

## **Loweswater Parish Council Meeting**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at Loweswater Village Hall.**

Meeting opened: - The chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm,

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

Cumbria County Councillor and Allerdale District. A Bowness (CCC)

Clerk: Mike Milner, one member of the public.

#### **155.00 Apologies for absence**

D Robinson (LPC), Cllr Carmel Bell (ABC)

7.32 Cllr K.L joins the meeting

#### **156.00 Declarations of interest. None**

#### **157.00 To read and approve the minutes of the last meeting of Loweswater parish council held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019.**

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

#### **158.00 Public participation.**

158.01 No members of the public present or reports from July meeting.

#### **159.00 Police Matters**

159.01 Clerk had a police report advising no relevant incidents to report and that PCSO regularly patrols through the area in the police vehicle.

#### **160.00 Applications for development.**

160.01 Clerk had circulated a development application 7/2019/2197 for the replacement of a septic tank at Lowside, Thackthwaite, with a packaging system. Cllrs after a discussion advised clerk to confirm to LDNP Planning they raised no objections.

160.02 Clerk confirmed application 7/2019/2141 concerning the new enlarged satellite dish on Loweswater village hall had been approved.

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

161.01 Cllr A.B (CCC) advised that he had not got a great deal to report that concerned the parish, however he did advise the A595 road improvement in the area of Bothel, the installation of a crawler lane was progressing through the planning system.

Chair thanked Cllr A.B for his attendance and invited him to remain. He declined.

7.39 Cllr C.W joins the meeting.

**162.00 Community Broadband project for isolated properties in and around Loweswater parish.**

162.01 Chair introduced local resident John Hudson who with the chair and clerk has been, over the past few weeks investigating the possibility of getting the Loweswater and immediate surrounding properties connected to high speed broadband. John himself lives in Blindbothel parish.

162.02 The Cumbria Hub Coordinators forum was originally formed by parish council volunteers to work with Connecting Cumbria in the delivery of superfast broadband for the benefit of their parishes. As the programme moves towards its end, they are focusing on the next steps for the "missing" 6%. That 6% includes John and other local Loweswater residents and he has been establishing the options.

162.03 The three options are a fibre broadband supply, a satellite source or thirdly a 4G network connection. There are property grants for the supply. There followed a lengthy discussion on the options, the benefits and very specifically how should a letter be addressed to property, as some would be owner occupied, some will be long term lettings and some holiday lets, whose owner may not see a letter about the topic.

7.58pm Cllr M.A joins the meeting

162.04 According to Cumbria Hub Coordinator who has been in contact with the parish council and J.H there are 44 potential properties involved but obtaining that address list is the first stumbling block, despite various attempts. Clerk to try an alternative source.

162.05 If clerk can get the details that will speed up the next stage of the exercise, alternatively it could be a lot of door knocking and looking at O/S maps.

162.06 Finally decided that clerk attempt to get the address list, councillors to look at the address list and from local knowledge establish if holiday let, long term let or owner and then establish an appropriate letter of contact.

Chair thanked J.H for his contribution to the project so far.

**163.00 Combined parish council project concerning volumes of traffic and associated problems in Loweswater valley through Buttermere to Honister.**

163.01 Clerk outlined the background to his conversation with Steve Ratcliffe, Director of Sustainable Development for LDNP. The director was keen to see a project that involved Lancaster Uni graduates doing study of the effects of visitors and their traffic on air pollution and the environment. Discussions had already been held at Buttermere and Lorton's respective parish council meetings and they were both happy to be involved in a three-parish joint community project. Cllrs all agreed that Loweswater did not have the traffic congestion problems experienced at Buttermere.

163.02 Cllr M.A spent a few minutes enlightening the council to the results of surveys previously undertaken by the National Trust. The clerk asked if such material would be readily available to the Lancaster Uni team, because they had already asked what sort of existing survey material could be made available. Cllr M.A thought it would be.

163.03 The council were all happy to pursue the project as a joint venture and it was agreed that Cllr M.A with his obvious knowledge as the local National Trust ranger should be their point of contact.

**164.00 Presentation and acceptance of Loweswater a/c's 1/4/19 to 31/7/19.**

164.01 Prior to the meeting the clerk had circulated a copy of the accounts and bank reconciliation to all Cllrs. There were no questions raised and they resolved to accept the accounts and the chair duly signed the appropriate bank statements confirming accuracy.

### **165.00 Progress reports, clerk**

165.01 Clerk confirmed that the bin collection schedule as issued in April, but cancelled 2 months ago by Allerdale BC, would resume Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

165.02 Clerk read out two emails from Highways concerning a collection of potholes around the road close to the defibrillator phone box. One was advising that they were investigating further and the other, they had decided nothing to be done. He would continue to chase Highways.

165.03 Out of interest clerk had noted a picture in Times and Star showing the bench at Holme Force which had been subject to a request for its repair. Minute 152.07/09 refer. He had contacted the local resident enquiring if repair had been undertaken and he had received a picture of a partial repair. Said local resident intends to pursue the situation further.

165.04 Clerk confirmed that since the July meeting the verges and hedges down Fangs Brow had been cut.

165.05 Mockerkin Tarn caravan minute 152.11 refers, clerk has again contacted the Allerdale BC enforcement officer about its continued presence.

### **166.00 Loweswater Councillors reports.**

166.01 Chair Cllr K.M had attended the recent Calc Three Tiers meeting. She reported that currently both Allerdale BC and Copeland BC had declared no intention of volunteering to host a nuclear geographical disposal site. That Allerdale had created "Champions" senior officers responsible for different areas of Allerdale, but there had been no notification as to who had been allocated, if anyone, for Loweswater.

166.02 The Mockerkin bench is still in need of repair and Chair agreed to email Cllr M.A after the meeting with a request that it is attended to before the end of September.

### **167.00 Correspondence**

167.01 Clerk had received the reminder for the parish's registration with the Pensions Regulator for a further 3 years. He had completed the registration.

167.02 Clerk enquired if any councillors ever used the Calc website, but all said no so he did not advise of change of username and password from 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

167.03 Clerk had circulated a document received that morning about the governments proposed plans for 5G masts. It was agreed that the clerk would advise Calc that Loweswater would recommend that new taller masts with a possible 30% increase in footprint should, as current legislation required, continue to need a development application.

### **168.00.00 Payments for approval.**

M Milner Intpay 28, £263.71, salary £216.72 July/Aug. £46.99 July/August expenses

HMRC PAYE Intpay 29, £54.00 PAYE July/August

All approved

### **169.00 Date and time of the next meeting Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov' 2019 at 7.30pm.**

Meeting closed 8.32pm

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