

Loweswater Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd September 2021 commencing at 7.30pm in Loweswater village hall.

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

Present: Cllrs D Robinson (chair) K Leck, C Todd , K Mitchell, M Astley

Cumbria County Councillor and Allerdale District. Neither present.

Clerk: Mike Milner, no members of the public.

Apologises, Cllr R Thompson (LPC), Cllr A Bowness (CCC), Cllr L Meadley (LPC)

343.00 Apologies for absence, as noted above.

344.00 Declarations of interest. None

345.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last Loweswater Parish Council held on Thursday 8th July 2021, as a true record.

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

346.00 Public Participation. No members of public present.

347.00 Police Matters.

347.01 No police reports. Clerk had circulated the police e-newsletters.

348.00 Planning Applications.

348.01 Clerk had circulated details of the application 7/2021/2119 and 2220 both referring to Hudson Place Farm. Two applications as a listed building. Councillors present all acknowledged receipt of the details and after a vote all unanimously approved the application. Clerk to advise LDNP Planning accordingly.

349.00 Matters concerning District and County Councillors. neither present.

350.00 Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations June 2022

350.01 proposed celebration to remain as an ongoing agenda item. Chair has been in contact with some local groups and is to enquire of other local community groups within the parish if they have any plans to mark the jubilee date. Clerk to request that Melbreak communities keep chair involved in any Melbreak Community plans.

351.00 HSBC imposition of bank account charges.

351.01 clerk advised that currently parish councils had a charity account status, which attracted no bank charges. However, HSBC are now reassessing all parish council accounts and they have decided that Loweswater is to be classified as a business account. This will attract a monthly fee of £8, but as Loweswater does online banking no other charges. If Loweswater had been granted charity status the new monthly charge would have been £5. No longer free banking. Clerk to investigate alternative banks, but free banking is a thing of the past.

352.00 Mockerkin Green wilding progress report.

352.01 Cllr K M and K L had removed the loose grass from the lower area of the green, that arising was in large dumpy bags to be removed. Cllr M A had collected some seeds recently for the green. Once the contractor had carried out final cut for the upper green area and the second cut of the season and collect of the season. Cllr C T would bring appropriate machinery to scarify the area. Then he and Cllr M A would seed when appropriate. Coffee and chocolate cake were promised by Cllr K M on completion of the work.

352.02 Cllrs all had views on residents expectations of a massive instantaneous splash of colour, it unfortunately does not happen like that, but following review was deemed to be at the expected stage.

353.00 Progress reports, clerk

353.01 Clerk was able to report that following minute note 340.02, on his way home from last meeting and helped on traffic control duty by Cllrs K M, K L & L M, he had photographed the water flow and puddling issue by Loweswater Hall. He had then taken further screen shots from dash cam footage and with the assistance of a United Utility's engineer, confirmed 2 leaks in the area, one on a stop cock to Loweswater Hall and a further broken pipe in Loweswater Hall's ground.

353.02 With the co-operation of Loweswater Hall's owners and the UU engineer, plus UU workforce the leaks were repaired and now the road is bone dry as is the verge by the carriageway.

353.03 Clerk has no further news on the Blindbothel "Glamping" issues with LDNP Planning Department.

353.04 The clerk then enquired of councillors what they considered of the "cvalerts" system that was installed at the start of the summer season. Cllr M A who as a NT Ranger noted that the team size meant they could not be everywhere and had problems with those camping on private land. Cllrs agreed that it was a definite improvement on what was in place before, clerk will monitor the teams proposals over the winter months, to see what changes and improvements could be made.

354.00 Loweswater Councillors reports.

354.01 Cllr K L enquired if other councillors had noticed the appearance of white lines on sections of the carriageway, from the bottom of the Fangs Brow, beyond the Loweswater Hall entrance in the direction of Loweswater Hall. Clerk remarked they were not there when he put agendas in notice boards last week, but evident that evening. Clerk to ask the area engineer for his observations, hopefully it will be a continuation of the Fangs Brow resurfacing project, through the valley.

354.02 Cllr K M advised that the Dark Skies project report had been discussed at a Zoom meeting and that there were few concerns in the Loweswater Parish area. Those who had organised the survey have decided that they would not approach individuals or business until later in the year, with issues raised, enabling businesses an opportunity to hopefully get on a better financial footing to undertake lighting changes.

354.03 Lorton had had their 5 promised new automatic light units fitted and they were working. They required a lower wattage but with a much more defined beam splay, no overspill. It was now apparent that they did not actually switch off as assumed but dropped their light intensity to favour wildlife but also retain a safety aspect for humans moving around.

354.04 There is to be a Dark Skies Festival between the 6th to 14th November, events are to be announced.

Page 68 (2 of 3) signed chairman.....4th November 2021

354.05 Clerk is investigating what parts of Mockerkin Green are subject to the Commons Registration reference 262/U/144, register unit CL.159 dated 12th July 1979. Cllrs were under the impression it is all land in the green area, clerk clarifying with land registry.

355.00 Correspondence.

355.01 clerk had received an email advising of a BACs transfer from a reported Canadian School. He had not investigated the email or its attachments, just reported it immediately to the government department for such junk.

355.02 clerk has been advised that the new Mockerkin bench has its own webpage on Melbreak Communities website.

355.03 Invoices received from Cluran Landscaping for cutting Mockerkin Green.

355.04 All other relevant email correspondence circulated where appropriate.

356.00.00 Payments for approval.

M Milner Intpay 67, £275.46, salary £234.96 July/Aug. £40.50 July/August expenses

HMRC PAYE Intpay 68, £58.80 PAYE

Cluran Landscape Intpay69, £36.00 Mockerkin Green July cut.

Cluran Landscape Intpay70, £36.00 Mockerkin Green cut August

All approved

Meeting closed 8.20pm

357.00 Date and time of next meeting Thursday 3rd November at 7.30pm, the meeting will be held in Loweswater Village Hall.

Page 69 (3 of 3) signed chairman.....4th November 2021