

Buttermere Parish Council

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Tuesday 5th September 2017

Meeting opened at 19.30.

Present: Cllrs R Beard (chair), M Richardson, M Thompson, G Evans, L Kyle.

District and County Councillors: Tony Annison (ADC)

Clerk: Mike Milner

Apologies for absence: Cllr A Beard (BPC), Y Kahane (BPC) E Beard (BPC)

020.00 Declaration of Interests

020.01 None

021.00 Read and approve the minutes of the Buttermere Parish Council meeting held on 30th May 2017.

021.01 Cllr L.K proposed the acceptance of the 30th May minutes, and Cllr G.E seconded the proposal, council unanimously approved. Chairman duly signed the minutes as a true record.

022.00 Public Participation. No members of the public present.

023.00 Police report

023.01 Clerk had made contact with PCSO Catherine Smith, who sent her apologies, but she had pencilled the 5th December meeting into her diary. Clerk had therefore no report to make and advised that police website is still running 3 months behind.

023.02 Cllrs agreed that feedback from the police was very poor.

024.00 Applications for development.

024.01, No new applications, just confirmation of 7/2017/2167 Low Hollins, Loweswater, CA13 9UX, a retrospective application covering double glazing and some secondary glazing.

024.02 Application 7/2017/2128 1, Waterboard Cottages, Loweswater CA13 9UX, 2 story extension approved.

025.00 District and County Councillors Reports

025.01 Cllr T.A (ABC) was present having recovered from a long spell of ill health. He advised that the main report was that Allerdale DC were proposing reducing the number of its councillors from 56 to 49. Nothing else that effected Buttermere, but if Buttermere wanted help seeking funding for a village project then contact him. Another local parish had just had funding help to replace all its parish noticeboards. Cllr G.E asked, tongue in cheek, if it would run to Church noticeboards? The silence answered that question.

Chairman thanked him for his contribution and invited Cllr A.T to stay if he wished, he accepted the offer.

026.00 CONSIDER AND APPROVE REVISED STANDING ORDERS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL.

026.01 Clerk had prior to the meeting circulated all Cllrs with a copy of a new set of Standing Orders for Buttermere, plus an addendum with times, number of days and Cllrs required to put forward rule changes. The clerk said all he was doing was bringing the councils Standing Orders up to date. Cllrs acknowledged that it was a necessary and Cllr L.K proposed their acceptance and Cllr G.E seconded it. Passed unanimously.

027.00 CONSIDER AND APPROVE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BUTTERMERE PARISH COUNCILLORS.

027.01 Again the clerk had circulated the code to Cllrs prior to the meeting and also provided each Cllr with a copy of the Good Councillor’s Guide. All agreed that it was just bringing the council up to date and Cllr M.T proposed their approval and Cllr M.R seconded the proposal. Passed unanimously.

028.00 CONSIDER AND APPROVE A FINANCE CODE FOR BUTTERMERE PARISH COUNCIL AND ALSO APPROVE THE USE OF ONLINE BANKING

028.01 All Cllrs had seen copies of the Code prior to the meeting, which also covered online banking.

028.02 Clerk advised he would provide quarterly accounts with a bank reconciliation. Final annual accounts would be audited by an independent individual. The chair asked what sort of cost was involved and clerk said £30 but it showed that a totally independent individual had checked and verified the public monies the council were spending.

028.03 Cllrs agreed that all public bodies were embracing online banking and considered it was a secure method to adopt. Chair Cllr R.B proposed acceptance of the Finance Code and online banking, seconded by Cllr G.E and the Chair and Cllr M.R the bank signatories signed the appropriate bank forms.

029.00 Clerk’s report.

029.01 minute 011.02 refers, the waste bins were now being emptied every Friday and Cllr Y.K had found the 2 bins in the quarry car park and was able to transfer excess rubbish to them if necessary, so the system was working well. Allerdale had promised 2 extra bins, but their supply was governed by “financial constraints.”

029.02 The grit bin outside the Old School Room had been emptied of rubbish and remained litter free.

029.03 Once the leaves had dropped off the trees this autumn clerk and Cllr M.T would look at the shed problems that the Cllr was concerned about.

029.04 Broadband speeds, the clerk asked if the council considered a public meeting and a request for individual financial contributions was worth considering as part of a Rural Community project.

029.05 Cllr M.R advised that at his business he already paid a monthly premium to get a higher speed, but he required it, whether locals would consider the expense necessary was probably debatable.

029.06 The 1990’s cable was a fibre cable, but not a modern fibre cable, progress and technology had moved on. It was decided to see what Openreach’s actions were.

029.07 Clerk confirmed that Highways Department had advised of the closure of the C2058 for approximately 7 weeks for a total of 6.7km in the direction of Braithwaite. Such road works do need to be completed by October due to potential bad weather.

029.08 Clerk had established contact with Melbreak Group who provided website space for the parish minutes and agendas.

029.09 The government were keen that all parish councils had their own personal laptop, scanner and software on which the parish documents could be recorded and maintained. The clerk had therefore made an application to CALC totalling £521.12 excluding VAT for such equipment. He had already purchased an Acer laptop and Epson printer/scanner totalling £327.96 plus inks. He still had to purchase the Microsoft Office software package. He had agreed with the chair when advising of the grant application that he would not claim the funds back until CALC had transferred the grant into the parish bank account.

030.00 Parish Councillors Reports

030.01 Cllr M.R commented on the recent road closure and diversion signs that had and were still evident in the local area and noted their positioning was on many occasions inappropriate, they were badly sited and created diversions when it was not necessary.

031.00 Correspondence

031.01 Allerdale BC had advised the balance of the parish precept would be paid into the Buttermere account at the end of September.

031.02 Clerk had been advised that from 1st February 2018 the charge for using the public convenience in Buttermere would increase from 20p to 30p. This will still be 10p cheaper than similar facilities across the Lake District National Park.

031.03 Allerdale's Affordable Housing Officer had been in contact about the number of holiday homes in Buttermere and increasing the Affordable Housing stock in the parish. The clerk had responded on the topic after discussion with the PC chairman.

032.00 Payments for Approval

6th September, 100270 M Milner salary 3 months £200.84, Exp' £66.04 total £266.88.

6th September, 100271 HMRC, PAYE, 3 months June/July/Aug £50.20

6th September, 100272, CALC, £28.00, 8 Good Councillor's Guide.

All the above payments were approved.

033.00 Date and time of the next meeting.

033.01 Next meeting Tuesday 5th December at 19.30 at the Old School Room Buttermere.

Meeting closed at 20.21.