

# Bowness-on-Solway Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017 in the Bower at Port Carlisle at 7.00 p.m.

Present:

Councillors: Graham (Chair), Bradshaw, Carruthers, Coates, Hinks, Hodgson, Hutton, Knowles, and Wills.  
Borough Cllr Hodgson and County Cllr Markley.

Public attendance: E Austin, A Birkett, M Messenger and C Poxon

Clerk: M Abbs

### 1.1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Harrington, Reay and PCSO Donaughee

The following declarations were made: Cllr Carruthers with respect to item 5.6, Cllr Knowles 5.5 and Cllr Hinks about items 5.5 and 5.9,

#### REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

The clerk to report any requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Cllr Carruthers submitted a written dispensation to speak request about item 5.6, which was granted.

An on-going dispensation is in force in respect of the precept.

#### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting.)

Members may, however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to contact the clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

### 2 Minutes (previously circulated)

**2.1 To approve** the draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017. – **approved and signed.**

### 3 Report on action taken

3.1 Report on action by members of the Council

No matters were reported.

3.2 Report from the clerk

The clerk advised that matters would be reported later in the Agenda.

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### 3.3 Public participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

At the invitation of the Chairman Mrs Austin addressed the meeting.

She explained that Natural England were keen to form a 'Farmers Group' in the area and would be submitting an application for a funding grant in the near future. A number of local farmers had already expressed interest in the scheme. She explained that the group would enable members to share common ground on Environmental Issues. It was hoped that the Council, as a local landowner, would be keen to be a member of the group. (see item 5.12)

Mr Messenger addressed the meeting and explained the current situation concerning a defibrillator for Glasson village. He explained that the defibrillator is now an initiative of the Haff Netter and Salmon Conservation Trust and advised that £915 had been raised to date towards the project. The money had been raised in the name of the Glasson Community Group and he answered questions, assisted by Mrs Birkett, from Cllrs Hinks and Knowles concerning this. The Community Heartbeat Trust would be used to source the defibrillator and had indicated a total cost of £1995 for installation in the local phone box. County Cllr Markley provided guidance and said that he hoped to be able to contribute financially to the scheme.

Mrs Poxon expressed the wish of the Port Carlisle Village Hall group for Port Carlisle to have representation on the Parish website. Cllr Graham said the matter would be discussed later in the Agenda. Information was given to her concerning the grant application process by the clerk.

Cllr Markley gave his report at this point.

He advised that Ofsted was currently checking the Children's Services provision of the County Council. Highways improvements across Cumbria were being discussed and considered. The Cattle Grids which had been requested locally were progressing through the appropriate channels at the County Council. He would report further as soon as he could.

The Sea Fisheries vessel was currently being re-furbished and when complete would be able to fulfil its role some distance away from the coast.

The Chairman thanked all contributors for their contributions.

Items 5.10, 5.11 and 5.12 were now considered – see below. After which Cllr Markley Mrs Poxon, Mr Messenger and Mrs Birkett left the meeting.

### 4 Correspondence

To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action.

4.1 Great North Air Ambulance – request for grant support.

The clerk provided details of the request which was **noted without action**.

4.2 H&H Land and Property – Basic Payment Scheme – RPA Mapping and 2017 Payments.

The clerk and Cllr Graham updated Cllrs and the information was **noted without action**.

4.3 Natural England – HLS Stewardship and changes to payment dates.

The clerk updated Cllrs and the information was **noted without action**.

4.4 Heating Oil Club – Information concerning formation and availability to parishioners.

The clerk gave details which was **noted without action**.

4.5 Cumbria Constabulary – Letter concerning Police engagement with Parish Councils.

The clerk updated Cllrs and the information was **noted without action**.

4.6 Gold Star & Rocket Gold Star Owners Club – Memorial Stone to Wal Handley.

The letter was examined, and Cllrs **agreed** that the proposed memorial would be appropriate and of interest to locals and visitors.

The clerk was instructed to confirm the chosen location with Mr Jackson, the Machine Registrar, and notify him that the Club would need to contact the Highways Department to obtain the required permission.

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### 5 New business

5.1 To receive Community reports.

Cllr Graham advised that a 'Carol singing' event was being organised under the Christmas Tree in Bowness just prior to Christmas.

5.2 Police Report.

The clerk had forwarded the message from the Police prior to the meeting Cllrs commented on difficulties accessing the Crime Report. It was **agreed** that the clerk should make enquiries with the Police to see if a separate report could be supplied.

