

## **Loweswater Parish Council Meeting**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov' 2018 at Loweswater Village Hall**

Meeting opened: - The chairman declared the meeting open at 8.00pm.  
Present: Cllrs K Leck (acting chair), L Meadley, C Todd, M Astley, D Robinson.

Cumbria County Councillor and Allerdale District. None present

Clerk: Mike Milner, no members of the public

Apologies for absence: Cllrs K Mitchell (LPC) R Thompson (LPC)

#### **80.00 Apologies for absence**

80.01 As noted above.

#### **81.00 Declarations of interest.** None

#### **82.00 To read and approve the minutes of the last meeting of Loweswater parish council held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018.**

82.01 Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.

#### **83.00 Public participation.**

83.01 No members of the public present

#### **84.00 Police matters**

84.01 Clerk had received a short police report which he read out. There was nothing to report back to the police.

#### **85.00 Applications for development.** None to consider or report as approved.

#### **86.00 Matters concerning District and County Councillors.**

86.01 Neither councillor present so no report. No problems for the clerk to relay back.

#### **87.00 Receive internally audited 6 months parish accounts ending 30/09/2018**

87.01 Clerk had circulated the documents electronically prior to the meeting and handed out hard copies to those who required them. He briefly ran through the accounts and showed the acting chair the signed copy of the audited accounts and initialled bank statements.

87.02 There were no questions and clerk will make the document available on the website when he puts up the draft minutes of the November meeting.

#### **88.00 Receive proposed budget for financial year 2019/20**

88.01 Again the clerk had circulated the budget document prior to the meeting and handed out copies to those requesting them.

88.02 Clerk explained that he was obliged to demonstrate how the budget for the current year was matching the actual parish expenditure.

88.03 Clerk had used the former clerk's 2018/19 proposed budget figures and then put actual payments made and the outstanding ones as he anticipated them. Then clerk had created a proposed 2019/20 set of figures but stressed these did not need to be finalised until the January 2019 meeting.

88.04 Cllr K L (acting chair) asked why there was a deficit figure indicated for the end of the year of £573.82. Clerk confirmed that his actual expenditure this financial year included £320 for the parish laptop shared with Lorton PC and that he had also allocated £480 to cover the Thackthwaite Green fence replacement, not budgeted for, however the insurance renewal was £96 less than budgeted for. The funding for the laptop had been received in the previous year's accounts, but not carried forward as a budgeted item.

88.05 Clerk did point out that his correct salary scale, under the last government pay review was £11.28 per hour, but he was currently on £11.05, which he would request be increased but not until April 2019.

### **89.00 Progress report, inc Highways Matters. Clerk**

89.01 Electrification of internet broadband cabinet. Clerk read out an email received on Sunday from BT Openreach engineer, the problems with depth of laying cable could be engineered out and that operation by late November was still the projected date for live testing. Minute 75.04 refers.

89.02 Loweswater payphone and defibrillator. Clerk understood defib fitted on the barn wall as agreed and that BT had run a line to the payphone which was now fully functional. Minute 75.05 refers.

89.03 Clerk still chasing the gaskets for the noticeboards, but without much success. He remarked probably quicker to buy appropriate gasket from B&Q and fit it himself.

89.04 Thackthwaite Fencing. Clerk had contacted Tom Lindsay for a start date for the project.

89.05 Thackthwaite Green winter tidy up. Cllr M A advised that he would commence the task after Christmas, allowing the wildlife time to enjoy the benefits of the wild berries etc from their winter pantry.

89.06 Fangs Brow. Clerk advised that he had received no feedback from Highways about hidden entrance signage requested, nor had he received any photos of overflowing drains. Cllr K L produced a sketch of the road and its drains from Fangs Brow farm down to Graythwaite. There followed a lengthy discussion about 5 blocked drains, plus 3 that were raised too high above the road surface, so no water entered them. It was noted that there was no substantial camber, so road surface was flooded and surface water because not draining away was, in frosty conditions, freezing across the road creating an ice rink scenario and becoming highly dangerous.

89.07 Clerks also advised of an open ditch further along the road towards Loweswater by the lay-by which was discharging water straight on to the carriageway. Also, up by Thrush Bank there was a fallen tree and the large root ball was encroaching on the carriage way by nearly a foot. Highways had put cones either side to warn traffic.

89.08 Clerk advised he would on his return home email Highways voicing the urgency of Loweswater's councils concerns and he would copy all councillors into the email.

89.09 Clerk confirmed he and chair had attended the planning course in Cockermouth 19<sup>th</sup> September.

89.10 Clerk sent details of 5 blocked drains in Mockerkin, he had forwarded locations and a map to Highways, job No W1880944734 refers.

## **90.00 Loweswater Councillors reports.**

90.01 Cllrs had made all comments at Highways comments during clerks report.

## **91.00 Correspondence**

91.01 as minute note 73.03 clerk had emailed resident about the planning app for the mast, since withdrawn. Clerk had received a reply.

91.02 Clerk detailed the Highways "working together" email. Loweswater had neither a lengthsman nor active community litter picking group. No action required.

91.03 Allerdale had paid the balance of £1250.00 precept as shown in half yearly accounts.

91.04 Clerk had received a request for a donation from Great North Air Ambulance. He pointed out that there was no grant allowance in the budget for 2018/19. Cllrs thought they had probably made one last year and to the church as well. It was resolved that Loweswater would pay £100 to Great North Air Ambulance. Clerk to check if payments had been made in previous year and advise accordingly.

91.05 Invoice from Calc for £38 to cover Chairs attendance at Planning Course.

91.06 as per minute 63.02 Lorton requesting half of clerk's fee at same course, £19.

91.06 LDNPA October members report received and circulated to all Cllrs.

91.07 Calc AGM meeting note and 2018 report received.

91.08 Derwent Fells Local History Society had supplied a copy of their WW1 publication *They lie in Foreign Fields* clerk had provided the electronic link to all the councillors to enable them to view the 40-page booklet which covered local soldiers lost in combat in WW1. The booklet would be circulated between the councillors. Link for pdf version is

[www.derwentfells.com/pdfs/foreignfields.pdf](http://www.derwentfells.com/pdfs/foreignfields.pdf)

91.09 Invoice received from Simone Morgan, £30 to cover half yearly audit fee.

91.10 Clerk had received that evening a bill to cover the hire of the Loweswater Village Hall. However, the bill was for £60, then there was £15 added to show £75, but 6 rental charges at £15 per session total £90. Cllrs resolved that clerk sort out the correct figure and pay the monies due. If it was left to January meeting it would be outstanding in Halls annual accounts.

## **92.00.00 Payments for approval.**

CALC Interpay 8, £38.00 Chairman's Planning course

M Milner Interpay 9, £229.90, salary £212.20 expenses £17.70.

HMRC PAYE Interpay 10, £53.00

Simone Morgan Interpay 11, £30.00 half yearly audit fee.

Lorton Parish Council Interpay 12, £19.00 half of clerk's attendance fee at Planning course

Loweswater Village Hall Interpay 13, £90.00 Loweswater hire charge for 6 meetings 2018.

Great North Air Ambulance. Interpay14, £100 annual donation to running costs.

All approved

## **93.00 Date and time of the next meeting Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm**

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

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