

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

**Held on Tuesday 10th July 2012 at 7.00pm in Kirkbride School.**

Present:

Councillors: Day (Chair), Kirk, Hedworth, Noblett.

County Councillor Fairbairn, Borough Councillor Cowell.

Public attendance: Mrs D.Backman, Mr Dilley.

Clerk: M Abbs

**1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Little and Cllr Willis.

There were no declarations of interest.

**2 Minutes** (previously circulated).

**2.1 To approve** the draft minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th May 2012 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on Friday 18th May 2012.

Both sets of minutes were **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: report from DT

No report was received in the absence of Cllr Tweddle.

3.1.2 Footpaths: (AN);

Cllr Noblett advised that she had recently been in contact with Capita.

She advised that Pow Hill Bridge was to be rebuilt/upgraded.

Capita had received some cutbacks for this financial year but may have grant money available for more footpath improvement work in 2013. Cllrs discussed areas of footpath in the Parish that could still benefit from improvement and gave their backing to Cllr Noblett to apply for the required funding. The estimate for this could be in the region of £8000.

3.1.3 Highways steward (SW)

The clerk read out the information which had been provided to him by Cllr Willis. Gullies had been cleared out in the village and in the process remedial work next to ‘The Grove’ had been identified.

Some repair work to footpaths outside Midtown House had taken place but the paths were still uneven.

3.1.4 Newsletter group.

No news was given concerning the newsletter.

3.2- by the clerk

## The clerk advised that the necessary items appeared later on the agenda.

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

3.3.1 Report from the Borough Councillor

Cllr Cowell did not have any matters to report.

3.3.2 Report from the County Councillor

Cllr Fairbairn in response to a question from the chairman concerning the Local Plan consultation encouraged the Council to make a response. The possible effect on the school from the provision of affordable housing was highlighted. His view was endorsed by Mrs Backman.

Cllr Fairbairn also mentioned the following items:

The probable future installation of new electricity pylons in North Cumbria, to make a new required connection to the National Grid, and the need for vigilance by the Parish Council with regard to the proposed route.

The ‘Energy Coast’ document was shown to Cllr and they were encouraged to remain alert to possible funding opportunities for local projects.

Local flooding issues were discussed following the recent heavy rainfall and a forthcoming meeting with local farmers to discuss problems arising from the current condition of the Wampool was mentioned. Cllr Fairbairn said he hoped to attend this meeting at which the presence of the Environment Agency and the local Member of Parliament was expected.

Mr Dilley left the meeting at this point.

**4 New business**

4.1 Clerk

The clerk advised that the required items were featured later on the agenda.

4.2 Cycle Track – discussion of any developments.

Cllrs discussed the situation and identified some suitable sites. Cllr Hedworth said he hoped to be speaking to the owner of a possible location and would report further if necessary at the next meeting. Cllr Day expressed gratitude for the report from parishioners he had received concerning the matter.

4.3 Bus Shelter replacement – update on current progress/situation.

To discuss the installation and approve any required action.

Cllr Day confirmed that the new bus shelter had been installed successfully. It was reported by Cllrs that largely positive responses had been received from residents and the new shelter was agreed to be a large improvement on the previous shelter. Members of the public had pointed out that the seat could become wet in heavy rain if the wind was in the wrong direction. This was considered to be a rare event but it was agreed that the situation would be monitored.

4.4 Insurance of Council Property. Discussion and possible action.

The clerk pointed out that the council did not have any property insured currently and that in the event of damage to the bus shelter repairs would have to be funded from the Parish Councils reserves. This was **noted** by Cllrs.

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

Cllr Day advised that a meeting had taken place with the current lease holders who were in general agreement with the objective to smarten/improve the area. However, they were keen to maintain their current level of privacy. Cllr Noblett read out a report she had obtained from David Nightingale, a designer, following which options were discussed. The site was considered to be ideal to incorporate a new noticeboard. It was probable that some work to the trees on the site would be required and the clerk said he would provide the contact details of a local tree surgeon to the Chairman, who would then make initial enquiries. In principle it was thought that a limited amount of money should be spent and that the chosen scheme should be low maintenance. Planning implications would need to be explored once firmer plans were in place and in the meantime funding sources would be investigated. Involvement of local schools in the project would be explored.

4.6 Village noticeboards discussion of options and possible action.

Cllr Day reminded Cllrs of the previous options which had been explored.

Cllr Day then advised that he had obtained a verbal quote of £280 for the two ‘window design’ noticeboards required to replace those at the Church Hall in the village. Cllrs **approved** the purchase, subject to a written quotation, of the boards for this price.

4.7 Wind turbines and planning – discussion of future policy and handling of planning applications.

Following discussion it was **agreed** that that each application must be examined closely and that the council did not wish to establish an overall policy on wind turbines.

