

# **BOWNESS ON SOLWAY PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk: Peter Streatfeild

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Minutes of the General Meeting of Bowness on Solway Parish Council  
held at 7.00pm on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023** in The Lindow Hall, Bowness on Solway.

## **PRESENT**

Chair: Pauline Hinks

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

Clerk: Peter Streatfeild

One member of the public

### **1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.**

There were no apologies and no declarations of interest.

### **2. Minutes**

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and the extraordinary meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were accepted and **approved** unanimously.

### **3. Report on action taken**

#### 3.1 Report on action by members of the Council

All Councillors reported that the Coronation tea towels had now been delivered to every household in the parish as far as they knew.

#### 3.2 Report from the clerk

There was no report.

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

There was no public participation at this juncture (see below).

### **4. To review correspondence received and take any appropriate action**

#### 4.1 Email from Run Nation Events Ltd.

The Clerk reported that the half marathon around 'The Island' scheduled to be run from Anthorn on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023 has been postponed until 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### **5. New business/Follow-on business**

#### 5.1 To receive community reports:

##### 5.1.1 Update from The Lindow Hall regarding the heating system.

Councillor Hinks reported that the new boiler had been installed and commissioned.

##### 5.1.2 Update from Bowness Community Group (BCG) regarding cinema project.

The clerk presented the BCG expenditure and completion report for the cinema project. It was noted that the expenditure report was not complete, so the BCG was requested to submit full details of the expenditure incurred on the cinema project.

#### 5.2 Update on provision of defibrillators for Fingland and Cardurnock.

The Clerk reported that a defibrillator had been installed in Fingland and in Cardurnock and both were now live.

Councillor Markley arrived at 7.20pm.

#### 3.4 Report from Cumberland Councillor Markley

Councillor Markley informed the Councillors that he is now on the Scrutiny Committee. As mentioned in the last meeting he is one of five members on the Community Panel which covers the Fells to Bowness on Solway and each councillor has been allotted a grant of £3,000 to be used in the areas they represent. Councillor Markley is also on the Planning Committee which is planning a two-day event to celebrate the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). He further stated that Cumberland Council is beginning to move forward as the Councillors 'find their feet.' When questioned about the resumption of emptying bins in the previous Allerdale Borough area he reported that the union's dispute with the Allerdale Waste Services is still ongoing.

Councillor Markley made his apologies and left at 7.40pm.

#### 5.3 Update on Pandora Technologies Ltd speed awareness devices installation for Anthorn & Fingland.

Councillors Hinks and Carruthers reported that a speed awareness device had been installed in Fingland and the installation at Anthorn has been postponed due to the change in authorities. The Council has been requested to submit the application for Anthorn again via the Cumberland Council portal. This was noted as being disappointing as plans had been in place. Cllr Carruthers and Hinks will progress this matter.

#### 5.4 Update on maintenance of noticeboards by Mr Broughton.

The Clerk reported that all ten notice boards have been painted and been paid for.

#### 5.5 Update on safety concerns in Fingland.

The Clerk reported that three of the safety concerns in Fingland have been sorted, namely the provision of a defibrillator, the installation of a speed awareness device, and correction of the road camber in the hamlet. As the provision of a bus shelter is outside the competence of the Parish Council it was agreed to remove the safety concerns off the next agenda.

#### 5.6 Update on concerns about the culverts & fencing at Bowness Hall Farm.

The Clerk reported that the Highways Department were aware of the Council's concerns.

#### 5.7 Update on maintenance of metal fingerposts in the Parish.

The Clerk reported that the Highways Department were aware of the Council's concerns and had requested photos and locations of every finger post in the parish.

#### 5.8 Update on possible electric vehicle (EV) charging points in the Parish.

The Clerk reported there were possibilities in installing EV Charging Points outside Lindow Hall, Anthorn Village Hall and Anthorn Social Club. Councillor Hinks, representing the Lindow Hall, reminded the Councillors that no one takes notice of the parking restrictions outside the hall and therefore believed a charging point would not be feasible outside the hall. There are charging points in Bowness House Farm car park.

#### 5.9 Update on changes to bank account signatories.

The Clerk reported that he had completed the relevant bank forms and Councillors had provided the required signatories and would deposit them soon.

