

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

**Held on Tuesday 10th September 2013 at 7.00pm in Kirkbride School.**

Present:

Councillors: Day (Chair), Kirk, Little, Noblett, Tweddle, Willis.

County Councillor: Fairbairn

Public attendance: Mrs D Backman.

Clerk: M Abbs

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

The clerk informed the meeting that apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Taylor and Hedworth. A reason had been given by Cllr Hedworth which was accepted as a fair reason for absence. County Cllr Fairbairn passed on apologies from Borough Cllr Cowell. Mr Dilley (public) had passed on his apologies for his non attendance.

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.

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

Cllr Tweddle requested a dispensation, if required, to speak and provide information in respect of item 7.4.3

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllr Tweddle declared a prejudicial interest in respect of item 7.4.3.

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 9th July 2013 – **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 –

Cllr Tweddle advised that the playground was in good condition with no urgent matters requiring attention.

See also item 4.11

3.1.2 Footpaths –

Cllr Noblett informed the meeting that there had been no major developments. Some remedial work had been carried out and materials were being sought for further repairs/improvements.

3.1.3 Highways steward –

Cllr Willis reported that some drains had been repaired in the village.

3.1.4 Newsletter group -

Cllr Kirk advised that a further Newletter would be issued in the Autumn and requested items for inclusion.

3.2- by the clerk - including

3.2.1 Final Claim for Precept / Concurrent Grant for 2012/13 submitted.

The clerk confirmed that the Final Claim had been submitted to Allerdale Borough Council.

Other activity would be reported later in the meeting.

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

Mrs Backman raised concern about speeding vehicles through the village. Heavy Vehicles were a particular issue as the number seemed to be increasing.

3.3.1 Report from the Borough Councillor

Not present. But Cllr Fairbairn passed on Cllr Cowells concern, and that of some of his constituents, that the considerable amount of money Allerdale BC was proposing to spend on a new Leisure Centre would bring few local benefits.

3.3.2 Report from the County Councillor

Cllr Fairbairn commented on the speeding issue and said he was seeking information on local traffic surveys which he believed had been carried out. He speculated that the Western ring road around Carlisle may have led to increased traffic in the area.

The recent drainage work in Moorhouse was commented on. Cllr Fairbairn will request more speed checks on the B5307 and raised the possibility of ‘rumble strips’ in key locations.

The plans to improve Broadband coverage and speeds in the area was addressed. He understood that Kirkbride would receive 80% coverage for Superfast Broadband with the remaining 20% receiving the normal Broadband speeds.

Some properties may need to receive a signal from a transmitter and the possibility of problems caused by wind turbines in this regard was commented upon.

With regard to turbines, a recent meeting in Aarhuis in the Netherlands raised the possibility that the rights of local people may not have been taken into adequate account in the granting of planning permissions.

Cllr Fairbairn left the meeting at this point.

**4 New business**

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

Cllrs discussed the situation and it was evident that concern over the boundaries and the height of fencing around the area remain. Cllr Day would speak to the residents adjoining the area and report back to the next meeting. Cllr Noblett advised that no grant funds had been forthcoming yet but that she would approach Cumbria Community Foundation for assistance. In the meantime she would be seeking a quotation for the work from a local contactor based on the outline plans discussed at the meeting. The materials would be selected once the amount of any grant funding was known. The need for a low maintenance area was again confirmed. The contractor had already examined the utility plans for the site and said that there appeared to be no apparent difficulties.

4.2 Condition of benches update. Possible purchase of replacements and additional benches for the village.

Cllrs agreed to check the condition of benches before the November meeting and report back. The amount agreed (£1000 excluding VAT and any delivery charge) at the previous meeting to purchase benches had not been spent yet but Cllr Noblett was awaiting details of what she hoped would prove to be a competitive option and would then circulate details to Cllrs via the clerk for approval.

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

The clerk advised that he had still not received a bill for the work already carried out. Cllrs were confident that one would be submitted in due course.

4.4 Dog fouling in the village.

There had been no developments but the situation was being monitored.

4.5 Speeding through the village.

This was raised and discussed earlier under item 3.3 and Cllrs were happy with the action Cllr Fairbairn proposed to take.

