

Loweswater Parish Council

Minutes of the annual parish meeting of Loweswater Parish Council held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at Loweswater village hall at 7.30pm followed by the March parish council meeting.

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

Present: Cllrs D Robinson (chair), C Todd, M Astley, L Meadley, R Thompson, K Leck, and Cllr A Bowness (CCC) and Shadow Cumberland Councillor Jill Perry.

Clerk, Mike Milner.

Apologies, None.

The chair D R read his annual report (a transcript of that report can be found after these minutes.)

Meeting closed at 7.37pm

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at Loweswater village hall commencing 7.38 pm.

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

Cumbria County Councillor, Cllr Alan Bowness, and Cumberland Shadow Councillor Jill Perry.

Clerk, Mike Milner. No apologies

479.00 Apologies for absence, as noted above.

480.00 Declarations of interest. None

481.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last Loweswater Parish Council held on Thursday 5th January 2023, as a true record.

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

482.00 Public Participation. No members of public present.

483.00 Police Matters.

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

484.00 Applications for development.

484.01 clerk was able to report that he had been official advised that day that Crummock Barn, 7/2022/2304, had officially been granted retrospective planning permission, with a condition that it was not to be used as a domestic dwelling.

484.02 Clerk stated no other applications. Cllr C T asked about Askhill and its yurt. (After the meeting clerk reminded Cllrs that Askhill 7/2023/2014 had a submission date of 8th March and could he be provided with their views.

485.00 Matters concerning District and County Councillors.

485.01 Cllr Alan Bowness was present for his last meeting as a CCC member, the county council being officially replaced on 1st April 2023 by Cumberland Council.

485.02 The chair thanked him for all his assistance over the years he had represented the parish at county council level, and all wished him well for the future. Cllr A B thanked the council for its kind wishes and left the meeting.

485.03 Cllr J P the shadow Cumberland Councillor advised that the new council had agreed its constitution and initial budget. She reported that she had attended the UU meeting held at Cockermouth concerning the removal of the Crummock Water weir.

486.00 Coronation participation and celebration in the parish.

486.01 A brief discussion indicated that Loweswater Village Hall were holding a celebration on the Sunday 7th May. No other celebrations are organised.

487.00 Visitor management update following meeting held 21/2/2023.

487.01 the clerk went through a list of the points raised from a meeting held at Old School Room in Buttermere. Contact had been made with the Cumbria Highways traffic management team and new criteria agreed that enforcement officers would target Buttermere much earlier in the day, which had proved effective at August Bank Holiday. The police are currently being restructured operational wise, and local legislation was being changed enabling their officers to drive through an area and take photographs of illegally parked vehicles and those causing an obstruction and issue tickets via the post. A system that works in Windermere.

487.02 There are to be multi-agency nights, which councillors can join to see how the systems work. The email to contact the Safer Lakes team is help@lakedistrict.gov.uk and if you want to contact the police don't ring, use 101@cumbria.police.uk that email inbox is constantly monitored. There was to be a change to the charging of public toilets in Buttermere, at high visitor number times the charge would be waived for a trial period. Local businesses had raised concerns of visitors using their commercial premises as free to use.

488.00 Crummock Water scoping report update.

488.01 the combined parish group had requested a copy of the Jacob Report as per the submission document and were studying the content. Various Cllrs from the 3 parishes had been to the recent Cockermouth UU public consultation meeting.

488.02 clerk had been advised that the current UU view was that the removal of the weir would reduce the possible flooding at Cockermouth from an original estimate of 10% to now a 25% less likely event. The UU team had noted the 3 parishes submission about a quicker sudden drop into deeper cold water by lowering the level of the lake.

488.03 A local resident had requested that Loweswater parish council organise a meeting for local residents with UU to discuss the proposals. The 3 three respective chairs had agreed that the well promoted Cockermouth meeting had provided the opportunity to discuss the project. There was nothing at this time to be gained by another public meeting. If UU want to arrange one, then that is their prerogative and at their expense. Next public meetings are planned for September and UU are contemplating a local venue at that time.

489.00 Progress Reports, clerk.

489.01 Clerk advised he had been advised of a container in a field next to The Vicarage, Loweswater. Enforcement team had responded to clerk's email breach ref E/2023/0061.

489.02 Clerk had had numerous email exchanges about Crummock Barn, the tracks up to Pottergill and Crummock Water weir.

490.00 Councillors Reports. No reports.

491.00 Correspondence.

491.01 On ongoing correspondence about larch felling. Would appear not best managed by NT.

492.02 Former chair K M had reported a pothole issue in Mockerkin, E1/106375. According to Highways they have resolved and closed the case.

493.03 Clerk had put up posters for recent UU meetings and placed a promotion in the Link.

493.04 Former chair K M had requested that at Mockerkin Green could the lower grass area, the wild meadow, not be cut until late April. Clerk had written to the contractor who had acknowledged the request.

493.05 Clerk had received an email from the owner of Crummock Barn dated 26th Jan' 2023 requesting a head-to-head meeting about his development. Clerk read out his response to the owner pointing out the parish council held regular meetings in public and he was more than welcome to attend but there would be no one on one meeting. Clerk read out the response to that proposal and obviously the owner declined the invitation.

493.06 Cllrs noted that the barn owner had made various submissions on the planning website about the barn and the public reaction.

494.00.00 Payments for approval.

M Milner Intpay101, £129.36, salary January, no expenses.

HMRC PAYE Intpay102, Clerks tax £32.40, January PAYE

The above payments made to conform with new HMRC reporting and payment legislation.

M Milner Intpay 103, £165.56, salary £129.56 Feb'. £36.00 expenses. Jan/Feb

HMRC PAYE Intpay 104, £32.20 PAYE Feb'.

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

All approved

Meeting closed 8.14pm.

495.00 Date and time of next meeting Thursday 4th May 2023 at 7.30pm, at Loweswater Village Hall.

After the meeting the councillors all completed the council nomination forms provided by clerk. It was noted that a request to bring a black biro had been followed by all but one councillor.

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