

BOWNESS ON SOLWAY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Wednesday, 18th January 2023, in Lindow Hall, Bowness on Solway.

Present:

Chair: Councillor Pauline Hinks

Councillors: Marian Carruthers, James Graham (Vice Chair), John Harrington, Carol Mark, Wilson Reay, and John Wills

County Councillor: Tony Markley

Clerk: Peter Streatfeild

No member of the public was present.

1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

No apologies were received, and no declarations of interest were made.

2 Minutes (Meeting 2nd November 2022 previously circulated)

2.1 The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 2nd November 2022 were **approved** unanimously.

3. Report on action taken

3.1 Reports on action by members of the Council:

Councillor Reay reported that he and the Clerk had installed defibrillators at Old Anthorn and Easton and had met some residents of Cardunock and Fingland with regards to installing two more defibrillators.

3.2 Report from the clerk – **None.**

3.3 Public participation (at the Chairman's discretion) – No parishioners were present.

3.4 Report from County Councillor Tony Markley:

Councillor Markley gave a verbal report highlighting the transformation works going on behind the scenes as the Local Government Reorganisation takes place emphasising the current importance being given to children's services, youth employment and youth hubs, the green initiative and carbon reduction on farms with three sites being selected for solar panels, cycling and connectivity in the Lakes and the West Coast. Regarding the disposal of nuclear waste the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) Allerdale Partnership have ruled out Aspatria for any disposal so it seems the options are now within the Flimby Area or possibly in Lincolnshire. He further reported that the Friends of the Earth have appealed against the Government's decision to approve permission for the coal mine near Whitehaven. With reference to the reorganisation of electoral boundaries in Cumbria Councillor Markley stated that the constituencies of Penrith and Solway would be combined to form one resulting in local Conservative Party members choosing between the current MPs, Mark Jenkinson and Neil Hudson, at next week's hustings, however, the two members would continue to serve their current constituents until the next general election.

At this point councillor Markley left the meeting.

3.5 Report from Borough Councillor Hodgson – **None.**

4. To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action

5. New business/Follow-on business

5.1 To receive community reports:

Councillor Reay had already reported (see 3.1) about the installation of defibrillators at Old Anthorn and Easton and meeting residents of Cardurnock and Fingland.

Councillor Hinks reported that the £500 donation was put towards the 70 Plus Club's Christmas expenses for the 70 Plus citizens of the parish.

Councillor Carruthers reported that Port Chapel had received funds for a "Warm Space" where people meet every third Thursday of the month for a warm drink and hot food.

Councillor Hinks also reported that the King's Arms in Bowness provides hot food every Friday under the same "Warm Space" scheme.

5.2 Update on provision of defibrillators for Old Anthorn, Easton, Fingland and Cardurnock:

The defibrillators in Old Anthorn and Easton have been installed (see 3.1) and awaiting registration with the Northwest Ambulance Service. Two defibrillators will be ordered for Cardurnock and Fingland. Councillor Reay will request Chris Turner to erect the necessary posts.

5.3 Update on speed awareness devices for Glasson (permanent device) and one each (temporary devices) in Drumburgh, Anthorn & Fingland:

The Clerk reported that 30% of the bill, i.e. £2,326.63, was paid to Swarco Traffic Ltd on 14th December 2022 so work should begin soon on the Glasson and Drumburgh signs. Councillor Carruthers will contact James Houghton of Highways Department about the post for Fingland.

5.4 Update on payment of concrete plinths for metal parish seats:

An invoice for £40 has been received from Messrs Hodgson which was approved unanimously for payment. Councillor Carruthers reported that the Glasson seat needs a plinth.

5.5 Repositioning of noticeboard at Cardurnock:

Councillor Reay reported that the notice board will be erected on the other side of the road opposite the post box. Councillor Reay will request Chris Turner to erect the notice board.

5.6 Maintenance of noticeboards: no action to report. – **Noted.**

5.7 Concerns about safety issues in Fingland:

Councillor Reay reported that he and the Clerk have visited Fingland and talked to residents who pointed out the dangers faced by school children and others whilst waiting for buses; the need for a prescribed bus stop & shelter; the speeding traffic through the village; the adverse camber on the road and accumulation of rain water causing dangerous conditions. – **Noted.**

5.8 Concerns about the culverts & railings at Low Flow, Glasson:

The Clerk reported that Councillor Hodgson had also reported the outstanding matters to the Highways Department which has assured him they will deal with them after 1st April 2023.

5.9 To discuss updating the fingerposts in the Parish:

Since the matter of maintaining the metal fingerposts/sign posts is pending the Clerk was requested to pursue the matter with the County Council through Councillor Hodgson.

5.10 Preparations for Council Elections on 4th May 2023:

Councillor Hinks reported that the Lindow Hall has been booked for the county elections.

5.11 Update on possible electric vehicle charging points in the Parish:

Investigations are ongoing.

5.12 Request for funds from Anthorn Sports Club to repair tennis courts:

Councillor Graham proposed the requested amount of £2,000.00 be granted towards the estimated cost of £5,45.00 to £6750.00 (exc. VAT). Councillor Harrington seconded the proposal which was **approved** unanimously.

