

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council**

**Held on Tuesday 9th January 2013 at 7.00pm in Kirkbride School.**

Present:

Councillors: Day (Chair), Hedworth, Kirk, Little, Noblett, Taylor, Tweddle, Wills

County Councillor: Fairbairn

Public attendance: Mr Bate, Mr Dilley.

Clerk: M Abbs

* 1. **Apologies for absence**, **declarations of interest and dispensation requests from Cllrs.**

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

The clerk to report any requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and\or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council’s Register of Interests.  (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting.)

Members may, however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

*If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to contact the clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.*

**There were no requests for dispensations and an on-going dispensation is in force relating to the Precept.**

**2 Minutes** (previously circulated).

**2.**1 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th November 2012 – **approved and signed.**

**Note 1: reminder** that the order of business may be changed at the chairman’s discretion to avoid undue delay for visitors

**3** **Report on action taken**

3.1. by councillors

3.1.1 Play area –

Nothing was reported at this point as the play area inspection report is to be considered at item 5.7.

3.1.2 Footpaths –

Cllr Noblett reported that she was aware of some exceptionally wet areas which would be investigated. No progress had been made with regard to additional grant funding as the level of available funding is unclear until the new financial year.

3.1.3 Highways steward –

Cllr Willis reported no major issues apart from a large ‘pot hole’ near to Stampers Haulage which had been reported.

3.1.4 Newsletter group -

Cllr Kirk advised that the Newsletter had been circulated to Parishioners in early December.

3.2- by the clerk -

The clerk advised that the contractors who tendered for the grass cutting contract had been written to and no responses received.

A number of matters relating to the Precept had arisen which would be discussed later.

## 3.3 Public participation (at the Chairman’s discretion)

The Chairman invited participation from the public but this was declined.

3.3.1 Report from the Borough Councillor – not present.

3.3.2 Report from the County Councillor

Cllr Fairbairn notified the Parish Council that the County Council was facing a reduction in its funding for 2013/14 with Allerdale Borough Council likely to receive a larger percentage cut in its funding.

He was able to confirm that all gritting requirements were being funded currently.

The numbers of pupils in primary schools was generally satisfactory but some pressure was being felt in the secondary school sector.

Cllr Fairbairn confirmed that meetings would take place across the County on 30th January to discuss the MRWS (Managing Radioactive Waste Safely) proposal.

**4 New business**

4.1 Village noticeboards update.

Cllr Day advised that the new noticeboards had suffered some problems with damp. The contractor was investigating the situation to find a remedy. The boards would be monitored regularly. The clerk confirmed that no invoice for the work had been received yet.

4.2 Cycle Track – discussion of any developments and possible action.

There were no developments to report.

## 4.3 Mc Donald memorial – update and discussion/approval of any required action.

Following consultation with local residents it was confirmed that they were happy to have the ‘large tree’ removed.

Cllr Day that three quotes had been obtained for this work and following discussion it was **agreed** that the quote from Mr Dean Little was **accepted.** The clerk advised that the formal written quotation from Mr Little had not yet been received but that the matter would be progressed upon receipt. Cllrs thought it reasonable to pay for additional minor work which might be necessary to prevent re-growth.

The rotten wood had been removed from the benches by Cllr Day on Health and Safety grounds. The pruning of the Leylandii trees was to be investigated.

On completion of the tree work the re-design of the area would be explored with comments invited from parishioners.

4.4 ‘Jubilee Tree’ proposal/situation.

Cllr Noblett provided details of her investigations into suitable trees. Following discussion it was **agreed** that a Rowanwould be purchased at an approximate cost of £50 plus an additional amount for a suitable tree guard. The tree would be located in the play park.

4.5 Condition of benches especially the one at Beech Lea. Possible maintenance required.

Cllr Day reported that the existing wood was in need of re-placement. Options were discussed and Cllr Day agreed to investigate the possibility of re-placement with oak slats.

4.6 Local Plan – current situation and possible action.

Cllr Day led discussions into amendments to the existing Local Plan. The provision of activities for young people was highlighted as being important. A new set of Action Points would be drafted for consideration at the March meeting.

4.7 MRWS Nuclear Waste correspondence and Issues, including CALC and MRWS reports and related meetings.

Discussion of current situation and decision on any required action.

The current situation was confirmed by Couth Cllr Fairbairn under item 3.3.2.

4.8 Local concern about flooding in the village. Discussion and possible action.

Cllr Hedworth updated Cllrs on a meeting which had taken place between concerned parties and the Environment Agency. It was hoped that some remedial work would be undertaken following the meeting. The NFU (National Farmers Union) was going to organise a further meeting.

4.9 Wind turbines - general assessment of situation and policy towards.

The comments/views of locals were invited in the recent Parish Newsletter. A total of 14 responses had been received with 11 expressing clear opposition. Following discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would continue to view each application on its merits but would take into account the views expressed by the respondents.

4.10 Bridleway - Birch Hill Lane - need for refurbishment.

Cllr Day advised that the bridleway was still flooded, but as this was the situation on much local ground, following the recent heavy rainfall, the situation would continue to be monitored.

4.11 Purchase of planters and location in the village.

Cllrs discussed possible options. It was **agreed** to purchase two planters to be located near entrance signs on the village boundary. Measures to minimise theft/vandalism were discussed. Cllrs **agreed** a budget of £350 excluding VAT for the purchase of the two planters. Cllrs would explore options and take the matter forward with the involvement of the clerk.

4.12 Hedge cutting in the village latest situation and any required decision.

The quotation provided by Cllr Hedworth from Messrs J Graham was discussed and **approved.** The areas to be cut were confirmed and it was agreed that the matter would be progressed by the clerk with the involvement of Cllr Hedworth and the Chairman.

