

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

**Held on Tuesday 8th July 2014 at 7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School**

Present:

Councillors: Hedworth (Chair), Day, Kirk, Noblett, Taylor, Willis

Public attendance: Mrs C Carey, Mrs D Backman

Clerk: M Abbs

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

The Clerk had received apologies in from Cllr Little, County Cllr Fairbairn, Mr J Dilley and PCSO P Nicol.

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.

No dispensations were requested.

An on-going dispensation is in force in respect of the Precept.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllr Little had declared an interest in advance of the meeting to the clerk in respect of item 4.8.

Cllr Hedworth declared an interest in respect of items 7.1.1 and 7.2.2.

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.*

**2 Minutes** (previously circulated).

**2.**1 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th May 2014 – **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 –

Cllrs reported that the area had recently been mown and was looking good. Cllr Taylor offered to take on the ‘watching brief’ of the playground, previously undertaken by Mr Tweddle. Cllrs welcomed this offer and Cllr Taylor said he would contact Mr Tweddle to obtain any documents he held. The clerk offered to assist if required.

3.1.2 Footpaths –

Cllr Noblett reported that there were no major problems. Some areas required strimming; the work normally being carried out by Cumbria CC. Cllr Noblett said she would contact the Authority concerning this.

3.1.3 Highways steward –

Cllr Willis had nothing major to report but Cllrs acknowledged some recent work in the village.

3.1.4 Newsletter group -

Cllr Kirk would welcome items for inclusion in the next newsletter.

3.2- by the clerk -

3.2.1 Mr A Williams – request for information.

The clerk advised that Mr Williams had contacted him for information concerning the recent European Election and had been referred to Allerdale BC.

3.2.2 Mr Nicholson - rally tack at Dovenby.

The clerk explained the background for the recent call from Mr Nicholson and explained that following a discussion that he had been similarly referred to Allerdale BC.

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

3.3.1 Report from the Borough Councillor

The County Cllr was absent.

3.3.2 Report from the County Councillor

The clerk read out the report received from Cllr Fairbairn.

This provided information concerning ‘Speed Gun’ training for village volunteers. It was confirmed that the road through the village was on the list to be re-surfaced.

3.3.3 Denise Rollo – Reducing Poverty Officer.

Denise Rollo was not present.

Mrs Backman commented on the probable loss of some bus services and commented that a wide variety of local residents utilised the services and hoped that some services would be retained.

Inconsiderate parking was of concern to some residents but Mrs Backman hoped that courteous driving and parking would be encouraged by the Council. The ability to park close to amenities such as the shop was considered important to their continued survival.

Item 4.8 was taken at this point.

Mrs Carey left the meeting after this item.

**4 New business**

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

Examination of correspondence from Thomas Wills & Son including contract for completion and signing.

The clerk outlined his dealings with the Contractor since the May meeting. Cllrs discussed the contract documents, and confirmation of insurances, which had been circulated to all members ahead of the meeting. Cllrs **agreed** to the completion of the documents by the authorised signatories. The documents were then completed by the Chairman, and in the absence of the Vice Chairman, Cllr Taylor who is a nominated cheque signatory. The Council details sheet, completed by the clerk, was also **approved.**

The clerk was instructed to return the completed documents to the contractor and keep Cllrs aware of developments.

4.2 Condition of benches update. Possible purchase of re-placements and additional benches for the village.

The clerk confirmed that Mr Tweddle was still in possession of the recently purchased benches. Cllr Hedworth said he was still seeking a quotation from a contractor for the installation of the benches.

4.3 Hedge Cutting and grass cutting in the village latest situation and any required decision.

The recent cutting in the village was commented on with approval by the Cllrs. The clerk advised that to date no invoice had been received.

4.4 Dog fouling in the village.

This was always an issue but there did not appear to be a major problem at the moment.

4.5 Speeding through the village.

Cllrs hoped that the use of a speed gun by residents, following forthcoming training, would be beneficial.

4.6 Unsafe parking in the village.

Cllrs acknowledged the comments made earlier by Mrs Backman. The clerk advised that the Police had taken some action over a particularly badly parked vehicle and they would continue to address the issue.

4.7 Internal Auditor - update on situation and possible appointment.

The clerk advised that he had consulted CALC and Mr Isaac, the outgoing internal auditor, over the possible appointment of Mrs Lynne Gauntlett. Her role in arranging the Council’s PAYE was not considered to affect her independence as the internal auditor. Mrs Gauntlett had been made aware of the current payment for the audit and was willing to undertake the role. Following discussion, Cllrs felt that as an accountant and former clerk herself she would be an ideal auditor and her appointment was **agreed**. The clerk said he would advise Mrs Gauntlett.