5.13 Update from Port Carlisle Village Hall committee following request for receipts for previous grant funding:

The Clerk reported that an amount of £324.14, being the balance from the last request, had been returned so the matter can be closed - **unanimously agreed.**

5.14 Grass cutting review:

Councillor Hinks reported that Mr Ian Rumney of Solway Gardens and Landscapes be permitted to cut the grass at Glasson and Anthorn according to weather conditions rather than length of grass. This was **approved unanimously.**

5.15 Information regarding The Lindow Hall:

Councillor Hinks reported that Lindow Hall, which is a community asset, has a very old oil boiler will need to be replaced fairly soon as the 'Green Energy Regulations' become law.

5.16 To approve arrangements for the internal audit for 2022/23:

It was **agreed unanimously** to continue the appointment of PL Gauntlett as the internal auditor for the 2022/2023 financial year.

6. Finance

Information

- 6.1.1 To approve the accounts ending 30th November & 31st December 2022 – **Approved**.
It was **Noted** that a total amount of £6,327.53 was received under the Basic Payment Scheme from the Rural Payments Agency.
- 6.1.2 To note the Clerk's salary of £265.62 for December 2022 – **Noted**.
- 6.1.3 To note the HMRC payment of £66.20 for December 2022 – **Noted**.
- 6.1.4 To note the appointment of a new external auditor:
The Clerk reported that the new external auditor appointed is Moore of Peterborough. The annual audit charge will be a minimum of £210 pa plus VAT – **Noted**.
- 6.1.5 To note £2,326.63, 30% of the total amount, £7,756.63, paid to Swarco Traffic Ltd on 15th December 2022 – **Noted**.
- 6.1.6 To note £500 donation paid to 70 Plus Club for Christmas gifts – **Noted**.
- 6.1.7 To note £250 donation paid to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - **Noted**.
- 6.1.8 Budget for the Council Elections on 4th May 2023:
The Clerk reported that £4,900.00 had been set aside in the budget for the upcoming elections. He also reminded Council that an amount of £3,400.00 had been allocated to celebrate the King's Coronation. **Noted**.
The parish precept request of £18,784.00 was submitted on 2nd December 2022 – **Noted**.

To authorise the following payments

- 6.2.1 Clerk's expenses: £73.54 towards cost of telephone and internet for six months (June to December 2022) and reimbursement of £59.99 towards the cost of the annual Microsoft subscription – **Approved**.
- 6.2.2 Anthorn Village Hall – The invoice for room hires in 2021-2022 was still awaited – **Noted**.
- 6.2.3 Invoice dated 13th December 2022 for £20.00 from CALC for Finance Training Course attended by Clerk – **Approved**.
- 6.2.4 Invoice of £138.00 from Rocket Sites for web hosting – **Approved**.
- 6.2.5 Payment of £40.00 to Messrs Hodgson for concrete bench plinths - **Approved**.

7. Highways

The Clerk reported that the Highways Department have stated that they will take up the outstanding and other reported road works from 6th April 2023.

8. Planning

Applications outstanding with Allerdale BC

- 8.1.1 FUL/2022/0111 – Change of use of land to create a public car park and holiday lets land use for accommodation and erection of communal block and bin store, demolition of barn and replacement with micro-brewery and widening of site access – Bowness House Farm – Change in wastewater drainage – Outcome still pending – **Noted**.
- 8.1.2 FUL/2022/0178 – Conversion/ Amendments to Conversion of roof space to provide an ensuite bedroom and a flat roof area to provide a balcony at the Highland Laddie, Glasson Village – Outcome still pending – **Noted**.
- 8.1.3 FUL/2022/0076 – Formation 5 single storey bungalows, north of Millgrove, Glasson – Outcome still pending – **Noted**.

Applications decided by Allerdale

- 8.2.1 HOU/2022/0190 - Internal and external alterations with small additions onto the main dwelling. Extension and alterations to the existing garage. Sandbaggers Cottage, Port Carlisle, CA7 5DQ – **Noted**.

Applications for discussion at this meeting

- 8.3.1 HOU/2022/0220 -Two storey side and rear extension with front dormer and porch to provide sunroom, utility and garage to ground floor with two bedrooms, ensuite, juliet balcony and bathroom to first floor, including solar panels to roof and demolition of existing garage. 7 The Island, Anthorn, CA7 5AN:
After discussion Council were **concerned** about the overall size of the extension and its effect on the privacy of surrounding residences.
- 8.3.2 HOU/2022/0228 - Proposed replacement pitched roof to existing side extension. Grey Haven, Bowness on Solway, CA7 5BT:
Council has **No Objections**.

9. Documents received for comment

- 9.1 CALC Circulars – no matters were brought forward.
- 9.2 Common Land and Village Greens – communication is ongoing with Friends of the Lakes District.

10. Any items of information

- 10.1 Brought by members:
Councillor Harrington reported that the village sign for Longcroft on the west had dropped - **Noted**.
- 10.2 Brought by the clerk.
The clerk reported he had received an email from Julian Smith, Parks and Open Spaces Officer of Allerdale Borough Council about cutting the grass in Port Carlisle Play Area. This will be for discussion at the March meeting.

11. Date of next meeting – 15th March 2023

The meeting was brought to a close at 9.00pm.