#### 5.10 To Note that a letter of objection has been sent to Cumbria Wildlife Trust regarding proposed peatland restoration around Rogersceugh Drumlin on Bowness Common SSSI.

The Clerk reported that he had not received any response to his letter. This was noted.

#### 5.11 To Note that a letter has been sent to Liam McKenna stating conditions to install a bench on The Banks in memory of his mother.

The Clerk reported that he had not received any response to his email. This was noted.

#### 5.12 Matters from Glasson Community Association (GCA).

Councillor Hinks reported that the GCA had appointed Bendles, as their solicitors, to deal with the deed of surrender of the lease and to look into the possibility of a gift of deed for the equipment in the park. She further reported that Ms Elizabeth Crouch of Cartmell Shepherd had been approached to deal with the current lease and addendum who explained the matter was not straightforward so there could possibly be a

cost implication between £750 and £1,000. This was dependent on sight of the documentation provided by Bendles. This was noted and unanimously agreed to authorise the Chair and the Clerk to pursue the matter.

With reference to the tree survey request made by the GCA it was noted that no Ash Dieback had been reported in previous surveys but, if the GCA wish to carry out a survey they will have to pay for it. Councillor Carruthers agreed to provide the contact number details of Mr Sim, tree surveyor, to GCA.

The Head Teacher of Bowness Primary School and two members of the Governing Body arrived unexpectedly at 7.50pm.

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

Despite the allotted time for public participation being over the Chair allowed the school delegates time to speak about traffic issues outside the school. They asked if the Parish Council could provide advice and funding to restrict vehicle speeds and create a 'safety zone' for pupils to get off and on the school bus at the beginning and end of the school day because of ongoing safety concerns. After a lengthy discussion the delegates were advised to contact the local Police, the Police Commissioner, the Education Department and the Highways Department because the Parish Council does not have any authority to put any restrictions on the public highways.

The Head Teacher and members of the Governing Body left at 8.20pm.

### 5.13 Request from Rowena Beaty for funds to advertise the 'Around the Island Art Trail'.

Councillor Carruthers pointed out that the artists were private businesses and therefore not eligible for any funds from the Council. She proposed they are not given any funds to advertise the planned 'Around the Island Trail' advertising. This was seconded by Councillor Harrington and supported by one other, rejected by one and two abstentions thus the request for funds is denied.

### 5.14 Letter from Cathy Poxon requesting help towards the Chapel at Port Carlisle.

Councillor Hinks reported that funds were requested towards the repair of the Chapel windows which had been damaged on two occasions but pointed out that Council funds cannot be given to Churches/Circuits for repairs to buildings, so the request is denied.

### 5.15 Proposal for signage requiring heavy/long vehicles to turn right out of Glendale Holiday Park.

Due to a large caravan transporter coming from the Glendale Holiday Park recently getting stuck in Bowness on Solway Councillor Harrington proposed that the Park authorities be requested to put a sign indicating that all large vehicles turn right when exiting the Park. This was approved unanimously. The Clerk to write to Park Homes who own the site.

### 5.16 Glasson village pump.

The Clerk read a letter from Andrew Dickson of Ash Tree Cottage, Glasson, informing the Council that he was renovating the 'village pump' situated in his garden and stated that he was happy to keep the Council up to date with his progress. A question was raised as to the ownership of the pump, but Mr Davidson has written that "there is a by-law that states the owners of Ash Tree Cottage must maintain access to the pump" and "therefore assure you (*the Parish Council*) that the pump and the well beneath it will be protected." This was noted.

### 5.17 Concerns raised regarding parking in Drumburgh blocking views when exiting the junction from Drumburgh Moss.

Councillor Hinks reported that she had received some complaints from Drumburgh residents and other road users about unauthorised parking of vehicles on the Drumburgh Moss junction making it difficult and dangerous for exiting vehicles and cyclists. She said a report had also been sent to the Highways Department and a response was awaited. This was noted.

### 5.18 To consider an increase in the weekly hours for the Clerk.

Councillor Hinks noted that the Clerk was working more than his allocated 7.5 hours per week ever since he had been given the responsibility to visit the ten parish notice boards and five defibrillators on a

regular basis, so she proposed that the Clerk's hours be extended to ten hours per week with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023. This was seconded by Councillor Carruthers and **approved** unanimously.

