

Lorton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2014

Present: Cllrs. Poate (Chair), Postlethwaite, Irlam, Sloan, Aitken, Deeks & Armstrong.

Apologies: There were no apologies.

Also in attendance: One member of the public.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

36.14 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. Poate declared a prejudicial interest in the Planning agenda item.

37.14 Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted as an accurate record by the councillors present and the Chair at the March meeting, Cllr. Postlethwaite, duly signed them.

38.14 Public Participation:

No issues were raised under this agenda item.

39.14 Progress Reports:

A: The Clerk's Progress Report:

Actions on the Clerk from the previous meeting:

17.14: Clerk to arrange for road sweeping to be undertaken: Done

ACTION: Cllrs asked the Clerk to thank ABC for the work undertaken which was of a high standard.

18.14: Clerk to thank Melbreak Communities for the donation towards the cost of the notice-board. Done.

18.14: Clerk to produce leaflet for The Pound meeting. Done.

18.14: Clerk to get quotes for work on benches: Not Done. Will be done during next two weeks.

19.14: Clerk to inform the Yew Tree Hall committee of the views of the council: Done

20.14: Planning - Clerk to inform the LDNPA of the views of the council: Done.

21.14: Clerk to invite the new PCSO to the next meeting: Done but she was on holiday and could not attend.

22.14: Clerk to arrange for the printing of the next edition of the newsletter: Done

23.14: All payments have been sent out and cleared the account.

Correspondence	For information	For action
ABC: Payment of precept information	X	
CCC: Go Cumbria bus timetable	X	
Friends of Lorton School: thank you letter	X	
Revised Financial regulations	X	X
CALC April & May newsletters	X	
ABC: various emails re: street lighting	X	X
LDNPA: emails regarding Land to the S of Lime Tree Cottage	X	

B: Parish Maintenance Report:

The Pound Wall: Since the special meeting to look at funding the works on the Pound Wall an application for funding has been submitted to Awards for All. It is expected that the result of this application will be found out in July. Some five days before the PC meeting a large vehicle knocked the part of the wall closest to the Whitbeck and there is now a need to repair this section. There was some discussion as to whether it would be better to rebuild the wall or to shorten it. The Clerk has contacted the insurance company who informed him they needed a crime reference number. The Clerk then contacted the police and they are to visit the site prior to issuing a crime reference number. The insurance company will also require a quote for the work.

ACTION: Cllr. Armstrong is to get a quote for the work and pass to the Clerk who will email to other cllrs.

The Parish Benches: The contractor has asked which of the parish benches we would next like to be rennovated.

ACTION: Clerk to have a look at the benches and inform the contractor.

C: The Melbreak Communities Report:

The update had been given during the Annual Parish meeting.

40.14 Planning:

One new planning application has been received:

7/2014/2082: Yew Tree View, High Lorton CA13 9UJ - vary condition on previous planning approval to use UPVC windows instead of wooden ones.

Councillors had 'No objections' to this application.

At a special meeting two planning applications were considered:

7/2014/2034: Corner Cottage, High Lorton - re-roofing, installation of roof light to rear elevation, new window to front lower ground opening and retrospective application for erection of essential support of chimney breast.

Cllrs. had 'No Objections' to this application.

7/2014/2037: Hobcarton, Low Lorton -demolition of existing bungalow and replacement with a two storey dwelling and stand alone garage. Replacement of existing septic tank with sewage treatment plant.

Cllrs. decided to 'Support' this application on the grounds that, , *'The proposed design is a contemporary solution which will enhance the locality and replaces a very unattractive building'*.

ACTION: Clerk to inform the LDNPA of the views of the council.

Cllrs were asked to note the following:

7/2012/2323 Land to the south of Lime Tree House, Low Lorton, Cockermouth CA13 9UW.

The applicant has now appealed the decision not to grant the minor materials application associated with the above application. It was agreed that there should be a response to this appeal by the Parish Council.

ACTION: Cllr. Deeks to send to the Clerk his personal response and the Clerk to is to put together a similar response on behalf of the council.

41.14 Report from the Police:

A report from the police had been received in which it was stated that there had been no incidents reported in the parish since the last Parish Council meeting in March.

42.14 Street-lighting:

Further to previous correspondence on the matter, The Clerk has now received an email from Allerdale BC indicating the following:

1. The Councils Scrutiny Panel is looking at 'footway lighting' provision throughout the Borough and the outcome may affect the current position.

2. ENW have stated that they are prepared to make £87,000 available to fund footway light replacements. How this money could be distributed between the proposed lighting removals will be considered by the Scrutiny Panel.

3. ABC will be able to provide estimated costs to the Parish Council based on our current schedule of rates for column / light unit replacement. ENW costs will need to be quoted directly from ENW, I can provide contact details.

ACTION: Clerk to keep councillors updated with any further responses from ABC.

43.14 Highways issues:

Prior to leaving the meeting, Cllr. Bowness (CCC) had informed the meeting that Cumbria Highways were keen to work with Parish Councils on identifying all the drains and gullies in their parish as much of this information appears to have been lost. It was agreed that some work on identifying gullies should be undertaken by Cllr. Irlam.

ACTION: Clerk to inform Cumbria Highways that, now that the roads have been swept, the gullies and drains in the parish need cleaning. He will also inform them that the Parish Council is prepared to help them identify exactly where many of the gullies and drains are.

44.14 Lorton Tennis Club Lease:

A copy of the original lease between the Tennis Club and the Parish Council has now been obtained. However, before Cllr. Deeks can write a new Memorandum of Agreement he needs to know the names of the new Trustees. The Club have issued a cheque for £150.00 to the Council but as they have already paid £40.00 by standing order for the rent for the coming year they need to re-issue a cheque for £110.00 and change the amount of their standing order.

ACTION: Cllr. Poate to obtain the names of the new trustees and return the cheque for £150.00p to Lorton Tennis Club.

45.14 Councillor Portfolios:

The Clerk explained that during the last few months he had been working many more hours than he got paid for due to additional meetings, highways issues, work on the newsletter etc etc. He further explained that in many of the more progressive Parish Councils councillors undertook to become portfolio holders for different areas of council work. After some discussion it was agreed that in the first instance Cllr. Sloan would take on the responsibility of the PC Newsletter and Cllr. Irlam will take on responsibility for highways. This issue will be looked at again at forthcoming Parish Council meetings.

46.14 Finance:

The Clerk reported that following payments were outstanding:

i: CALC Annual Subscription	£126.00p
ii: Firpress Printers	£60.00p
iii: AON Insurance Ltd:	£321.34p
iv: R. McCree Grounds Maintenance	£250.00p

All councillors present agreed to these payments.

The balance of the PC account as per the latest bank statement, dated 20th April 2014 was £7,955.78p. Taking into consideration the above payments the reconciled balance of the PC account as of 7th May 2014 is £7,298.44p.

ACTION: Clerk to send out all payments.

47.14 New Financial Regulations:

It was agreed to postpone this agenda item until the July meeting.

48.14 Items for the next meeting:

See above.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with the Chair on this issue.

49.14 Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 2nd July 2014 at 7.30pm in The Yew Tree Hall.

Signed: _____
Chair

Date: _____

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