

Loweswater Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd May 2024 at Loweswater Village Hall, which commenced with parish council AGM.

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

Present: Cllrs D Robinson (chair), R Thompson, M Astley, L Meadley, Chris Todd, P Battrick.

Cumberland Councillor, not present

Clerk, Mike Milner. No members of the public.

670.00 Apologies for absence, K Leck. Jill Perry (CC).

671.00 To appoint a chairman and a vice-chairman for the coming year.

671.01 Prior to the meeting clerk had established that current chair Cllr D R and vice-chair Cllr R T were happy to remain in post, and as there were no alternative proposals Cllr P B proposed that both Cllrs were re-elected, this was seconded by Cllr L M and resolved unanimously. Clerk obtained declarations of office from the respective councillors.

Meeting closed 7.32pm

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Thursday 2nd May 2024 at Loweswater village hall commencing 7.32 pm.

672.00 Apologies for absence, as above 670.00.

673.00 Declarations of interest. None

674.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last Loweswater Parish Council held on Thursday 7th March 2024, as a true record.

674.01 Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. Chair signed minutes.

675.00 Public Participation. No members of public present.

676.00 Police Matters.

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

677.00 Matters concerning Cumberland Councillor.

677.01 Cllr J P not present email rec'd from councillor had been circulated.

678.00 Applications for development.

678.01 7/2024/2045, Latterhead House, a retrospective application. Circulated to all Cllrs as per September 2028 parish planning guidelines, no objections so a submission of no objection forwarded to LDNP Planning office.

678.02 Askhill Farm 7/2023/2014, the clerk had received the Planning Inspectorates report and decision "Appeal dismissed." The original application was therefore rejected.

679.00 Receive and approve the parish council accounts for financial year 2023/24. Internal auditors report, Annual Governance Statement, Accounting Statement for the year all to be resolved. Bank reconciliation and variance report. Documents attached.

679.01.01 Clerk had circulated all the necessary documentation prior to the meeting, and he then proceeded to go through each section with the councillors.

679.02 Certificate of Exemption, AGAR 2023/24 Part 2. This confirms that the parish has neither income or expenditure exceeding £25k. Document duly signed by chairman and parish Responsible Finance Officer, the clerk.

679.03 clerk presented the signed Annual Internal Audit Report. Internal audit had taken place 13/10/23 and 20/04/24. All boxes correctly ticked, and no issues or recommendations raised.

679.04 Annual Governance Statement. RFO read out the content of the 9 boxes on the form and at each statement ticked the Yes box with Cllrs approval. Form then duly signed by chair and clerk.

679.05 Finally the accounting statement, which had been circulated was approved by councillors and duly signed by RFO and chairman.

679.06 Clerk confirmed that he would make the appropriate returns to the external government auditor, put necessary document required in the village noticeboards for the appropriate period and ensure they are displayed on the parish council website pages.

680.00 Parish Insurance renewal, Zurich Insurance.

680.01 clerk had received the annual insurance renewal notice from Zurich Insurance. The renewal this year was £211.78, he had budgeted for £195, slightly greater sum than budget, but acceptable increase.

680.02 Cllrs resolved unanimously to accept the premium figure.

681.00 Clerk to update on Crummock Weir and Fibrus broadband progress.

681.01 UU had yet to make their planning application, expected June 2024, UU currently undertaking more exploratory works in the weir area and Cllr M A advised Cllrs that he was due to have another meeting with UU later in the month.

681.02 Fibrus installation work continuing. Cllrs all noted that road closure applications were being made, but hardly ever implemented. Clerk pointed out it is a back stop, in case action.

682.00 Progress reports, clerk

682.01 clerk had been advised the back road to Kirkstile Inn and church had received pot hole repairs. Local residents complained they were minimal and images provided by chair Cllr D R confirmed minimal was being over generous. The problem is that area will be part of UU weir construction work area and works traffic will churn up any repairs.

683.00 Loweswater Councillors reports.

683.01 Other than Chair Cllr D R and Cllr R T both having attended the latest Melbreak Committee meeting, which discussed the new Melbreak website proposals, no other reports.

684.00 Correspondence.

684.01 Zurich Insurance renewal received and dealt with at agenda item.

684.02 clerk had received both an email and phone call from a regular visitor to the area, who wanted to replace the seat on the Coffin Road walk. Clerk had assumed NT property but it is privately owned. Cllr L M knows the land owner and sees him on regular basis. Clerk to forward the email offering the seat repair for Cllr L M to make contact and feed back land owner's response.

684.03 Calc annual subscription renewal received £150.71, which Cllrs resolved to pay. There are 181 registered parish electors.

684.04 Cluran landscape have forwarded all contract documents for their new 3 year contract at Mockerkin Green, clerk just awaiting first invoice, but weather so wet cut not yet made.

684.05 Invoice received from Simone Morgan for audit fee end of year a/cs, £30.00.

685.00.00 Payments for approval.

M Milner Intpay143, £148.76, salary April, no expenses.

HMRC PAYE Intpay144, Clerks tax £37.00, April PAYE

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

M Milner Intpay 145, £215.16, salary £148.56 May. £66.60 expenses. April/May

HMRC PAYE Intpay 146, £37.20 PAYE May.

Zurich Insurance Intpay 147, £211.78 parish insurance 2024/25.

Calc Intpay 148, £150.71 annual subscription local council association.

Simone Morgan Intpay 149, £30 end of year internal audit fee.

Cluran Landscape Intpay 150, £105.60.

HSBC April/May monthly bank account charges of £8.00per month taken as a standing bank deduction.

All approved

Meeting closed 7.54pm.

686.00 Date and time of next meeting Thursday 4th July 2024 at 7.30pm, at Loweswater Village Hall.

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