4.8 Website – discussion and possible action.

In the absence of Cllr Willis this item was held over to the next meeting. The clerk did point out that if the Council had its own website then the council would be required to post some information on it by statute.

4.9 Untidy hedges in the village.

The clerk was asked to contact the play area contractor and remind him that under the contract he was required to cut the hedges. Other untidy hedges in the village were discussed and would be investigated. If necessary the clerk would then write to the landowners requesting remedial action.

4.10 Fly tipping on the ‘concrete pad’.

Cllr Day outlined the current situation and said that tipping on the site was still a problem. He had contacted the relevant Authority (EPA) who had agreed to visit and inspect the site.

4.11 ‘Jubilee Tree’ proposal/situation.

Cllrs **agreed** that in principle a tree to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee was a good idea. Options would be explored and discussed further at the September meeting.

4.12 Kirkbride PC and CORE NW discussion of the relationship.

Cllr Day explained that he had declined an invitation to attend a meeting of Core NW which concerned commercial matters. Cllrs agreed that this aspect of Core NW was not a matter for the parish council. Cllr Day said he would monitor the situation and report relevant items back to future meetings.

4.13 Speeding vehicles in the village- discussion and possible actions.

Cllr discussed the issue and agreed to monitor the situation. If necessary the Police would be asked to carry out speed checks on vehicles in the future.

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

Cllr Day agreed to check on the condition of some of the benches and report back to the next meeting.

4.15 Adoption of the new Code of Conduct for Councillors as required under the Localism Act 2011.

The Council resolves to:

(1) adopt the revised Code of Conduct for members and co-opted members of the Council as (as attached to the minutes) with effect from 10th July 2012;

(2) note the disclosable pecuniary interests as detailed in the appendix to the revised Code of Conduct which will be required to be disclosed in the Council’s register;

(3) agree the other interests that should be treated as registrable interests as provided for in the revised Code of Conduct and note the requirements for completion;

(4) note that the District Council’s Monitoring Officer will prepare and maintain a new Register of Members interests to take effect from 1 July 2012 to comply with the requirements of the Act and of the Council’s Code of Conduct, once adopted, and ensure that it is available for inspection as required by the Act;

(5) note that the register of interests must also be published on the Borough Council’s website and that this will be actioned by the clerk working with the district council’s monitoring officer;

(6) agree that members should be required to leave the room where they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, and that this requirement should take effect from the date of adoption of the revised Code and be included in the Council’s Standing Orders;

(7) note that the District Council’s Monitoring Officer will arrange training for parish/town council clerks initially on the new arrangements.

The clerk outlined the situation and implications of the new Code of Conduct following which Cllrs **agreed to its adoption.**

The clerk explained that Cllrs were now required to complete new the Declaration of Interest Forms which had been sent out prior to the meeting and let the clerk have them so that they could be sent to Allerdale BC by the required deadline. This was **noted.**

Mrs Backman, Cllr Cowell and Cllr Fairbairn left the meeting at this point.

## 5 Correspondence

5.1 Natural England: renewal of management agreement Wedholme Flow.

The clerk advised that there had been no new developments.

5.2 Two letters from Mr CJ and Miss JA Bate relating to the wind turbine application at Sycamore House.

The two letters had been discussed at the previous Extraordinary General Meeting but their receipt was noted.

5.3 Kirkbride Learning Centre – request for replacement cheque.

The clerk advised that he had been in contact with the Learning Centre manager and advised that the problem had been solved without the need to issue a new cheque.

5.4 CALC - notification of its stance on the nuclear waste repository proposal.

The clerk advised Cllrs of CALC’s position statement which had been issued since the last meeting and advised of the current situation.

5.5 Letters of thanks for donation from Kirkbride Beavers.

This was **noted** with thanks by Cllrs.

5.6 Diane Standen and Radiation Free Lakeland – e-mails concerning MRWS Nuclear Waste Issues.

Discussion of current situation and decision on any required action.

The clerk read out the relevant correspondence, which was discussed, and it was agreed that no action needed to be taken at this point.

5.7 AON – confirmation of Insurance Renewal. – **noted.**

5.8 ACT - membership invitation. – **noted.**

5.9 Cumbria CC – request for a Highways contact.

The Highways Dept. already had a contact, Cllr Willis, for the village so **no action** was required.

5.10 Allerdale BC – Final Claim Form for precept for year ending 31st March 2012.

The clerk brought the required form and declared figures to the attention of Cllrs and explained that it would be sent off shortly.