4.13 HMRC PAYE changes.

The clerk advised that there had been no further developments since the last meeting.

4.14 CALC details of Allerdale Joint Area Working Groups. Report and possible appointment of representative.

The clerk provided details of the meeting he had attended which was Chaired by CALC at Wigton Market Hall on Monday 10th December. Discussion followed at which it was **agreed** that the Parish Council would not send a representative to meetings at this point. The Clerk explained that he was expecting to receive a comment/feedback form from CALC. It was **agreed** that the clerk would work with the Chairman to compile any necessary response.

## 5 Correspondence

5.1 Allerdale BC/CALC – Discussion of letters/e-mails concerning Precept/Concurrent Grant and possible action.

These were discussed under item 6.1.2.

5.2 Cruse Bereavement – letter providing details of services provided.

The clerk provided details of the letter he had received. Cllr Willis requested details so that she could publicise the service locally.

5.3 Cumbria CC – Go Cumbria transport publication. - **noted.**

5.4 Kompan and Glasdon Equipment Catalogues. – **noted.**

5.5 Allerdale BC – Strategic Land Availability Assessment.

The opportunity to comment was **noted.**

5.6 Royal British Legion receipt and thanks for donation. – **noted.**

5.7 Allerdale BC – Playground Inspection Report. Discussion of contents and possible action.

The contents of the report were **noted** and discussed. Regular monitoring by Cllrs of the park would continue and items requiring attention brought to members.

5.8 Natural England – letter concerning Ash Dieback. - **noted**

5.9 British Red Cross – letter of thanks for donation. - **noted**

5.10 CALC - NALC revised standing orders.

The clerk proved details of the communication which was **noted.**

5.11 CALC – Details of Natural England consultation concerning coastal access between Allonby and Whitehaven. – **noted.**

## 6 Finance

**6.1 Information**

6.1.1 To approve accounts to 30th November 2012 and 31st December 2012 – available at the meeting.

– **approved.**

6.1.2 **Budget** for 2013/14: see prepared sheet

& therefore **precept request to Allerdale BC for 2013/14.**

The clerk and chairman explained the correspondence relating to the setting of the Precept and reminded Cllrs of their current position.

Members then considered the estimates for the rest of this year, and at the same time considered the grants usually paid to parish organisations. Together with the anticipated expenditure for 2013/14 and some allowance for possible contingency, the budget was approved it was **agreed** unanimously that **the precept request for 2013/14 should be £9700 plus the grass cutting concurrent grant of £323. It was noted that the council may receive further additional Local Support for the Council Tax from Allerdale Borough Council. The Clerk was authorised to send the precept to Allerdale District Council.**

### 6.2 Payments to approve.

### 6.2.1 Clerk’s salary: £407.31 – approved.

### 6.2.2 Expenses: postage + stationary £5.82; broadband £10.66 + phone £4.00, SLCC contribution £38.00, travel 4m @ 36p

### = £1.44, total £59.92 – approved.

6.2.3 Allerdale BC fee for playground inspection **£56.00** + VAT (when received). – **approved.**

6.2.4 Mr P. Richardson payment for noticeboards, ex VAT, (when invoice received) **£560.00**

This item was discussed at 4.1 and payment deferred until the completion of remedial work. The clerk had not received an invoice requesting payment at this point.

6.2.5 Tweddle Fabrications payment for work at the play area (when invoice received).

This was deferred with the agreement of Cllr Tweddle to the March meeting.

**7 Planning**

**7.1 Applications outstanding with Allerdale Borough Council and Cumbria CC.**

**7.2 Applications dealt with under standing order** .

7.2.1 Extn, 1 The Crescent, Kirkbride – Mr M Beattie – **noted.**

7.2.2 Extns, 3 The Crescent, Kirkbride – Mr M Schofield Ms D Forrest – **noted.**

**7.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC / Cumbria CC**

7.3.1 Extn, 1 The Crescent, Kirkbride – Mr M Beattie – approved. – **noted.**

**7.4 Applications for consideration by this Parish Council meeting.**

**None.**

**8.1 Documents received for comment**

8.1.1 Cumbria County Council consultation Draft Budget Proposals 2013/14.

Cllrs did not wish to make a response.

**8.2 Documents received for information** (available on request to the clerk)

8.2.1 CALC Circular for December

8.2.2 Hospice at Home Contact Newsletter

8.2.3 Allerdale BC ‘Commitment to Local Communities / leaflet/poster.

8.2.4 Allerdale BC In Touch Magazine.

8.2.5 Clerk Magazine November edition.

8.2.6 LGIU – Cllr Achievement Awards

**The above were noted.**

Cllrs agreed at this point to extend the meeting beyond 9.30pm.

##### 9 Claypit Charity

9.1 United Utilities – Acceptance notified and acknowledged of rental income increase to £115.55 - **noted**

9.2 Geraldeve – letter advising of the sale of Bell Cottage, Greenside, Glenridding. – **noted.**

**10 Any items of information brought by…**

10.1 Clerk

The clerk advised that a small payment had just been received by United Utilities relating to the Claypit Charity which would be checked and confirmed at the March meeting.

A short Police report was given to Cllrs.

The clerk reminded councillors that CALC was still looking for a ‘Broadband Champion’ for the village and asked Cllrs to consider the matter.

10.2 Councillors

The possibility of a village clean up event was raised.

**11 Meeting dates**

11.1 **Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting** Tuesday 12th March 2013 at7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School. - **noted**

11.2 **Future meetings: on Tuesdays:**  14th May 2013 at 7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School. – **noted**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.37pm**