4.8 Consideration then possible approval and signing of new Ivydene Grant of Planning Permission S106 Legal Agreement.

The clerk outlined his dealings with Mr Gordon and Allerdale BC. Cllrs discussed the document which had been circulated to all members ahead of the meeting. Cllrs agreed to the completion of the agreement by the authorised signatories. The four copies of the document were then completed by the Chairman, and in the absence of the Vice Chairman, Cllr Taylor who is a nominated cheque signatory. Mrs C Carey witnessed the completion as an independent witness.

4.9 Update on BDO Audit.

The clerk advised that the audit had been successfully completed by the BDO and the relevant papers were presented to the Cllrs. A minor issue concerning the handling of the Local Support for Council tax grant had been raised for future reference.

The clerk advised how he would handle this payment in future in response to the Auditor’s advice. This action, alongside the invoice for £120 was **approved.**

4.10 Kirkbride Bowling Club – signage update and possible request for funding of signage and car park.

The clerk read out the relevant correspondence from Mr Briggs, the General Secretary, of the Club. Following discussion, Cllrs were all keen to assist this popular facility and **agreed** to award a grant of £400 to assist with the new car park surfacing.

4.11 Kirkbride Tennis Club – funding request.

The clerk read out the relevant report from Mrs Dugdale, the Treasurer of Anthorn Sports Club and Committee Member of Kirkbride Tennis Club. Following discussion, Cllrs acknowledged the work undertaken by local volunteers to provide this recreational resource for local residents and **agreed** to award a grant of £400 to assist with the tennis coaching.

## 5 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

5.1 AON Insurance – Confirmation of insurance renewal.

The confirmed that confirmation of the insurance renewal had been received. – **noted.**

5.2 Connecting Cumbria Broadband update.

Work was on-going in the area in preparation for the upgrade to the service. – **noted.**

5.3 Footway Lighting Current situation.

The clerk reported that there had been no significant developments since the last meeting. – **noted.**

5.4 Mr D Tweddle letter of resignation and subsequent actions/developments.

Cllrs had already been made aware of the resignation prior to the meeting. The Chairman had responded to Mr Tweddle by thanking him for all his service to the Council over many years, an action endorsed by all present. The clerk confirmed that he had taken advice from CALC and had subsequently notified Allerdale BC of the vacancy. The vacancy had been advertised on the local notice boards and the clerk was awaiting notification from Allerdale BC as to whether an election would be necessary. The clerk showed Cllrs a notice he had prepared inviting applications for the vacancy in the event of an election not being required. This was **approved** and the current situation **noted.**

5.5 Cumbria County Council – Supported Bus Service Withdrawals including No 71.

The clerk advised that notification had been received from Cumbria CC that all local subsidies to bus services across Cumbria were being removed and the relevant bus operators informed. The impact on local services was discussed along with possible actions. A meeting was being held in Thursby the following night which Cllr Day had agreed to attend and he confirmed that he would subsequently report back developments to the Council.

5.6 Cumbria County Council – Winter Maintenance Programme (Gritting).

The clerk advised that no requested changes to the gritting programme had been made following consultation since the last meeting. – **noted.**

5.7 National Grid (via CALC) – Strategic Options Summary planned consultation.

The National Grid was planning a number of consultations meetings shortly concerning the planned route for new pylons in the County. – **noted.**

5.8 Natural England – Coastal Access: Gretna to Allonby Information Gathering.

The clerk read out details of the plans for the Coastal route and the information gathering exercise which was currently being undertaken. – **noted.**

5.9 National Grid (via CALC) – Strategic Options Summary planned consultation.

Handled under item 5.7. The clerk apologised for the duplication.

5.10 Police and Crime Commissioner – Introduction from Sandra Wiggin, Victims Advocate.

The clerk read out the recently received letter which was **noted.**

5.11 Rural Services Network – Invitation to take part in a Rural Sounding Board.

The clerk read out the recently received e-mail which was **noted.**

5.12 CALC - Cheque Payments and New Model Financial Regulations.

The clerk summarised for Cllrs the changes to payment systems permitted by the new legislation. In order to maintain robust financial management Cllrs **agreed** that no change should be made to the current system which requires payments to be made by cheque signed by two Cllrs.

5.13 CALC – Rural Housing Policy Review questionnaire.

The clerk provided details of the on-line survey which was **noted without action.**

Mrs Backman left the meeting.

