

LORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday 4th Sept' 2019 Held at Yew Tree Hall, High Lorton 7.30pm

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

Present: Cllrs C Poate (chair), P Deeks, J Cruickshank, S Irlam, P Jaques, T St Pierre.

Cumbria County Councillor and Allerdale District. None present

Clerk, Mike Milner and 1 member of the public.

Apologies, Cllr Carmel Bell (ABC), Mrs G Postlethwaite(LPC) A Bowness (CCC)

181.00 Apologies for absence

181.01 Apologies as noted above.

182.00 Declaration of interest. None

183.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last Lorton Parish Council held on Wednesday 3rd July 2019, as a true record.

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

184.00 Co-option of Tanya St Pierre as a Lorton Parish Cllr. Minute 175.01 refers

184.00 Chair C.P introduced Tanya and proposed her, which was seconded by Cllr P.D and unanimously approved. Tanya signed the acceptance declaration of office document and clerk provided her with a copy of The Good Councillors Guide.

185.00 Public Participation.

185.01 Council were brought up to date with Yew Tree Hall internal refurbishment plans, the removal of the stage in the large hall. The committee are hoping to get some monies for new blinds from the Cine film providers.

186.00 Police Matters.

186.01 Clerk advised he had been made aware by email of a suspect individuals in peoples gardens, he had forwarded the email to police101 email.

186.02 There was no police report.

187.00 Planning Applications.

187.01 Clerk confirmed that the application PB2019/0034 concerning the Lorton phone box had been acknowledged as no objection to its removal.

187.02 Tenters, clerk read an email from LDNP Planning officer Kevin Richards, which confirmed that works were due to start shortly, but as all work was structural to existing buildings then Allerdale Building Control were responsible, not LDNP planning dept'.

187.03 Oak Lodge 7/2019/2119, LDNP Planning had approved the development but had agreed with the Lorton Parish Council's objection about the use of the flat roof area as a terrace. No access to the large flat roof other than for maintenance.

187.04 Development received 7/2019/2100 at Green Acres, Scales for a Slurry Pit Cover. No objections, clerk to advise LDNP Planning.

187.05 Clerk had been in email contact with Kevin Richards about the land adjacent to Croft Barn. Clerk was aware of discussions about the development. Clerk had received a copy of the planners advice to the applicant, 7/2019/E0134, this document had been circulated to all councillors for information purposes. It was noted it was issued 25th June 2019.

188.00 Matters concerning District and County Councillors.

188.01 No councillors present.

189.00 Combined parish council project concerning volume of traffic and associated problems in Loweswater valley through Buttermere to Honister.

189.01 Clerk explained about his conversations with LDNP Director of Environmental Development, Steve Ratcliffe and then subsequent contact with Lancaster Uni to use graduate students to assess problems in Lorton Vale, Buttermere and Loweswater. Air quality, how it deteriorates with increased traffic at holiday times, volumes of traffic the congestion, access for emergency vehicles, car parking and lack of enforcement of traffic regulations.

189.02 After a lengthy discussion on numerous problems it was agreed that Lorton would support the combined community project with Buttermere and Loweswater, with Cllrs J.C and P.D being points of contact.

190.00 Presentation of Lorton PC a/c 1/4/2019-31/7/2019 and acceptance.

190.01 Clerk obliged as Finance Code to present qly accounts, but these were for 5 months. Accounts circulated prior to the meeting, no questions raised but Cllr J.C did raise issue of having a large account balance, clerk advised that 30/80% was considered a fair reserve and that the precept banked in April was only half the payment due, so balance not far from ideal reserve. A budget would be presented as normal in November for setting the next year's precept figure in January.

190.02 Accounts approved and Chair signed the bank statement to confirm accuracy.

191.00 Lorton parish grounds maintenance contract resolve acceptance of renewal without tender to accommodate agenda item 12.

191.01 Chair C.P and Cllr T St P, had been in discussions with the current grass contractor Harvey Davidson about his adapting his current grass cutting regime to encourage "rewilding" of the village verges.

191.02 The last contract was awarded 3 years ago at £175 per month. Having assessed the requirements of more cut and collect rather than cut and drop contractor quoted £210 per month and would supply a copy of his registration as a waste carrier to dispose of the grass arisings.