4.6 Communications with Kirkbride Parishioners without internet access.

It was felt that the Newsletter was still the best vehicle to provide information to parishioners in this category.

4.7 Youth Club – current situation concerning formation in the village.

Cllrs were aware that a meeting was taking place in the Village Hall involving the North Allerdale Development Trust (NADT) and local residents who may be prepared to take this forward.

4.8 BDO Audit Annual return. To decide upon any required action concerning Asset valuation.

The clerk provided details of the comment made concerning fixed assets by the external audit organisation BDO. He explained that he had made enquiries, which included seeking the advice of CALC and the Internal Auditor. The situation and options available were outlined. The possibility of assets being valued at £1 each as Community Assets on the Asset register proved popular. The clerk was authorised to amend the Asset register on this basis for discussion and possible approval at the next meeting.

4.9 Grass cutting specifications for 2013.

Review of the current tender procedure and possible action.

The existing specification for 2013 was discussed and the clerk instructed to make a slight amendment for 2014 in respect of the hedge on the internal boundaries of the site. Cllrs agreed to approach local contractors for tenders and approved the same contractors as last year. The Chairman was authorised to work with the clerk in considering the suitability of other applicants if the Council was approached by other contractors wishing to submit tenders for the work.

4.10 Discussion and possible action on the proposed new Wampool Bridge over the bridleway near the Coastal Way.

Cllr Noblett advised that the proposed site had been investigated by the Environment Agency who had carried out a thorough assessment of the site and proposed structure. The clerk advised that he had received no communication from any party on the matter.

4.11 Discussion and possible action concerning the trees in the play area.

Cllr Noblett advised that the purchased tree was about to be planted and the Cllrs **agreed** to a plaquebeing sourced with the required wording being discussed. Cllr Kirk commented on the height of some of the existing trees and the clerk was instructed to approach Mr Dean Little to carry out a Health and Safety assessment on the trees and to provide a quotation for possible pruning if deemed necessary.

## 5 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

5.1 Connecting Cumbria Broadband update.

The clerk provided Cllrs with an update concerning the roll out of improved Broadband to the parish which confirmed the information supplied by County Cllr Fairbairn earlier.

5.2 Footway Lighting Current situation.

The clerk advised that there had not been any significant developments since the last meeting. However, a plan showing the location of light in the village had been received via CALC. – **noted.**

5.3 Cumbria CC – Chairman’s Appeal for ‘100 Defibrillators in 100 days.

The appeal was **noted with no action.** Cllr Noblett would investigate the cost of Defibrillators and advise further at the next meeting.

5.4 Allerdale BC – confirmation of Concurrent Grant allocation for 2013 – 14 (£323).

The clerk advised that a letter had been received from the Authority confirming the grant for the current financial year. - **noted**

Notification of response sent to Allerdale. The clerk advised that, working with the Chairman, a letter had been sent to Allerdale BC arguing against the proposed phasing out of the grant in the future.

5.5 CALC - Councillor Training,

The clerk advised that he had been contacted by CALC to ascertain if there was any interest amongst local Cllrs to participate in a local training session at Burgh by Sands. A small amount of interest had been shown locally and the clerk had conveyed this information to CALC and would keep Cllrs updated concerning any developments.

5.6 CALC – Executive Committee Nomination Form.

The opportunity to nominate a candidate was **noted with no action** being taken.

5.7 Boltons Parish Council – Notification of Planning Consultation. See item 7.4.1 below.

The clerk advised that details of the turbine planning consultation had been sent to him along with a request to the Parish Council to oppose it. This was discussed later on the Agenda.

5.8 New National Pay Scales for Clerks received via CALC.

The chairman outlined the new scales that had been provided to him by the clerk along with the implications for this financial year, and future years, of adopting the scales. Following discussion Cllrs **agreed** to adopt the new scales with effect from 1st April 2013. The clerk thanked the Cllrs for the resultant increase.