## 6 Finance

**6.1 Information**

6.1.1 **To approve accounts** to 31st May 2012 - **approved**

6.1.2 **To approve** accounts to 30th June 2012 (available at meeting). **- approved**

6.1.3 **To note** that the payment of £136.79 authorised at the May meeting should have been shown as £136.30. The correct lower amount was paid to the contractor. – noted and approved.

6.1.4 **The acceptance and approval** of the BDO Audit Annual return.

The clerk explained and showed the document to Cllrs which was then **accepted and approved.**

### 6.2 Payments to approve.

### 6.2.1 - Clerk’s salary: £ 407.31 - approved

### 6.2.2 - Expenses: postage etc. £9.18; telephone £4.00/broadband £10.66 = £23.84, travel 13.33m @ 36p=£4.80, total £28.64 - approved

6.2.3 -B.Day: chairman’s allowance **£60.00 - approved**

6.2.4 - CGM Grass cutting **£272.60 - approved**

May £56.79 x 2=£113.58 VAT £22.72 =£136.30

June £56.79 x2=£113.58 VAT £22.72 = 136.30

6.2.5 – Ace Shelter’s payment for new bus shelter: (£3477.64 + £695.53vat) **£4173.17**

**Prior approval had been given earlier but was confirmed.**

6.2.6 – Brian Johnstone – painting at bus shelter and play park areas **£588.00**

**Prior approval had been given but was confirmed.**

6.2.7 - BDO Audit Charge **£162.00 – approved.**

6.2.8 **-** R.Taylor Builders – payment for preparatory work to bus shelter site prior to installation. (Invoice available at the meeting.)

The clerk had not received the invoice so this item was deferred to the next meeting.

6.2.9 – Bowness on Solway PC – share of consumables **£28.51**

**Prior approval had been given but was confirmed.**

**7 Planning**

**7.1 Applications outstanding with Allerdale Borough Council.**

**Nothing outstanding apart from item 7.2.1**

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

7.2.1 – 2/2012/0346 Erection of industrial building, Hangar 1 Kirkbride Airfield (Cumbria Profiling Ltd) -noted

**7.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC**

7.3.1- 2/2012/0142 Modifications to existing building Rodway West Lane Kirkbride. - approved

7.3.2 - 2/2012/0226 Wind turbine installation, Sycamore House, Kirkbride. – refused

7.3.3 - 2/2011/0076 Appeal on refusal to erect bungalow, Linden Lea, Kirkbride. – appeal dismissed

7.3.4 - 2/2011/0751 Appeal on refusal to allow a Conservatory, Coniston, Kirkbride. – appeal dismissed.

**All the above were noted.**

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

None - **noted**

**8.1 Documents received for comment**

8.1 Consultation on the appointment of BDO as external auditors.

The clerk provided details and said that this had been handled under standing orders and no response was deemed necessary. – **noted.**

8.2 Notification/consultation on the road closure for the Jubilee. – **noted.**

8.3 Allerdale Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Documents – Preferred Options Consultation – response required by 31st July 2012.

Following discussion it was **agreed** that a response was advisable and the Chairman would put together a response for approval by fellow Cllrs. This would then be sent to Allerdale in time to meet the required deadline.

8.4 Cumbria CC – Travel Strategy comments invited. – Discussed but it was **agreed** that a response was not necessary.

8.5 Cumbria CC – Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

Discussed but it was **agreed** that a response was not necessary.

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

8.2.1 Solway Coaster Issue 12.

8.2.2 Allerdale BC –changes to customer services opening hours.

8.2.3 ACT Cumbria Summer Newsletter

8.2.4 Tidelines – Summer 2012

8.2.5 CALC circulars.

All the above were **noted.**

##### 9 Claypit Charity

**9.1**  Report from clerk

The clerk pointed out that the annual way leave receipt of £98.56 had been banked and was shown on the Accounts.

A questionnaire from Teesside University had been received and was discussed with the Chairman. It had only minor relevance to the Claypit Charity so no response had been made.

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

**1-**members of the Council

Cllr Kirk passed on the thanks of Kirkbride School for the donation given to them to support the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

Cllr Hedworth provided details of a forthcoming meeting involving the Local MP, local farmers and the Environment Agency to discuss flooding issues on caused, it was believed, by the current state of the Wampool River.

Cllr Kirk asked the clerk to contact the headmistress at the school with future meeting dates.

**2-** The Clerk.

The possibility of new electricity pylons being required in the future was mentioned. The location of these was still to be decided.

Cllrs were informed about a letter from Cumbria CC concerning A Boards on the highway/pavement.

**3-**Police report.

The clerk advised that nothing had been received.

**11 Meeting dates**

**11.1 Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting:**

**Tuesday 11th September at 7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School.**

**11.2 Future meetings: on Tuesdays:**

**Tuesday 13th November at 7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School.**