191.03 Cllrs resolved unanimously to accept the revised contract price.

192.00 Grass verge seeding programme and costing approval.

192.01 Cllr T. St P explained her plans and discussions she had undertaken with the contractor. The church is also pursuing a similar planting scheme and it was agreed that there would be a planting day on 29th September. After discussions concerning quantity of bulbs and seed necessary and the need to scarify areas of verges the Cllrs agreed that a budget of £500 would be made available.

193.00 Speed limit through main thoroughfare in Low Lorton and street lighting replacement to facilitate speed limit without possible repeater speed limit signs.

193.01 Clerk was seeking some input as he had been looking at a speed limit through Low Lorton based around the street lighting and possible additional streetlights.

193.02 Cllrs all agreed that should be no more streetlights as all were keen to promote the "dark sky" project in the Lake District.

193.03 Clerk requested to establish repeater distances and also ask UU again for some of their redundant poles and speed limit repeater signs.

194.00 Parish bench renovation/refurbishment update.

194.01 Cllr P.D had received a quote to repair 2 of the village totalling £480. Cllrs discussed perhaps refurbish other benches as there a number that could do with a coat of varnish. It was finally agreed to allocate £800 to the project. Cllr P.D to sort schedule for the work.

194.02 Chair Cllr C.P suggested that if there were further offers of seats for whatever reason from members of the public, the parish council should insist that they are manufactured from recyclable plastic materials with a minimum 25 year guarantee of being maintenance free.

195.00 Lorton newsletter content for September special issue, street lighting, speed limit, and grass verge update plus removal of telephone box.

195.01 To keep the villagers abreast of the current projects on going Cllrs agreed that an additional newsletter later in September would be appropriate. Cllrs agreed who would provide content and get it to the clerk by Friday 13th September so he could get it to the printers early the following week.

196.00 Progress reports, clerk

196.01 Clerk reported that as per minute 175.03 the Boon Beck Bridge repair will commence 16th September and a duration of 4 days is anticipated. Immediate residents and farmers had been advised.

196.02 Allerdale BC were to resume normal bin collections on Monday 9th September as per their initial April schedule.

196.03 The summer newsletter had been printed and distributed. Clerk receiving favourable feedback and items to follow up on.

197.00 Lorton Councillors reports.

197.01 Chair C.P advised that the next Melbreak community meeting is 17th September.

197.02 Cllr J.C raised a point about a pavement in Church Lane from the Green down to the church. Cllrs were of the view that landowners would not be happy to lose land and that perhaps a footpath down the "Narrows" would be a priority. Cllr T.St P advised that there was occasionally funding for footpaths and she would keep a look out for any such promotion.

198.00 Correspondence.

198.01 Clerk has received a new template Finance Code, from Nalc via Calc. He will check the draft and see how it compares with current Lorton code and advise of changes if necessary.

198.02 Clerk had received email about a brown sign indicating direction to Wheatsheaf pub and the local shop at same venue. Clerk and chair had resolved the issue with landlord from the pub, plus Lee from the shop and use of brown tape to hide the shop location reference.

198.03 Calc newsletter received which had been circulated.

198.04 Request from Allerdale BC Electoral Services department, requesting Cllr P.J's electoral expenses form. Duly obtained NIL expenses as all other Lorton Cllrs.

198.05 Notification that The Secretary of State had refused to call in the planning application at Honister Slate Mine for its dual zip wire. Approval anticipated shortly from LDNP Planning Department.

198.06 Invoice received from Printpoint for the 165 parish summer newsletter sheets, £53.00.

198.07 Annual closures of parts of the tracks at Whinlatter Pass to accommodate the annual Malcolm Wilson Rally, Saturday 20th March 2020.

198.08 two emails from Harvey Davidson, one covered by minute No 191.00, the other was his invoice for July and August ground maintenance.

199.00 Payments for Approval

M Milner Intpay38, £316.69, salary Jul/Aug £270.60 exp £46.09.

HMRC PAYE Intpay39 Clerks tax 67.80

Printpoint Intpay40 £53.00 Summer edition Lorton Newsletter

Harvey Davidson, Bigfoot, Intpay41 £350 grounds maintenance July/Aug 2019

All Payments approved

Meeting closed 9.03pm

200.00 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 6th Nov 2019 at 7.30pm

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