Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Parish Hall, Newton Arlosh on Thursday 14th July 2022 at 7-30 p.m.

Present: Chairman V Hodgson

Councillors: Graham, Stockdale, and Welsh.

County Cllr Markley, Public attendance: None.

Clerk: M Abbs

## 1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

Cllr Roper had sent her apologies and her illness was accepted as a fair reason for absence. Borough Cllr Johnson had sent his apologies.

### **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.

Cllr Hodgson has declared an interest in item 8.3.2

#### 2 Minutes

**2.1 To approve** the draft minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 – **approved** and signed.

#### 3 Report on action taken...

3.1 ...by members of the Council

No matters were reported at this point.

3.2 ...by the clerk

Reporting of blocked footpaths.

The clerk confirmed that the blocked footpaths discussed at the May meeting had been reported to the County Council who had said they would investigate. – **noted.** 

### 3.3 **Public participation.** (at the chairman's discretion)

Cllr Markley, in the absence of Cllr Johnson, gave a report on activities at both the County Council and Allerdale Borough Council.

The County Council was actively working on more flood prevention measures across the County.

A bid had been submitted for a new entry road to Workington. Pothole maintenance was continuing and new maintenance vehicles had been ordered.

The installation of electric charging points across the County was being investigated.

'Dark Sky' areas across the County were being researched.

Allerdale BC had launched a number of tourist initiatives including some aimed at cyclists and anglers.

A Solway Coast promotional brochure had been produced.

Increased protection for Allonby Bay was being investigated.

The threatened local bus service had been saved but Cllr Markley believed that a back-up plan should be considered – see 5.3 Cllrs then discussed the requested footway extension with him along with electric vehicle hook up points.

#### 4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

- 4.1 Citizens Advice Allerdale request for support. noted without action.
- 4.2 Cumberland Building Society action requested as part of the account review.

Consideration of any necessary amendment to the Standing Orders.

The clerk outlined the action requested by the Society as part of the review.

Clirs **agreed** that the clerk should be added to the account as a full signatory and approved a necessary amendment to Standing Order to facilitate this.

The clerk would prepare the form required by the Society for signing by the cheque signatories prior to its submission.

4.3 Parish Plan – including Cumbria CC response to footway extension request and information board update.

Cllrs discussed a number of items and **agreed** the following actions.

- a. In response to a suggestion from Cllr Markley, following a communication from the Country Council, the clerk would prepare a questionnaire which would be distributed to every household in the village asking if the village needed a new footway, commencing at 'Fairishes' farm, through the village. Responses could be returned to a collection point which would be located outside the village hall.
- b. The purchased 30mph stickers, to be applied to rubbish bins, would be distributed to households in the affected zone with the questionnaire. The clerk would ask the County Council if an electronic speed warning sign could be installed outside the play area.
- c. Actions had been completed concerning the Queens's Platinum Jubilee and the item would be removed from the action plan.
- d. The clerk would write again to Ofcom, who had not responded to the initial letter concerning the poor mobile phone reception.
- e. The clerk would continue to liaise with the AONB who had indicated that they were keen to work with the Parish Council on the Information Panel aimed at visitors.
- f. A letter would be sent to Ofgen and the MP expressing concern over the impact of rising heating oil costs on parishioners. see item 5.4
- 4.4 Consideration of the Hidden Gems in Cumbria initiative.

The contents were outlined by the clerk and these were **noted without action**.

4.5 Letter from Mark Jenkinson MP concerning 'short term holiday lets'.

The contents were outlined by the clerk and these were **noted without action.** 

#### 5 New business

5.1 Playground – report on developments since last meeting and current situation.

Playground sign and sign/plaque for Platinum Jubilee Tree.

Cllr Hodgson confirmed that the new sign had been installed and the clerk advised that the payment had been made.

The sign for the 'Platinum Jubilee Tree' was discussed and the clerk was instructed to seek an amended quote for a sign with a different specification, which it hoped would be lower than the initial one. Cllrs were happy with the Grasscutting but **agreed** that the clerk should ask the contractor to strim the road side hedge on both sides once a month. Council was aware that there would be an additional charge for this. The regular inspections had not highlighted any issues requiring immediate attention. The inspection report organised Allerdale BC was awaited. **-noted.** 

5.2 Consideration of any received application(s) to join the Council.

The clerk advised that no applications had been received. – **noted.** 

5.3 Bus Service provision in the parish.

The bus service which operated through Kirkbride and the Bowness on Solway area had been saved until March 2023 months – see item 3.3.

