

**MINUTES OF LOWER HOLKER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT FLOOKBURGH VILLAGE
HALL AT 7PM ON WEDNESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2021**

PRESENT

Parish Councillors R Airey, B Dawson, G Gardner (& District Councillor), J Ryland, T Wilson, Parish Clerk L Prescott, County Councillor S Sanderson & 3 members of the public.

21/082 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors M Keith and S Rawsthorn.

21/083 Requests for Dispensations

None.

21/084 Declarations of Interest

None.

21/085 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved The acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2021 was proposed by Councillor Airey, seconded by Councillor Ryland, agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

21/086 Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

Three residents raised their concerns in relation to the regular discharges of sewage into the River Eea from the Pumping Station behind Cark Railway Station. The Pumping station is for sewage from Cartmel being pumped to a treatment plant towards Grange. There have been regular sewage discharges into the River Eea for several years, many (but not all) coinciding with the dates of Cartmel Races when thousands of racegoers attend. A resident has contacted United Utilities, the Environment Agency and Tim Farron. United Utilities assert that a broken aquifer resulting in water ingress into the system is the cause. Information provided by the Environment Agency showed 30 complaints had been made by residents between 31st May and 11th August 2021. The Environment Agency advised that the United Utilities site permit only allows for storm discharge due to heavy rainfall or snow melt. There were 8 instances which did not meet this criteria from 28th May to 19th July 2021 of discharges into the River of up to 9 hours in duration per occasion and three of these were in breach of the site environment permit. United Utilities have been instructed by the Environment Agency to prepare an Infiltration Reduction Plan, appropriate screen and provide an operational update. Residents requested that the Parish Council object to any extension of the development boundary around Cark until this issue is resolved.

21/087 Police

The Clerk reported the Grange & Cartmel Crime figures (July 2021): Violence and sexual offences 10, Theft 9, Anti-social behaviour 7, Criminal damage and arson 3. Police Officers are continuing to carry out high visibility patrols to tackle anti-social behaviour in Grange town centre. The beach in Flookburgh continues to be patrolled following reports of anti-social off-road motorcycling in the area. They are also working with the landowner to address this issue.

21/088 District and County Councillors

a) County Councillor Sanderson reported:

- i) She has followed up on several outstanding Highways issues but a lot of people are on leave so is waiting for feedback.
- ii) She continues to meet weekly with Headteachers, College Principals, County staff and Public health began again on August 25th. It is very helpful as issues can be resolved or passed on to other groups for resolution. Last week they discussed provision for post 16 and it was heartening that the colleges felt that they had sufficient capacity, this week they have an input from Inspira (a careers organisation) offering support for parents who may have found themselves without work as a result of the pandemic.

- iii) They have sorted out the school affected by the landslip on the West Coast. Temporary buildings have been put up in the grounds of another school, furniture and equipment have been transferred. Cleaning, school meals and school transport have all been arranged. They will start with remote learning and then open properly on 17th September.
 - iv) The process of Local Government reform has begun and County Councillors will stay on until elections May 2022 when 2 shadow authorities will be set up but County Councillors have to continue until March 2023. It gives 18 months to set up two new unitaries and close down 6 district councils and a county council. There is no job protection for staff and everything has to keep running and deliver services.
 - v) She has been working hard with local residents, National Highways and the two MPs about the A590 which was at a standstill with long tailbacks on many occasions, some because of accidents and some because of the volume of traffic. Tim Farron and Simon Fell have made an appointment with one of the Transport Ministers. Haverthwaite and Staveley PCs will be meeting National Highways, CCC, and LDNPA on September 22nd. The A590 has been an issue raised by many people.
- b) District Councillor Gardner reported:
- i) District Councillors will also be in post until 2023 when the new Unitary authorities take over responsibility for the services currently provided by the District and County Councillors.
 - ii) She has reported a collapsed wall to Cumbria Highways.
 - iii) She has reported the unauthorised caravan in a field.
 - iv) She is working with the Planning Officers in relation to developments at Cark Manor.

21/089 **Planning Applications**

- a) SL/2021/0800. Dwelling located on the site of South Lakes Storage, Moor Lane, Flookburgh LA11 7LS. Addition of first floor to existing dwelling forming bedroom and separate living room at first floor level.
Resolved To object to this application as it would create a precedent for the other industrial units and if granted without conditions could be potentially used as a holiday let instead of as associated necessary accommodation for the owner or employees of the unit.
- b) SL/2021/0810. Mireside Farm, Winder Lane, Flookburgh LA11 7LE. Provision of field access track parallel to Back Lane, Ravenstown.
Resolved To support this application as it will provide improved access for the applicant and improved road safety for other road users.

21/090 **Planning Decisions**

The following Planning Decisions were noted:

- a) SL/2021/0055. 38 Somme Avenue Ravenstown LA11 7LJ. Single storey rear extension and rear dormer extension. Granted with conditions relating to materials and bird boxes.
- b) SL/2021/0287. Coach House, Winder Lane, Flookburgh LA11 7LE. Change of use from Lakeland Miniature Village (tourist attraction & tea room) (Use Class E) to residential (Use class C3). Granted with conditions relating to plans.
- c) SL/2021/0488. 6 Millstream Court, Cark-In-Cartmel LA11 7NW. Application for a Lawful Development Certificate (proposed) to convert part of attached garage to living accommodation. Granted.
- d) SL/2021/0581. Orchard House Station Road Flookburgh LA11 7JZ. Granted with conditions relating to plans, bird boxes and use only for ancillary domestic purposes.
- e) SL/2021/0636. 1 Church Villas, Church Walk, Flookburgh LA11 7JX. Application for a Lawful Development Certificate (Proposed) for a dormer to the south elevation. Granted.
- f) SL/2021/0674. 20 Marne Avenue, Ravenstown. Single storey rear & side extension forming new kitchen & utility, extended bathroom & new porch (Resubmission of SL/2020/0970 & SL/2021/0278). Granted with conditions relating to plans, materials, bird boxes and trees.

