

Loweswater Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th March 2019 at Loweswater Village Hall

Meeting opened: - The chairman declared the meeting open at 7.37pm, immediately after the Loweswater Annual Parish meeting

Present: Cllrs K Mitchell (chair) K Leck (vice chair), L Meadley, C Todd, M Astley, D Robinson, R Thompson

Cumbria County Councillor and Allerdale District. T Annison (ABC)

Clerk: Mike Milner, no members of the public
Cllr M Astley joined the meeting at 7.49pm

109.00 Apologies for absence

109.01. None

110.00 Declarations of interest. None

111.00 To read and approve the minutes of the last meeting of Loweswater parish council held on Thursday 3rd January 2019.

111.01 Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. Cllr D.R pointed out that at minute 98.01 it was Scale Hill Bridge and not Scales Bridge. Clerk duly amended the minutes prior to chair' signing them.

112.00 Public participation.

112.01 clerk advised that as per minute 98.01 he had taken photographs of the road and pot holes. He reported them to Highway's and job Nos W1980952503 and W1980952504 were allotted. Both jobs were advised as completed.

112.02 Cllrs confirmed some pot holes had been filled in.

113.00 Police Matters

113.01 clerk had a report that advised no relevant log reports.

113.02 Chair Cllr K.M advised she had had a conversation with the chair of Blindbothel. They are keen to reinstate the meeting with police representative in Cockermouth and chair enquired what Loweswater Cllrs thought. After a discussion it was agreed not to pursue that request. Meetings considered not productive. Chair' to advise Blindbothel chair'.

114.00 Applications for development.

114.01 There were no new applications to consider, but clerk reported he had submitted the objection to Oakbank Farm as requested. Unfortunately, the LDNP Planners approved the application, but not for holiday let use. Cllrs considered that a success.

115.00 Matters concerning District and County Councillors.

115.01 Cllr Tony Annison advised that he was standing down from representing Allerdale ward at the forthcoming elections, due to ward boundary changes. He said he had enjoyed attending the Loweswater meetings and wished the parish all the success in the future.

115.02 Cllr K.M thanked him for his services on behalf of the parish over the years. She invited him to remain for the rest of the meeting and he accepted the offer.

116.00 Mockerkin Broadband cabinet

116.01 Clerk read out the recent email he had had with Matt Fishwick at Openreach. The electric supply to the cabinet is scheduled to commence 13th March and the final electrical jointing to take place 26th March.

116.02 Openreach will test the speeds for Mockerkin mid-April once live, customers will need to subscribe to get fibre packages.

117.00 Seat for Thackthwaite Green.

117.01 Chair initially asked Cllr M.A about the spring tidy up of the green. He advised that the fencing contractor had been seen there and that he would get the tidy up done over the next couple of weeks, subject to the weather.

117.02 Clerk distributed copies of a couple of benches he had sourced, made from recycled plastic available in different colours, priced £330 or £230 each, but they would have to be securely fixed to the ground.

117.03 Cllrs agreed that the previous seat had been put there as a memorial, its condition had deteriorated to such a state that Cllr M.A had asked the owners if they would remove it due to public safety issues, they were asked if they want to replace it with a new one. It had been removed but never replaced.

117.04 It was agreed to leave the bench matter for another occasion and if one was required a plank style arrangement on two thick tree stumps would be appropriate.

118.00 Resolve to adopt revised Loweswater Standing Orders

118.01 Clerk had circulated the new standing orders prior to the meeting. He explained that the changes were cosmetic to wording and also included a section on the new Data Protection Law. There were no changes to parish council procedures, timings or numbers required for proposals or order amendments. It was an exercise to keep the council in line with current legislation.

118.02 Council resolved unanimously to adopt the new standing orders.

119.00 Progress report, inc Highways Matters. Clerk

119.01 Clerk advised that he had contacted Tom Lindsay again, minute 74.03 referred, about the fence at Thackthwaite Green, but from earlier conversation with Cllr M.A it appeared work underway. Clerk to check when he puts the draft minutes up.

119.02 Clerk advised that the first meeting in Jan 2020 would be Thursday 2nd January. Did Cllrs want to move it to 9th? Agreed to leave as normal 1st Thursday of the month, 2nd Jan'.

119.03 Clerk had note about Thackthwaite Green tidy up, but dealt with at minute 117.01

119.04 Clerk had submitted the request for the agreed precept figure on 7th Jan' 2019.

119.04 Cllrs asked the clerk to contact Highway's about the drains at Fangs Brow, an open drain by Loweswater Hall and pot holes by the telephone box with the defib' inside. Clerk to take photos when he puts the minutes up and provide them to Highway's requesting attention.

120.00 Loweswater Councillors reports.

120.01 Cllr R.T gave a report on her recent attendance at Melbreak Communities committee meeting. She mentioned small grants to a school pupil for a overseas school trip, there had been a discussion about the local emergency plan and the group are going to have a new logo.

120.02 Chair' mentioned that her attention had been drawn to the Glover report about changing National Park boundaries, especially where, like Loweswater, half the parish was in and half out the National Park, Mockerkin and others not in the park. No enthusiasm to be in the park, clerk to advise no interest to move boundary at present.

120.03 Chair advised that Blindbothel were holding their Mid-Summer walk on 22nd June

121.00 Correspondence

121.01 Clerk advised that currently their insurance is dealt with via a broker Community Lincs and underwritten by Zurich Insurance. He had received notification that Zurich were taking all insurance back inhouse, so he was now waiting for further details and policy renewal details.

121.02 Clerk had been in receipt of numerous emails about the May 2nd elections. He had attended an election seminar meeting at Allerdale BC and he had all the relevant nomination forms for completion with him this evening.

121.03 Clerk was pleased to announce that he on 31st Jan' received an email from resident John MacFarlane praising Highway' for the manner and speed that they had responded to a fallen tree branch and also filled in 3 pot holes.

121.04 The LDNP newsletter had been received from Geoff Davies and circulated to all Cllrs.

122.00.00 Payments for approval.

M Milner Interpay 17, £296.29, salary £212.20 expenses £84.09.

HMRC PAYE Interpay 18, £53.00

All approved.

123.00 Date and time of the next meeting Thursday 9th May 2019 at 7.30pm, which will first be the Loweswater Parish Council AGM meeting followed immediately by the normal Loweswater Parish Council meeting. Note 2nd not 1st Thursday due to May 2nd Election polls.

Meeting closed at 8.29pm

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