

Buttermere Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27th September 2016

Present: Cllrs. R. Beard (Chair), Y. Kahane, M. Thompson, G. Evans, E. Beard & M. Richardson .

Apologies: Cllrs. L. Kyle & A. Beard

Also in attendance: Cllr. T. Annison (ABC) & Dave Smith (Clerk).

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

21.16 Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

22.16 Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the May meeting were accepted as an accurate record by the councillors present and the Chair duly signed them.

23.16 Public Participation:

A number of local residents had raised concerns regarding the service that BT and Openworld were providing for residents in Buttermere Parish. Cllr. Kahane reported that whilst the service received during the last couple of months had not been too bad, prior to that both the landline and the internet had been lost for days at a time and the same was true for her neighbours. Both BT and Openworld engineers had visited on several occasions and tried to solve the various problems that had resulted in the faults but all had said that the underlying issue was that the equipment in the local exchange was antiquated and was in need of replacement. Other Councillors had similar experiences to report including those using different providers. Some local businesses that are reliant on online payments have had to invest in new kit to try and ensure reliability but there continues to be times when access to the internet just disappears.

The Clerk confirmed that at a recent meeting on Superfast Broadband in Cumbria it was stated that Buttermere was not currently named in either Stage 1 or Stage 2 of the Connecting Cumbria project. This means that it is unlikely that Superfast Broadband would be available in the area before 2020.

After some discussion it was agreed that, as a first step, the Council would invite Phil Rushton from BT who currently promotes access to Superfast Broadband to the December meeting of the Council.

ACTION: Clerk to invite Phil Rushton to the December meeting.

24.16 Clerk's Report:

Actions on the Clerk from the previous meeting:

10.16: Clerk to inform Allerdale BC of the co-option of Cllr. Edward Beard: Done

10.16: Clerk to assist Cllr. Edward Beard with the completion of paperwork: Done

13.16: Clerk to inform the acting secretary of the Melbreak Communities group that Cllr. Kahane would be the Buttermere PC rep on the group: Done

16.16: Clerk to inform the LDNPA of the views of the Council: Done

17.16: Clerk to inform Cumbria highways of the concerns of the Council: Done

18.16 Clerk to send out all payments: Done

Correspondence	For information	For action
Letter from LDNPA re: Hassness Estate sale	X	

LDNPA Allerdale Members Report: May, June, July & August	X	
CALC Newsletter: June, July & August & September	X	
BDO End of Audit information	X	X
Pensions Regulator: information	X	X
Letter from Risha Sunak MP re: Coast to Coast	X	X

Councillors agreed that they would support the proposal to make the Coast to Coast footpath becoming a recognised National Trail.

ACTION: Clerk to return form to MP re: Coast to Coast Trail.

The Clerk confirmed that he was making enquiries regarding the necessity for the Council to pay into a pension for the Clerk.

25.16 Report from the Borough Councillor:

Cllr. Annison informed the meeting that he was now the Leader of the conservative Group on the Council and as such had been involved in the discussions with the Boundary commissioners who are looking at reducing the number of Borough councillors by eight.

As a member of the ABC Licensing Panel and the Planning Committee, Cllr. Annison had been involved in a number of decisions regarding local festivals and a new supermarket in Cockermouth.

Cllr. Annison reminded those present that if they had any problems or concerns that he could help with then they should contact him directly.

26.16 Report from the Melbreak Communities:

Cllr. Kahane reported back from her first meeting of the Melbreak Communities as the representative of the Council.

A number of issues had been covered at the meeting including the further development and updating of the Emergency Plan which is delivered to every house in the MC area. It was confirmed that flooding in Buttermere parish was not as problematic as it was elsewhere in the MC area. The issue of insurance cover for the group was discussed and the Clerk outlined the issue that MC members were currently dealing with. Councillors agreed that it was best the MC group had their own insurance cover and that any request for funding to assist with this would be considered, though the current financial position of the Council was noted.

There is to be a presentation on Community Energy projects given in The Yew Tree Hall in Lorton on December 10th. The MC group want to look at developing a sustainable community energy project and any suggestions would be welcomed.

ACTION: Clerk to inform the Melbreak Communities Group of the views of the Council with regard to insurance cover for the group.

27.16 Report from the Police:

There have been 34 incidents reported to the Police in the Buttermere area since the May meeting.

