

Loweswater Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th September 2022 at Loweswater Village Hall.

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

During the afternoon Buckingham Palace formerly announced the death, at Balmoral Castle, of the Queen Elizabeth 2nd. Therefore, the meeting opened with one minute's silence in respect. The chair then said, "God Save the King" and the meeting commenced.

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

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

Clerk, Mike Milner.

Apologies, Cumberland Shadow Cllr Jill Perry.

Before proceeding clerk obtained Cllr R Thompson's signature on her declaration of vice-chair's office form.

435.00 Apologies for absence, as noted above. The chair announced that the recently co-opted Cllr M Mackay had advised him that due to an unexpected health issue she could no longer take up her position as councillor.

436.00 Declarations of interest. None

437.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last Loweswater Parish Council held on Thursday 7th July 2022, as a true record.

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

438.00 Public Participation. No members of public present.

439.00 Police Matters.

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

440.00 Planning Applications. No applications to consider.

441.00 Matters concerning District and County Councillors.

441.01 Cllr A B (CCC) advised that no positive news on the new Cumberland Council, he anticipated it would become available in November. He also advised that the "jet pack" Highways repair team were in the county. He advised that he was standing down in March and not sure if he would attend again. Chair thanked him for his help over the years. Chair invited him to remain, but he declined and left the meeting.

442.00 Details of meeting in Buttermere October 18th 7.30pm at Old School Room with LDNP and NT personnel to discuss 2022 issue with traffic and visitor management and changes for 2023.

442.01 Clerk circulated a spreadsheet containing issues highlighted by Buttermere parish council, within tourist management in its part of the Melbreak Community area and clerk wanted to add issues for Loweswater.

442.02 Cllr M A pointed out that the issue was a combination of very narrow lakeside road, water and hot weather, it brought out visitors who just want to park close to the water.

442.03 The situation has been getting progressively worse over the past 20 years as visitors moved north from the over commercialised southern Lakes. Car parking fields are made available, but tourists ignore them. Cllr M A has experienced the sight of visitors willingly accepting parking ticket fines as a cheap parking fee. The clerk established where the pinch points were, and he would add to the spreadsheet.

443.00 Inclusion of councillors on Calc weekly email distribution list.

443.01 A very brief item, Cllrs did not want to receive emails and would leave the clerk to chose what was forwarded for their attention.

444.00 To discuss and approve Clerk's hourly rate to increasing from £12.24/hr pay grade 15, to £13.48/hr pay grade 19, commence September 2022 and not back dated to April 2021 as per NALC salary award 2021/2022 agreed March 2022. Details discussed with chair and clerk.

444.01 as the lengthy agenda wording was read out there was a very audible sharp intake of breath from Cllrs and then laughter and finally Cllr M A said he fully supported the proposal and that was unanimously supported by all councillors.

445.00 Progress reports, clerk.

445.01 clerk reported that he had again contacted the local UU engineer and a further leak at Loweswater Hall had been repaired. Cllrs to watch the roadside in that area to check that there was no future puddling and running water.

445.02 Still no further progress with Allerdale BC with regard to the chalet and shipping container on Mockerkin Tarn.

445.03 Crummock Water and the dam removal, minute 432.07, UU had written again about the topic and clerk had circulated it to Cllrs.

445.04 Obviously there is now a councillor vacancy due to the sudden resignation due to unexpected health issue of the recently co-opted Cllr.

446.00 Councillors reports.

446.01 Chair reported that he had been unable to attend the Calc AGM, but he did have a copy of the minutes if anyone was interested.

446.02 Cllr R T advised how successful the Melbreak Poetry Trail had been.

447.00 Correspondence.

447.01 Clerk had made no changes to his submission or payment regime to HMRC, but the council had received a £100 penalty notice, which he had appealed. He thinks a touch of artificial intelligence has been put into the system and that has not seen the historical bi-monthly payment format by the parish council.

447.02 2 invoices received from Cluran contractor, for Mockerkin Green grass, July and August both £37.98 making a total of £75.96.

448.00.00 Payments for approval.

M Milner Intpay 90, £271.86, salary £234.96 July/August. £36.90 expenses.

HMRC PAYE Intpay 91, £58.80 PAYE 2 months.

Cluran Landscape Intpay 92, £75.96, July/August cuts Mockerkin Green.

HSBC 2 monthly bank account charges of £8.00 taken as a standing bank deduction. £16.00.

All approved

Meeting closed 8.12pm.

449.00 Date and time of next meeting Thursday 3rd November 2022 at 7.30pm, at Loweswater Village Hall.