5.9 Cumbria CC - Neighbourhood Forum Details.

The clerk advised that there had been some confusion concerning a recent meeting but outlined the new structure and the timetable of planned meetings. These were **noted.**

## 6 Finance

**6.1 Information**

6.1.1 To approve accounts to 31st July 2013 and 31st August 2013 – available at the meeting. –**approved.**

6.1.2 Allerdale BC – receipt of second Precept payment. Payment to be made during September **-£5380 – noted.**

### 6.2 Payments to approve.

### 6.2.1 Clerk’s salary: £416.94 – approved.

### 6.2.2 Expenses: postage + stationary £8.70; broadband £10.66 + phone £4.00, travel 16m @ 36p

### = £5.76, total £29.12 – approved.

6.2.3 A. Kirk re-payment for materials used for planters. **£8.29 – approved.**

6.2.4 Colville Ground Maintenance: grass cutting (VAT £22.72) **£136.30**

Further invoices to be advised at the meeting. The clerk advised that the anticipated invoice had arrived and the total amount of

**£272.60 was approved.**

6.2.5 Bowness on Solway PC – share of consumables **£27.84 – approved.**

6.2.6BDO Audit Fee – (VAT £20.00) **£120.00 – approved.**

**7 Planning**

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

None – **noted.**

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

None – **noted.**

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

7.3.1 - 2/2013/0410 Variation on condition 2 on planning approval 2/2012/0346, Gibsons Joinery Hangar K1, Kirkbride Airfield. – Cumbria Profiling Limited (Mr D Tweddle). – permission granted. – **noted.**

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

7.4.1 – 2/2013/0519 Erection of 8 wind turbines with a maximum height to blade tip of 100m with associated ancillary infrastructure, control building, internal access tracks, crane pads and temporary site compound/storage area. Within Boltons Parish Council area. –

Following discussion of the information provided by the clerk and the chairman Cllrs **agreed** to object to the proposal.

The objections raised related to:

a) the detrimental effect of turbines on the quality of life of local residents, along with the amenity and environment of the area.

b) the visually detrimental effect on the rural landscape of such a large number of structures.

c) concern about the possible detrimental impact of communication signals to areas which already have poor reception.

The clerk was instructed to write accordingly to Allerdale BC.

7.4.2 - 2/2013/0579 Erection of 1 x 36.4m high to the hub and 46.3m to the tip wind turbine and associated development, Studholme Farm, Kirkbride, Wigton. Mr Graham Hewitt. Within Bowness on Solway Parish Council area.

Following discussion of the information provided by the clerk Cllrs **agreed** to object to the proposal.

The objections raised related to:

a) the detrimental effect of the turbine on the amenity and environment of the area.

b) the visually detrimental effect on the rural landscape of the structure.

c) concern about the proliferation of turbines in the Solway area.

The clerk was instructed to write accordingly to Allerdale BC.

7.4.3 – 2/2013/0583 Erection of biomass boiler house, Land at West Lane, Kirkbride. (Tweddle Fabrications).

Cllr Tweddle left the meeting for this item but returned briefly at one point to clarify certain aspects to Cllrs.

Cllrs extensively discussed the plans which had been circulated prior to the meeting; then **agreed** to raise no objections to the proposal and instructed the clerk to write accordingly.

Mrs Backman left the meeting.

Cllrs agreed to complete the remaining agenda items.

**8.1 Documents received for comment**

**Noted.**

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

8.2.1 CALC Circulars.

8.2.2 Community Payback Scheme Details.

8.2.3 Cumbria Waste Management Environmental Trust Scheme Details.

8.2.4 Survey of Lake District Scenic Beauty.

8.2.5 Caritas Hearing Support Scheme.

8.2.6 CALC – Details from Rt Hon Don Foster of the Post Office Community Enterprise Fund.

8.2.7 Rural Fair Share Petition.

8.2.8 Wigton Adult Education Centre course details.

8.2.9 Age UK notification of local service changes.

All the above were **noted.**

##### 9 Claypit Charity

9.1 Charity Commission Return completed.

The clerk showed Cllrs the return which had been completed online. This was **approved.**

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

10.1 Clerk

The clerk read out the police report.

Cllrs were advised that a planning consultation 2/2013/0630 in respect of a

roof over part of an existing muck midden at Shaw House Farm, Kirkbride had been received and would need to be dealt with under the standing order procedure.

10.2 Councillors

No items were raised but Cllr Willis gave advance apologies for her absence at the next meeting.

**11 Meeting dates**

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

11.2 **Future meetings: on Tuesdays:**  14th January 2014 at 7.00 p.m. in Kirkbride School.

Both were **noted.**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.38 p.m.**