## 6 Finance

**6.1 Information**

6.1.1 **To approve accounts** to 31st May 2014 and 30th June 2014 – available at the meeting. - **approved**

6.1.2 **The acceptance and approval** of the BDO Audit Annual return if received in time for the meeting, - **accepted and approved.**

6.1.3 HMRC VAT repayment **£216.16 – noted.**

### 6.2 Payments to approve.

### 6.2.1 Clerk’s salary: £429.43 – approved.

### 6.2.2 Expenses: postage + stationery £12.16; broadband £10.66 + phone £4.00, travel 16m @ 36p

### = £5.76, total £32.58 - approved

6.2.3 Colville Ground Maintenance: grass cutting (VAT £22.72) **£204.45 - approved**

6.2.4 Brian Johnstone – Painting at the play park **£120.00 – approved.**

**Additional payments had been authorised under items 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11**

**7 Planning**

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

7.1.1 – HRN/2014/0002 Hedgerow removal application, Townhead Farm, Kirkbride

Mr A Hedworth & A and C Hedworth.

7.1.2 – 2/2014/0113 Biomass storage facility incorporating solar panels, Gordon House, Kirkbride

Mr Tom Fox.

7.1.3 – 2/2014/0217 Erection of 2 Dwellings, Land Adjacent to Beechdale, West Lane, Kirkbride

Mr N Roe.

7.1.4 -2/2014/0292 Installation of 1no. 500kw wind turbine (maximum tip height 77m) and associated infrastructure, including an access track, Water Flosh, Aikton Wigton. Applicant: Hallmark Power Ltd.

Within Aikton Parish Council boundary.

**All the above were noted.**

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

7.2.1 – 2/2014/0233 AMENDMENT Erection of detached dwelling house, Land to rear of Greenside Farm, Kirkbride. Mr S Carruthers.

The clerk reminded Cllrs of the response submitted to Allerdale BC. – see item 7.3.2.

7.2.2 - – HRN/2014/0002 Hedgerow removal application, Townhead Farm, Kirkbride

Mr A Hedworth & A and C Hedworth. – APPEAL

The clerk advised that no further comment/evidence had been submitted to the appeal following consultation with Cllrs.

**7.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC**

7.3.1 – 2/2014/0113 Biomass storage facility incorporating solar panels, Gordon House, Kirkbride

Mr Tom Fox. – permission granted. – **noted.**

7.3.2 – 2/2014/0233 AMENDMENT Erection of detached dwelling house, Land to rear of Greenside Farm, Kirkbride.

Mr S Carruthers. – full plans refused. – **noted.**

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

None

**8.1 Documents received for comment**

8.1.1 Earthmill Ltd – advance notification of a planning application for a single wind turbine at Reathwaite Farm, Wigton.

The clerk read out the e-mail from Earthmill Ltd concerning the impending full planning submission to be made to Allerdale BC.

This was **noted.**

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

8.2.1 CALC Circulars.

8.2.2 Clerk Magazine for May 2014.

8.2.3 Cumbria County Council’s Registration Service in Wigton has moved to a new office in the town's library.

8.2.4 Clerks and Councils Direct July 2014 Magazine.

8.2.5 AONB -Solway Coaster Summer 2014 magazine.

8.2.6 Stagecoach Annual Report.

8.2.7 CALC – new mine in West Cumbria information.

8.2.8 Birthday Honours List nomination details.

8.2.9 United Utilities West Cumbria Water Resources Management Plan.

8.2.10 Badminton England – ‘Smash Up!’ details.

8.2.11 Zurich Insurance – notification of services.

8.2.12 Charity Commission News.

All the above were **noted.**

##### Cllrs agreed to continue in order to complete the agenda.

##### 9 Claypit Charity

Nothing

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

10.1 Clerk

The clerk advised that he had received a telephone call from Mrs Taylor concerning the possible sale of land behind the McDonald memorial. The clerk was asked to put this on the September agenda.

An e-mail from Mr S Shaw concerning the inability of a Parish Council to sell electricity was read out to Cllrs.

An e-mail from Mr P Cave concerning Theme Park Safety for children making visits was read out. Cllrs said they did not want this including on a future agenda as it did not apply locally.

Cllrs were informed about forthcoming surveys involving hovercraft which would be carried out in the Solway area by natural England.

10.2 Councillors

No matters were raised.

**11 Meeting dates**

11.1 **Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting** Tuesday 9th September 2014 at7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School.

11.2 **Future meetings: on Tuesdays:**  11th November 2014 at 7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School.

**The above dates were noted.**

**The chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 p.m.**