Some of the incidents reported were:

- On the 28th June it was reported that sometime between 25th and 26th June fuel to the value of £250 was stolen from the area of Kirkclose Wood.
- On the 7th August it was reported that a vehicle had been damaged whilst parked in the area of Lanthwaite Green between the times of 10.00am and 15.00pm.

- On 14th September it was reported that a cyclist had come off their bike in the area of Honister Pass.
- On the 25th September during the night it was reported that bright flashes of light could be seen in the area of the quarry towards Buttermere. It was believed that someone could be lamping in the area.
- On the 25th September it was reported that a foxhunt was taking place on Melbreak. Patrols attended the area with no signs of a hunt or possible vehicles involved.

There were five road traffic collisions reported to the Police, none with any serious injuries. There were fourteen incidents that required Mountain Rescue to assist walkers down from the fells.

Councillors were aware of other incidents the most serious of which was the death of a cyclist who when coming down Newlands Pass into Buttermere crashed off the road. Councillors noted the above incidents.

28.16 Planning:

There was one planning application to be dealt with at the meeting.

Reference No: PB/2016/0024
 Applicant: Mr Rick Thompson BT Payphones
 Proposal: Proposed removal of public payphone
 Location: Phone Box ButtermereCockermouth Cumbria

The Clerk confirmed that the map reference given for the phone box indicated that it was the one at Lanthwaite Green and that a notice of the intention to remove it had been placed in the box. It was also noted that there was no phone in the box at present.

Councillors agreed that they had '**No Objections**' to the removal of the phone box.

ACTION: Clerk to inform Allerdale Borough Council of the views of the Council.

Two planning applications were dealt with between meetings:

Ref: 7/2016/2167
 Location: Palace How, Loweswater CA13 9UX
 Proposal: Works to listed building to include replacement of glazed bay with larger glazed bay with wood fired stove and flue, associated widening of existing opening linking bay to interior, alteration of existing roof light and addition of new roof lights.
 Reply by: 16.8.16

A response of '**No Objections**' was sent with regards to this application.

Ref: 7/2016/2195
 Location: Lanthwaite Gate Farm, Buttermere CA13 9UY
 Proposal: Installation of a small scale high head hydro power system (resubmission of 7/2016/2115)
 Reply by: 6.9.16

A response of '**No Objections**' was sent with regards to this application.

29.16 Highways issues:

Councillors reported the following issues raised at the previous meeting had still not been dealt with:

- A number of the Passing Place signs were missing along the banks of Crummock Water.

- The drains at Hause Point need to be inspected and dealt with as water is constantly flowing onto the road.
- The road banks are collapsing and covering the double yellow lines on the main road into Buttermere village from the Lorton end.

ACTION: Clerk to report again the above issues.

Additional issues raised by Councillors were:

- Two large pot holes coming down Newlands into the village.
- A sunken narrow strip of road, where United Utilities had been working on a pipeline, just above the bridge in the village.
- A pot hole by Lisa Beck Bridge.
- Fallen trees both in and across the river coming out of Crummock Water. NT to be informed.

It was agreed that there was a need for the street sweeper to visit the valley in the coming weeks and that a request should be made for all the drains in the area to be cleaned to try and deal with some of the standing water problems currently being experienced.

ACTION: Clerk to report the above issues to Cumbria Highways, Allerdale Borough Council and the National Trust warden for the area.

30.16 Finance:

The Clerk informed Councillors that he had now received the End of Audit report from BDO the external auditors. No issues has been raised and no fee was charged. The End of Audit public notice has been placed on the notice-board.

The Clerk informed the meeting that balance of the account as of the most recent bank statement dated 15th August 2016 was £532.91p with all payments now having cleared through the account.

The Clerk reported that following payments were outstanding:

i: D. Smith - Clerk's salary Qtr 2	£168.68p
ii: HMRC PAYE Qtr 2:	£42.16p
iii: D. Smith Expenses Qtr2:	£65.00p

Councillors agreed all the above payments.

Taking the above payments into consideration, the reconciled balance of the main PC account as of 27th September 2016 is £257.07p. The balance of the reserve account is £1,116.68p giving a total balance of £1,373.75p.

ACTION: Clerk to send out all payments.

31.16 Items for the next meeting:

- BT Services in the local area: Phil Rushton (see above).

32.16 Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 7.30pm in The Old Schoolroom.

Signed: _____
Chair

Date: _____

David Smith, Clerk to Lorton Parish Council Tel: 016973 23296 Mob: 07742 224775 Email: davidsmith@tinyworld.co.uk