

Loweswater Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th January 2022 commencing at 7.30pm in Loweswater village hall.

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

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

Cumbria County Councillor and Allerdale District. Neither present.

Clerk: Mike Milner, no members of the public.

Apologises, Cllr R Thompson (LPC), Cllr K Leck(LPC), Cllr A Bowness (CCC).

375.00 Apologies for absence, as noted above.

376.00 Declarations of interest. None

377.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last Loweswater Parish Council held on Thursday 4th November 2021, as a true record.

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

376.00 Public Participation. No members of public present.

377.00 Police Matters.

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

378.00 Planning Applications.

378.01 No applications to consider, however clerk confirmed 7/2021/2253 Oakbank Farmhouse, its application to a dwelling without restriction had been approved, also 7/2021/2342 High Nook Farm, alteration to an existing track had been circulated, but not for consultation.

379.00 Matters concerning District and County Councillors. neither present.

380.00 Confirm the Loweswater parish precept request for financial year 2022/23 revised budget docs circulated.

380.01 Cllrs started the discussion and on the document the clerk had circulated he had indicated a 3% increase amounting to £83. Cllrs considered that perhaps 5% keeping pace with forecast RPI would be appropriate, alternatively perhaps 10%.

380.02 Chair and Cllrs decided that the agenda item 10 should be discussed and that would provide an indication of the precept request.

380.03 Cllrs decided that various local organisations should be approached for a financial contribution towards a tree, something that was approx. 8ft in height and planted in The Grange grounds with a brass plaque, fixed on a suitable tree stump provided by Cllr M A, the plaque to record all the contributing local organisations and it would acknowledge it was planted to mark Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee as Monarch. Cllrs resolved that the parish council would limit the councils contribution to the project at a maximum of £100.

380.04 Cllr M A then proposed that based on that decision the parish council should settle for a 3% precept increase, residents would be receiving large increase for other utilities over the coming months and that current reserves could cope with the smaller precept increase. This was seconded by Cllr K M and resolved unanimously by all Cllrs. Clerk to request a precept figure of £2866 for the coming year.

381.00 Resolve to approve the parish clerk, current and future clerks, as an official bank account signatory.

381.01 Clerk advised that he was experiencing issues with HSBC banking in his position as clerk at Lowca. Bank rules state that bank personnel will only discuss banking issues or security matters with an authorised account signatory, which the clerk is not. When the accounts had been changed to internet banking, dealing with the clerk was not a problem, however new money laundering legislation has changed the banks criteria on who they will communicate with. HSBC have advised at Lowca that clerk becomes a recognised signatory, so it would appear appropriate that that all parishes where HSBC is the banker the clerk should be a recognised signatory.

381.02 Cllr M A proposed that clerk was a bank signatory, seconded by Cllr K M and unanimously resolved by all councillors present.

382.00 Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations June 2022

382.01 See minute note 380.03, these minutes, other local organisations to be approached to provide a tree and commemorative plaque in the grounds of The Grange.

383.00 Progress reports, clerk

383.01 Clerk confirmed that minute 368.02 was still work in progress as he did not want to specifically use a legal representative at £250/hr charge for something that can be resolved by using County officials as Covid restrictions allow.

383.02 per minute 370.01 the chalet and large container are still both at Mockerkin Tarn, no further contact from Allerdale since ownership of the Tarn provided to them.

383.03 The glamping pods per minute 370.04, that is still an ongoing issue.

383.04 On the Thackthwaite road at Mere Gill clerk had contacted Highways with photographic evidence to confirm the gully blocked and road flooded. Highways had responded and cleared the gully plus others along the same stretch of road.

383.05 Clerk had also reported the mud and grit on the road coming down Fangs Brow below the entrance to Hudson Place. Highways had responded by saying it was an Allerdale issue. Clerk advised on Thursday 30th December he had driven down Fangs Brow and it appeared fairly clear, but his journey that night had indicated awful conditions again. Cllrs advised it was due to trailer traffic between Iredale Place and Hudson Place, clerk to get dash cam image of the current road surface on his home journey and contact Allerdale BC about the issue.

383.06 At Buttermere PC clerk had contacted Jane Saxon NT area manager and arranged for her to attend the 1st March Buttermere parish council meeting to explain the plans for the coming year and the methods of dealing with 2022 "staycation" visitor numbers. Lorton and Loweswater parish councils and their councillors to be invited.

384.00 Loweswater Councillors reports.

384.01 Only chair had any report and that was that he had attended a meeting via Zoom about the Unitary Council changes, notes of this meeting had been circulate recently, and would attend the Melbreak Communities meeting along with Cllr R T on Monday 10th January being held on Zoom.

385.00 Correspondence.

385.01 Clerk had received an invoice via the chair from Loweswater Village Hall for the parish council's use of Loweswater village hall. Covers 4 meetings at £15 each total £60.

385.02 Notification that the current chief officer of Calc, Samantha Bagshaw, was standing down this month and she was to be replaced by Sonia Hutchinson, Sam's current No2.

385.03 Email received from local couple with a copy of a letter they had written to Jane Saxon the NT area manager about the felling of larches in the area.

385.04 Clerk on evening of 27th December had a received a phone call about fly tipping by Loweswater. The caller sent a screen shot of the location and photos by email and clerk reported to Allerdale that night. It was Allerdale job No 12244872, and when he drove passed on 30th December all removed.

386.00.00 Payments for approval.

M Milner Intpay 76, £279.44, salary £235.16 Nov/Dec. £44.28 Nov/Dec expenses

HMRC PAYE Intpay 77, £58.80 PAYE

Loweswater Village Hall Intpay78, £60.00 hall rental by parish council, 4 meetings

All approved

Meeting closed 8.12pm.

387.00 Date and time of next meeting Thursday 3rd March 2022 at 7.30pm, the meeting will be held in Loweswater Village Hall.

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