

# Buttermere Parish Council

## **Minutes of Buttermere Parish Council held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 at Old School Room, Buttermere at 7.30pm.**

Meeting opened at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs R Beard (chair), Y Kahane, E Beard, L Kyle, A Beard, J Temple, R Wilkinson.  
M Richardson.

District and County Councillors: Neither present

Clerk: Mike Milner.

Apologises for absence: Alan Bowness (CCC). Cllr Carmel Bell (ADC)

**131.00 Apologises.** As noted above.

**132.00 Declaration of Interest.** None

**133.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last Buttermere parish council meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 as a true record.**

133.01 Cllrs unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019.

**134 Co-option of Robert Wilkinson, Gatesgarth Farm, Buttermere to Buttermere Parish Council.**

134.01 The council resolved to co-opt Robert Wilkinson to Buttermere Parish Council. The clerk obtained the new councillor's signature on the declaration of acceptance of office form and presented him with a copy of the Good Councillors Guide. Chair welcomed Robert to the council as did the other councillors.

**135.00 Public Participation.** No reports from last meeting and no members of public present.

**136.00 Police report**

136.01 clerk reported that according to the police website local area crime website there had been 3 thefts from cars, one on the car park by the church, one on the parking around the heritage signpost opposite the church and the third was in the middle of the top end of Crummock Water. So Crime Map indicated??

136.02 clerk advised that on behalf of the 5 parishes he represents as clerk he had written a lengthy report to Inspector Rachel Gale, about the unsatisfactory method of recording crimes on the website. In other parishes most reports were flagged as "violence and sexual offences." Buttermere chair had been included in the circulation of the original report and although clerk had received an acknowledgement from the inspector, he was awaiting her promised more detailed response after she had investigated the clerk's comments. That report clerk would circulate to all councillors when received.

### **137.00 Applications for development.**

137.01 clerk reported that he had received notice that 7/2019/2246, Croft House Farm, it application for signage and also the new extended boundary wall had been approved. He also advised that 7/2019/2281, Gatesgarth Farm, the conversion for the café and bunk house which the council had objected to earlier in the year, the application was now before the planner's again, however as it was only for the café all the work was within permitted works, so no planning action approval required, just conforming to building regulations.

137.02 Clerk had circulated email communication received on 2<sup>nd</sup> December from the agent for the Bridge Hotel. 7/2019/2253. The councillors had already made a decision on the application and the clerk had submitted a letter of objection.

137.03 Chair and councillors discussed the email content, noted 3 sides were now to be timber clad, discussed at length the need or otherwise of such a large storage facility, 10mx8mx5m to ridge height. The size of applicant's tractor and trailer were considered, also how the actual shed was larger than the Old School Room, room they were meeting in and proposed alternative locations in size and location in Bridge Hotel grounds.

137.04 Cllr Y K finally proposed that the clerk write to the agent and advise that the current submission was still the council's stance on the application and a copy also be sent to LDNP Planners, they as the experts should decide the application, this was seconded by Cllr J T and agreed by the council. Clerk to write the document and send after obtaining chair's approval.

### **138.00 District and County Councillors Reports**

138.01 Apologises received from both and no reports to go back to either, by clerk.

### **139.00 Receive and accept audited half yearly accounts up to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.**

139.01 Clerk had circulated the accounts and appropriate copies of ledgers prior to the meeting and asked for questions. No questions and Cllr J.T proposed acceptance and Cllr L K 2<sup>nd</sup> the proposal, resolved unanimously.

### **140.00 Receive 2019/20 budget update, plus proposed budget for 2020/21 and approve the precept figure for financial year 2020/21.**

140.01 Again the clerk had circulated the budget sheets prior to the meeting. The councillors were all in agreement with the budgets circulated. The only discussion was the precept figure, last year they had increased it by 3%. After a discussion Cllr L K proposed that it should be increased by 2% for the forth coming year which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr R B, and unanimously resolved by council. Current precept £1470, 2020/21 request will be £1500. Clerk to advise Allerdale BC on the appropriate form in his possession.

