

Buttermere Parish Council

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Tuesday 4th December 2018

Meeting opened at 19.30.

Present: Cllrs R Beard (chair), M Richardson (v Chair), E Beard, Y Kahane, G Evans, L Kyle.

District and County Councillors: None present

Clerk: Mike Milner

Apologises for absence: A Beard (BPC), M Thompson (BPC)

083.00 Declaration of Interests

083.01 None

084.00 Read and approve the minutes of the Buttermere Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 29th May 2018.

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

085.00 Public Participation. No members of the public present.

086.00 Police report

086.01 Clerk read an email from the local PCSO Catherine Smith, which had a letter attached from Inspector Rachel Gale which indicated the current arrangement of a 10-weekly meeting at Cockermouth police station introduced last year would be suspended until further notice, due to staffing issues.

086.02 Clerk showed council a printed copy of the police website, taken that day and it was only showing information up to September 2018. Now 3 months out of date.

Cllr G. Evans entered the meeting 19.39.

Cllr E Beard entered the meeting 19.41.

087.00 Applications for development.

087.01 Application 7/2018/2236, Croft House Farm, approval granted of reserved conditions on application 7/2015/2289.

087.02 Application PB/2018/0001, BT Payphones, removal of payphone near Lanthwaite Green Farm. Clerk had confirmed PC's approval to remove the eyesore.

087.03 Honister Slate Mine Dual Zip wire application. Although the LDNP Planning committee had approved the application, contrary to their planning officers' recommendations, the outcry from numerous interested bodies including Friends of the Lake District, meant representations to Secretary of State have been made to have the decision called in. The clerk read an email he had received that morning from FLD planning officer which confirmed that LDNP would not be issuing any decision on the zip wire until the Secretary of State has considered whether it should be called in or not.

087.04 application 7/2018/2313, Bridge Hotel, Buttermere, addition to the westerly elevation of balconies. Buttermere councillors raised no objections to the proposal provided the glazing is uniform in the new doors and windows. It was also noted that it was a scheme which was actually reinstating a feature, balconies, that had existed until perhaps the 1960's.

088.00 District and County Councillors Reports

088.01 None present.

089.00 Receive half yearly accounts up to 30th September and consider draft budget for 2019/20 and precept figure.

089.01 clerk circulated the half yearly accounts. He ran through the figures and explained the expenditure ledger also circulated. The interest earned on deposit reserve account was 44p and account total at end of period was £1118.08. The current a/c had income of £1428.00 via council precept, expenditure for the period was £844.79 so the bank balance at the end of the period in the current account was £1152.24. Making a total of £2270.32 in the current a/c and reserve a/c as the bank reconciliation indicated and that agreed with the bank statement figures for the period. Statement sheet No 139 for the reserve a/c and sheet No 417 for the current a/c. There were no questions raised.

089.02 clerk circulated the budget figures for the current year and that proposed for 2019/20. For 2018/19 clerk had proposed a budget of £1552 and he was forecasting that at the end of year expenditure would be £1586.

089.03 Clerk pointed out that for the coming year he had budgeted a salary of £1083, he currently works 8 hours per month at a rate of £10.47 per hour. Grade SCP21, all his other parishes for the coming year his grade has been upgraded to SCP23 and an hourly rate from April 2019 for £11.28 per hour approved. He was requesting a similar increase at Buttermere. The councillors resolved to approve the salary increase.

089.04 Councillors after discussion resolved to accept the budget proposals for 2020/21 which set the precept figure at £1470. Thanked clerk for his presentation.

090.00 The Future Status of Buttermere Parish Council.

090.01 Clerk advised that in the Local Government Act 1972 if a parish had 150 or fewer electors, at a parish meeting that meeting may apply to the district council, Allerdale BC, for the parish to be abolished. That is covered by section 10 of that act and he read it out to the council.

090.02 Clerk had established from ABC that in polling district BX2 there are 50 electors and in district AZ, 50 electors, 97 in total for Buttermere, substantially below 150. The clerk's further researches had in Guidance on Community Governance Reviews, which is the process that would be undertaken by ABC at note 89 the following wording, *so, where an existing parish of 150 or less electors already has a parish council with the minimum number of five parish councillors it can continue to have a parish council.*

090.03 Based on that information the clerk would continue to support Buttermere remaining a parish council in its own right, however he asked all councillors to consider where new blood for individuals to take up vacancies as they occur.

090.04 Councillors entered into a very productive discussion the clerk was asked to obtain a parish map and current electoral roll and that they would seek suitable prospective future councillors. Cllr G E made the point that he had been involved with local church's that had closed and community groups which had gone the same way and he did not want Buttermere to lose its individual identity, especially if it were to lose its parish council.

091.00 Clerk's report.

091.01 Clerk advised all his reports covered by agenda items.

092.00 Buttermere Councillors reports

092.01 Cllr Y.K circulated a prepared statement about the Melbreak Communities hydro scheme. A copy is attached to the end of the minutes. She also commented about the leaves down the hill to the Bridge Hotel, plus large pot holes along Newlands.

092.02 Cllr L.K concerned about the trench across the road from the Bridge Hotel, clerk to contact Highways about contacting U.U and possibility of their water pipe leaking in the trench.

092.03 Cllr G.E concerned about the size of pot hole at bottom of Scale Hill.

092.04 Cllr M.R concerned about the reliability of the parking machines in the car parks in Buttermere, the LDNP operated ones. Not reading cards or accepting money. Clerk to investigate who is responsible.

093.00 Correspondence

093.01 Email from ABC about street lighting costs, but no street lights in Buttermere.

093.02 Notice of CALC AGM held on 10th Nov 2018, for info only meeting held.

093.03 Letter from ABC about precept payment in September.

093.04 Email about Highway's department and their "your community support/ working together."

093.05 Lorton & Derwent Fells Local History Society booklet, They Lie in Foreign Fields. All councillors had a copy so clerk to retain.

093.06 Clerk read out correspondence he had entered into with HSBC about Buttermere Parish Council, concerning Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, covering reporting of financial assets owned by United States persons to the United States tax authority. Much amusement by councillors, but HSBC had insisted that clerk download and complete the lengthy form. Clerk had not been tweeted by Donal Trump, or had FBI knocking at his door.

094.00 Payments for Approval

6th December, Intpay23, M Milner salary 3 months £200.84, Exp' £16.20 total £217.04.

6th December, Intpay24 HMRC, PAYE, 3 months Sept/Oct/Nov £50.20.

095.00 Date and time of the next meeting.

095.01 Next meeting Tuesday 28th May at 19.00 at the Old School Room Buttermere. The meeting will start with the Annual Village meeting, then the Parish Council AGM, election of chair and vice chair, followed by normal parish council meeting.

Meeting closed at 20.46