Cllrs discussed the possible provision of a 'Community Bus' in the area which could also visit Newton Arlosh. Cllrs **agreed** that Cllr Welsh should liaise with Mr W Knowles and other parties in nearby parishes to explore this possibility.

5.4 Cost of heating oil.

Cllr Welsh provided background information and Cllrs **agreed** that a letter should be drafted by him for approval by the other Cllrs and then sent to Ofgen and the local MP by the clerk. The item would be added to the Parish plan.

### 6 Finance

#### 6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts to May 31st, and June 30<sup>th</sup>. – approved.

6.1.2 PKF Littlejohn LLP - Clerk update. Consideration of any received correspondence.

The clerk advised that the auditor had confirmed receipt of the papers but had not commenced work on them. – **noted.** 

6.1.3 Update on the VAT reclaim.

The clerk confirmed that the claim had been submitted but no payment had yet been received. – **noted.** 

## **6.2 To approve** the following payments

6.2.1- Clerk: salary £348.83 - approved.

6.2.2 – Clerk: expenses: phone and broadband £40.82, postage etc. £16.59, mileage 16 miles at 36p /mile £5.76 Total **£63.17 – approved.** 

Cllr Graham queried if the car milage allowance claimed by the clerk was too low. Cllrs instructed the clerk to check the current rate prior to the next meeting.

6.2.3 Cubby: playground signage (VAT £9.00) £54.00 – approved.

6.2.4 Allerdale BC - playground inspection – paid by clerk and reclaimed.

Amount to be advised at the meeting if invoice arrives in time.

The report and invoice had not yet been received. Cllrs approved the necessary means of payment.

# 7 Highways

Local issues needing to be raised.

Including consideration of the Cumbria CC response to the poor condition of the lane leading to Wylie Cottages.

Cllr Welsh advised that the poor condition of the Newton Arlosh sign and the verge at 'Fairishes Farm' which required remedial work had been reported but he had not received a response to date.

The County Council had advised that the Wylie Cottage / Marsh Road, which was in poor condition, was classed as an unsurfaced road and would not be maintained to the same level as other roads.

The above were noted without further action.

### 8 Planning.

## 8.1 Applications on which Allerdale BC decision is awaited.

None – **noted.** 

# 8.2 Applications decided by Allerdale BC.

None – **noted.** 

## 8.3 Applications dealt with under standing order.

8.3.1 HOU/2022/0113 Demolition of single story rear extensions and a single story side extension and replace with a double height extension to the rear of the property, continued into single height at the rear and rebuild the single storey side extension, Bee Croft, Newton Arlosh (Sandra Harrison)

The clerk advised that there had been no objections and that Allerdale BC had been advised. - **noted.** 8.3.2 HRN/2022/0003 Removal of hedgerow 1000m combined length, Newton Holme, Newton Arlosh (Mr V Hodgson)

Cllr Hodgson had declared an interest. The clerk advised that there had been no objections and that Allerdale BC had been advised. - **noted.** 

### 8.4 Applications to be considered at this meeting.

8.4.1 FUL/2022/0143 Re-concreting of Existing Farmyard concrete and installation of New Hardcore Livestock & Machinery Track, Wedholme House, Newton Arlosh. (Andrew W Preston) Following discussion no objections were raised and the clerk was instructed to inform the Authority.

#### 9.1 Documents received for comment

9.1 Cumbria Wildlife Trust – Consultation on a request for a felling licence from the Forestry Commission, Wedholme House Farm, Moss Side, Kirkbride.

Following discussion the information was **noted without action/comment.** 

## **9.2 Documents received for information** (available on request to clerk)

9.2.1 CALC Circular.

The above was noted,

### **10.1 Any information** brought by members of the Council

No matters were raised.

**10.2 Any information** brought by Borough Councillor.

Report given earlier.

## **10.3 Any information** brought by County Councillor

Report given earlier.

**10.4** Any information from the clerk too late for the agenda.

No matters were raised.

## 10.5 Police report

There had been no contact with the police.

# 11 Meeting dates.

### 11.1 Date of next meeting.

8th September 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in Newton Arlosh Village Hall.

#### 11.2 Future date:

10th November 2022 at 7.30p.m. in Newton Arlosh Village Hall.

The dates were **noted** and the Chairman closed the meeting.