5.3 Grass Cutting tenders for 2018 season. Discussion and appointment of contractor.

The discussion began with consideration of the submitted tenders for grass cutting. Other contractors had been approached but had not submitted tenders. Following discussion, the tender from Colvilles Grounds Maintenance was **accepted**. The clerk was instructed to write accordingly to the contractors.

5.4 Donation to British Legion Poppy Appeal.

A donation of £50 was **agreed** in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The expenditure, in the opinion of the council, being in the interest of the area and its inhabitants.

5.5 70 Plus Committee – donation and request for support for 2017.

Cllrs Hinks and Knowles played no part in the following item.

A donation of £200 was **agreed** in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The expenditure, in the opinion of the council, being in the interest of the area and its inhabitants.

5.6 Defibrillators – update and possible grant requests from Glasson and Anthorn.

Cllr Carruthers provided information but played no part in the decision making for this item.

Cllr Carruthers explained the situation concerning the Glasson Community Association and stated that they had requested a meeting with Mrs Birkett and Mr Messenger but had not received a response to date. The Community Association had been willing to assist with the defibrillator project and initial enquiries had been made.

Cllrs **agreed** that they were unable to consider a funding request at this point. The clerk pointed out that if the matter was now to be handled by the Haff Netter and Salmon Conservation Trust this was an unknown group/charity to the Council, and in line with normal procedure, a copy of the constitution and financial statements would be required before consideration of a grant request was possible. Cllrs **agreed** that the clerk should request these.

Cllrs considered that more detailed costings and information was required for the Anthorn application and the clerk was **instructed** to request this information.

5.7 Anthorn Naval Base Memorial.

Current situation and possible decision.

The clerk had no developments to report and the **clerk was instructed** not to include the matter on future agendas until there were further developments.

5.8 Anthorn Community Committee- grant application for the village hall.

Following discussion of the application papers including financial information Cllrs **agreed** to a grant of £2000. Cllrs welcomed the substantial local support that had been obtained for the project and offered their encouragement for future fundraising efforts. The clerk to write accordingly.

5.9 Request from the Lindow Hall for £400 towards the cost of provision of toilet facilities.

Cllrs Hinks who had declared an interest played no part in the decision for this item.

The remaining Cllrs discussed and **agreed** the request.

The following three items were considered after item 3.3.

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5.10 Parish Website Development – Discussion and decision on requirements.

Cllr Knowles opened the discussion by expressing disappointment at the lack of updated or new information on the existing pages and thought that further development was unnecessary as the existing pages could provide the channel for the information had in mind. The clerk advised that the Anthorn Community Group had expressed interest in using the site but had requested more information. Cllrs **agreed** that the Port Carlisle Group should have some administration rights to the existing pages and the clerk was to explore this possibility with Mrs Lewis.

5.11 Consideration of the report from Cllr Bradshaw concerning marsh signage.

Cllr Bradshaw commenced her report and Cllr Knowles endorsed her findings and recommendations. Following discussion, Cllr Hodgson offered to raise the matters raised with the Borough Council and Cllrs welcomed his offer and **agreed** that he should do this, working with the clerk if necessary.

5.12 Natural England – correspondence concerning the formation of a 'Farmer's Group'.

The information supplied by Mrs Austin was discussed and Cllrs **agreed** that the Council, as a landowner, could contribute usefully and hopefully benefit from participation. Cllrs **agreed** to the completion of the paperwork to assist the funding application, and Cllr Graham duly completed the forms.

Mrs Austin then left the meeting.

## 6 Finance

### 6.1 Information

6.1.1 To approve accounts and bank statements to 30<sup>th</sup> September and 31st October 2017 – available at the meeting. – **approved**.

6.1.2 To note ABC Precept Receipt £9392 + CTRS £122.45 = **£9514.45 – noted**.

6.1.3 **Budget** for 2018/19: see prepared sheet

& therefore **precept request to Allerdale BC for 2018/19**

The clerk explained the latest situation relating to the setting of the Precept and reminded Cllrs of their current financial position. Members then considered the estimates for the rest of this year, and at the same time considered the grants usually paid to parish organisations. Together with the anticipated expenditure for 2018/19 and some allowance for possible contingency, the budget **was approved and it was agreed unanimously** that the precept request for 2018/19 should again be £18784. It was noted that the council may receive further additional support from the Council Tax Reduction Scheme paid by Allerdale Borough Council. The Clerk was authorised to send the precept to Allerdale District Council.

