

14/137 Local Area Partnership (LAP)

Councillor Airey reported that the Community Infrastructure Levy & National Grid consultation were discussed. There are some LAP funds remaining, averaging £346 per parish & Councillors were asked to consider what would be beneficial for the parish. Councillor Rowlandson suggested an information board in Flookburgh Square to include the history and local information. Resolved to apply for funding towards an information board from the LAP.

14/138 Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC)

The Clerk reported she had attended the District Annual General Meeting and general meeting. The officers were re-elected and there was a presentation from the Morecambe Bay Partnership.

14/139 Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

a Cumbria County Council

Notification of withdrawal of support for 532 bus and changes from 14th October.

b South Lakeland District Council

Engaging with the Planning Service - 20th October at Victoria Hall, Grange, includes Community Infrastructure Levy & parish reporting responsibilities; A walk through of how a planning application is processed and Parish Charter brief discussion on the update process. Overview and Scrutiny Litter Review, Health Review & Annual Report 2013/14 Overview and Scrutiny Community Engagement (Planning) review, parishes will be invited to 2nd stage in October 2014.

Parish Liaison contact changed due to restructuring from Emma Nicholls to Simon Blyth.

c Cumbria Association for Local Councils (CALC)

Invitation to CALC AGM, 15th November at Market Hall, Wigton.
Update on Parish Assemblies and Parish Meetings legal standing
Digital Champions event, 18th September in Penrith
Launch of Government Accessible Britain on 4th September
CALC September Circular

d Cumbria Voluntary Service

Training courses available eg Public Speaking, Social Media, Funding Fair.

e Neighbourhood Alerts

The Barrow in Furness Independent Custody Visiting Panel has vacancies for new members to join their team, involves visiting the Custody Suite(s), closing date 3rd October.

Building Resilience - Community Emergency Planning Conference, 9th October, The Stoneybeck Inn, Nr Penrith, Cumbria CA11 8RP

Rewards for Forces website – discounts and benefits for serving or previously serving forces members www.rewardsforforces.co.uk

Fearless – seminar organised by Crimestoppers and Cumbria Police on the dangers affecting young people for teachers, youth workers etc. 22nd October at Carlisle Racecourse.

Environment Agency – flood resilience notifications through Neighbourhood Alerts.

Cumbria Neighbourhood Watch AGM, 8th November from 10 am at Junction 36, Kendal

14/140 **Forthcoming Events**

The following events were noted:

2nd October, Clerks Network (CALC), Gilpin Bridge

9th October, 7 pm, Flookburgh & District Recreational Trust Meeting, 32 Jutland Avenue.

14th October, Neighbourhood Forum, Newton in Cartmel, (Speaker is CPCC Richard Rhodes)

20th October, 6 pm, Engaging with the Planning Service, Victoria Hall, Grange

14/141 **Date of Next meeting**

Noted that the next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 5th November 2014 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

The Parish Council meeting was followed by a meeting of the Public Watering Place Charity