21/091 **Financial Reports**

Resolved The Financial report, including budget comparison and bank reconciliation as at 24 August 2021, was accepted unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

21/092 **Payment of Accounts**

Resolved The authorisation of the following payments was agreed unanimously:

Clerk's Salary (July 2021)	£399.70
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Digimed Ltd (Hand Sanitiser replacement pumps)	£11.90
Orian/SLS (Toilet Cleaning) (June 2021)	£471.92
Orian/SLS (Toilet Cleaning) (July 2021)	£471.92
Eon Next – Electricity (Toilets) (1/6/2021-30/6/2021) DD	£36.47
Eon Next – Electricity (Toilets) (1/7/2021-31/7/2021) DD	£34.50
SSE – Electricity (Street Lighting) (2/6/2021-1/7/2021) DD	£48.15
SSE – Electricity (Street Lighting) (2/7/2021-1/8/2021) DD	£51.19
Continental Landscapes (Grass cutting 1/4/2021 – 31/7/2021)	£756.00

Noted Clerk's recent Tax Code change, so no PAYE to be paid this month whilst clarification sought from HMRC.

21/093 **Grant Application**

A grant application from the Flookburgh Food Club was considered. They planned to provide Summer Holiday food boxes fortnightly during the holidays to families receiving free school meals. There are applicable 19 families in the Parish. The boxes include food from Fareshare, additional food from local suppliers and vouchers for local suppliers. The total cost is £700 per fortnight, totalling £2,100.

Resolved to award a grant of £400 towards this project.

21/094 **River Eea**

Councillors considered the concerns raised by residents in relation to the ongoing discharges of sewage into the River Eea. The capacity of the pumping station and associated piping is considered inadequate. The Parish Council has previously raised these issues with the Environment Agency and United Utilities.

Resolved

To arrange a meeting with the Environment Agency and United Utilities to provide an opportunity for the Parish Council and residents to discuss the ongoing discharges.

21/095 **Local Plan Review – Development Boundaries**

Councillors considered the current development boundaries for the Parish. The 4 proposed development sites (1 in Cark and 3 in Flookburgh) are outside the current development boundaries and whilst 2 of those within or adjoining in Flookburgh have already been supported by the Council, the Council has objected to the one in Cark. There are long term ongoing problems relating to sewage outflows into the River Eea which would affect any potential development.

Resolved

To respond to the Local Plan Review in relation to the development boundary of Cark and object to any extension to the current boundary for the settlement of Cark until the infrastructure problems, including sewage outflows in the River Eea, are resolved.

21/096 **Highways**

a) To receive details of highways matters to be reported

None.

b) To receive details of highways matters reported

Councillor Gardner has reported a collapsed wall to Cumbria Highways.

c) To receive a report on the operation of the Speed Indicator Device on Moor Lane

The Clerk reported that she has downloaded the data to the end of August 2021. The number of vehicles travelling in one direction each week has increased from 5,000 in

March 2021 to 10,000 in April 2021 to nearly 14,000 in August 2021. The majority of drivers are travelling at or under the speed limit of 30 mph, though 15% are travelling at over 35 mph and the highest speed recently recorded was 65 mph.

21/097 Flookburgh Community Playground

The Playground has been well used over the summer. The Cake Sale in Flookburgh Square raised £337. The sanitiser pump was broken again so has been replaced. The Car Park has been repaired – Chris Barron of Bigland Caravan Park paid for a load of stone and Gareth Porter spread it at no cost. Thank you letters have been sent from the Charity to them both & details are included in this month's Parish Council Grange Now article.

21/098 Car Park Toilets & Car Park/Playground

The Clerk reported that Wilf Hadwin has agreed to take over from Mike Hemming as a volunteer to close the Toilets. The Clerk has agreed to take over checking the Defibrillator and has received training from a representative from Grange First Responders. A compliment has been received from user of the toilets saying they are very clean with lovely soap and hot water.

21/099 Flookburgh Square

The Clerk reported that the damage to the bollards on Flookburgh Square has been caught on CCTV and individuals identified. The damage was reported to the Police at the time.

Resolved

Councillors Wilson and Ryland to speak to the parents of the individuals and show them the CCTV.

21/100 Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) Cumbria County Council
Covid updates. Events. Judicial Review request regarding Unitary Councils decision.
- b) South Lakeland District Council
Town and Parish Councils Newsletter. Planning Applications. Voter Registration. Playground Inspection. Covid updates.
- c) Cumbria Association of Local Councils
Newsletter. Training. Recording apologies. District Association Chairman vacancy. Parish Land Ownership survey. Local Government Reorganisation. Covid updates.
- d) Netnerd
Notification of change of server for website.

21/101 Date of Next meeting

The date of the next meeting was noted:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday 6th October 2021, venue to be confirmed.

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