6.1.4 Rural Payments Agency - payments received **£14.32 and £2959.50 – noted**.

**6.2 Payments: to approve** the following payments:

6.2.1- Clerk's salary **£680.36 – approved**.

6.2.2 – Expenses: post etc. £5.23 Telephone & broadband £13.25 = £18.48, travel 13 *miles*@36p= £4.68

**Total £23.16. – approved.**

6.2.3 Colville Grounds Maintenance grass cutting invoices (VAT **£57.80**) **£346.80 – approved**.

Additional invoices may be brought to the meeting.

## 7 Highways

7.1 Any issues arising including updates on cattle grids and streetlighting.

Cllrs Hodgson and Hinks confirmed that the replacement streetlight at Drumburgh had been installed but awaited connection. Cllr Markley advised that the requested cattle grids at Bowness were due to be discussed by the County Council shortly. – **noted**.

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### 8 Planning

#### 8.1 Applications outstanding with Allerdale BC

8.1.1 – CAT/2017/0015 Proposed tree work in Conservation area, Solway House, Port Carlisle (Mr R Howard).

8.1.2 – CAT/2017/0021 Proposed works to trees within a Conservation Area, Port House, Port Carlisle. (Mr R Pattinson)

8.1.3 – CAT/2017/0025 Application to carry out tree works in Conservation Area, Bank Cottage, Bowness (Kirsty Haridas)

The above were **noted**.

#### 8.2 Applications dealt with under standing order

8.2.1 – 2/2017/0464 Demolition of existing garage and workshop and erection of dormer type dwelling, Stonehouse, Drumburgh. (Tracey Robbins)

The clerk confirmed that no objections had been raised. – **noted**.

8.2.2 – 2/2017/0467 Listed building consent for the replacement of two windows with UPVC windows on rear elevation, Hazeldene, Port Carlisle. (Retrospective) (Mrs Linda Hodgeson)

The clerk confirmed that no objections had been raised. – **noted**.

8.2.3 – 2/2017/0450 Variation on condition 2 on application 2/2015/0352 for the enlargement of the existing rooms to form dining room, larger kitchen and W.C. Kings Arms, Bowness. (Ms Pamela Behan)

The clerk confirmed that no objections had been raised. – **noted**.

#### 8.3 Applications decided by Allerdale BC

8.3.1 – 2/2017/0367 Erection of timber kit/gym/sauna single storey building, Bowness House Farm, Wigton. (Mr I Hunter) – permission granted.

8.3.2. – 2/2017/0263 Listed Building consent for conversion of existing barn into dwelling, Cardurnock Cottage, Cardurnock (Mr Stokes). – permission granted.

8.3.3 – 2/2017/0266 Proposal to change use of storage barn to dwelling conversion, Cardurnock Cottage, Cardurnock. (Mrs and Mr W Stokes) – permission granted.

8.3.4 – 2/2017/0450 Variation on condition 2 on application 2/2015/0352 for the enlargement of the existing rooms to form dining room, larger kitchen and W.C. Kings Arms, Bowness. (Ms Pamela Behan) – permission granted.

All the above were **noted**.

#### 8.4 Applications for discussion by this meeting

None – **noted**.

### 9.1 Documents received for comment.

9.1.1 Parliamentary Boundary Commission – Consultation on Boundaries in the North West.

The consultation was **noted without action**.

### 9.2 Documents received for information (available on request to clerk)

9.2.1 CALC Circulars for October and November and Annual Report.

9.2.2 SALTEX trade show in Birmingham.

9.2.3 CALC AGM 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at Carlisle Racecourse.

9.2.4 Wicksteed Playgrounds Information.

The above were **noted**.

## **Bowness-on-Solway Parish Council**

### **10 Any items of information...**

#### **10.1** brought by members

Cllr Wills asked that possible bench repairs be included on the January agenda.

Cllr Hodgson thought that it would be a good idea to review the condition of the 'Millennium Oak Trees' in the Parish and the clerk was asked to also include this item.

#### **10.2** brought by Borough Councillor

Cllr Hodgson had no significant matters to report. A meeting had taken place at the NFU about the proposed Internal Drainage Board, but he had no news to report.

#### **10.3** brought by County Councillor

His report had been given earlier.

#### **10.4** brought by the clerk

The clerk advised that a letter had been received from HSBC concerning the 'ring fencing' of its UK operation.

**11.1 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7pm at THE BOWER, PORT CARLISLE**

**11.2 Date of future meeting: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7pm at the LINDOW HALL, BOWNESS**

The dates were **noted**.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35 p.m.**