### **141.00 Receive and approve revised Financial Code.**

141.01 Clerk had circulated the 19-page code to all councillors prior to the meeting. He explained that it was good practice to review and to show by an agenda item that councillors had considered how the finances were controlled. There were no changes from the current finance code, so Cllr E B proposed acceptance and Cllr Y K 2<sup>nd</sup> the proposal, it was resolved unanimously.

### **142.00 Clerk's Progress report.**

142.01 the manhole covers subject to minute 126.01, had been reported to Highway's who advised that they were not their responsibility. United Utilities were contacted and the result was the manhole covers were covered over with tarmac. Cllr A B commented that he thought they were for the use of the fire service as a source of water. All agencies would have a map of their various manholes so as only having been seen being used once over decades it was decided not to pursue the subject as the uneven road surface for cyclists had been resolved.

142.02 Clerk had received a request about doing refurbishment work at The Old School Room, new access and steps and pathways. The church assumed it needed parish council approval. Clerk had advised that the ground was probably National Trust and he had emailed the local ranger Mark Astley for his input and confirmation of any covenants. Cllr E B thought that there was a covenant allowing the building 4 metre of land around the footprint. Clerk to seek further clarification from M A the NT ranger.

142.03 Clerk still waiting to see if Lancaster Uni are prepared to take on the transport survey project.

142.04 Clerk advised that he has had no further contact from Connecting Cumbria team about the broadband fibre project for Buttermere. Councillors advised that a couple of weeks ago Buttermere had seen numerous Openreach vehicles in the area.

142.05 Clerk noted that the white lines at various junctions had been done, but centre of Buttermere still not lined by Bridge Hotel. He would chase Highway's again.

### **143.00 Buttermere Councillors reports**

143.01 Cllr Y K circulated a printed report on the ongoing Hydro Project being organised by Melbreak Communities, she provided extra comments about the scheme and finally invited Cllrs to attend a coffee morning at Yew Tree Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> Jan' 2020 where there would be representatives available to talk with more knowledge on the scheme.

143.02 Cllr E B brought to the council's attention that could be the last time the vice chair of the parish council would be attended a meeting as he understood that the Fish Hotel could soon be changing hands and he wanted to record the council's appreciation for Cllr M R's contribution to the community as a councillor. Cllr M R thanked all for their comments, but he could not confirm what was actually happening, but he would advise the clerk by email as and when it was appropriate for him resign. He may still be present in March 2020.

### **144.00 Correspondence**

144.01 Invoice received from Simone Morgan the parish council's internal auditor, for her charges for final audit 18/19 accounts £30 and half yearly accounts 19/20 completed in October, £30, £60 in total.

144.02 Clerk produced correspondence from the council's banker HSBC who since 13<sup>th</sup> September have been conducting an update on the council's business details. Clerk had undertaken a telephone interview lasting nearly half an hour on 30<sup>th</sup> September, but since had received various correspondence indicating a need for additional information, but nothing specific requested. Clerk had made various phone calls to HSBC on the matter, but still nothing resolved. The day for compliance was 4<sup>th</sup> December the day following this meeting. Clerk was pleased to hear councillors support that they would visit him in prison.

144.03 Notification about Allerdale BC going to charge parish councils across the Borough for electricity used, clerk though £30 per light per year. Councillors confirmed NO street lighting in Buttermere.

144.04 Clerk had circulated relevant Members Reports and Calc monthly newsletters.

144.05 Clerk enquired if councillors were interested in any of the Calc run training courses on offer.

144.06 Allerdale BC had circulated a letter about forthcoming general election and flyers for display in a village noticeboard.

**145.00 Payments for Approval**

Intpay38, M Milner salary 3 months September/Nov £216.72, Exp' £20.35 total £237.07

Intpay39 HMRC, PAYE 3 months, £54.20

Intpay40 Simone Morgan, internal audit fees 2 x £30 = £60.00

All approved

**146.00 Date and time of the next meeting.**

146.01 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 and will follow the Buttermere annual parish meeting, which will commence at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 8.28pm.

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