## 6. Finance Information

- 6.1.1 To Approve the monthly accounts and bank statements ending 31<sup>st</sup> May and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023. **Approved** unanimously.
- 6.1.2 To Note the Clerk's monthly salary paid for May & June 2023 (£291.52 pm). **Noted.**
- 6.1.3 To Note the Clerk's reimbursement of expenses of £43.62 towards telephone & internet usage January to March 2023 (£36.77) and postal expenses (stamps £6.85). **Noted.**
- 6.1.4 To Note the HMRC monthly PAYE payments (£72.80) paid for May & June 2023. **Noted.**
- 6.1.5 To Note £1,200 paid to the Parochial Church Council towards the cost of cutting the churchyard grass. **Noted.**
- 6.1.6 To Note the annual premium of £357.38 paid to BHIB Insurance Brokers for renewal of insurance policy number LCO00387. **Noted.**
- 6.1.7 To Note £277.13 annual subscription paid to NALC (£69.47) & CALC (£206.66). **Noted.**
- 6.1.8 To Note the Chair's 2022/23 Allowance of £60.00 paid. **Noted.**
- 6.1.9 To Note £198.00 paid to Community Heartbeat Trust for annual support - Drumburgh. **Noted.**
- 6.1.10 To Note £1,920.00 (8/6/23) and £1,680.00 (26/6/23) paid to Cartmell Shepherd for legal expenses. **Noted.**
- 6.1.10 To Note £750.00 paid to S Broughton for painting 10 notice boards. **Noted.**
- 6.1.11 To Note £65.00 paid to P L Gauntlett for Internal Audit 2022-23. **Noted.**
- 6.1.12 To Note £282.00 paid to H & H Land Agents towards Basic Payment Scheme 2023 work. **Noted.**

## Payment authorisations

- 6.2.1 To Authorise reimbursement of the Clerk's expenses.  
The reimbursement of the Clerk's expenses totalling £165.40 (£43.62 for telephone and internet – April to June 2023, £8.20 for postage, £23.60 for stamps, and £89.98 for 3 reams of paper and two printer cartridges) was **approved** unanimously.

## 7. Highways

- 7.1 To Note camber works carried out in Fingland. Other works such as repairs of potholes and resurfacing ongoing. **Noted.**

## 8. Planning

### 8.1 Applications outstanding with Cumberland Council (Allerdale BC)

- 8.1.1 ADV/2022/0007 - Application for Advertisement Consent at various locations in Bowness on Solway by the Bowness Community Group:  
Point A West End of Village; Point B Peartree Farm – Wall; Point C The Banks Path - West Entrance; Point D The Banks Path - East Entrance; Point E East End of Village.  
It was **Noted** that the matter is still pending.
- 8.1.2 FUL/2022/0243 – Slurry Tower, Millrigg Farm, Millrigg, Kirkbride.  
It was **Noted** that the matter is still pending.

### 8.2 Applications decided by Cumberland Council (Allerdale BC)

- 8.2.1 FUL/2022/0178 – Conversion/ Amendments to Conversion of roof space to provide an en-suite bedroom and a flat roof area to provide a balcony at the Highland Laddie, Glasson Village.

Granted with a number of conditions. **Noted.**

8.2.2 FUL/2023/0052 – Erection of a replacement cattle housing building – Pasture House, Cardurnock, Bowness-on-Solway.

Granted with conditions. **Noted.**

8.2.3 HOU/2023/0056 – Internal and external alterations with small additions onto main dwelling. Demolition and replacement garage – Sandbaggers Cottage, Port Carlisle.

Granted with conditions. **Noted.**

### 8.3 Applications for discussion at this meeting

It was **Noted** that there were no applications for discussion.

### 8.4 Applications discussed under standing orders

It was **Noted** that no applications were discussed under standing orders since the last meeting.

## 9. Documents received for comment

9.1 CALC Circulars

There was no discussion.

## 10. Any items of information

10.1 Brought by members.

No information was presented.

10.2 Brought by the clerk.

No information was presented.

10.3 Legal matters (Closed discussion)

After the discussion it was **approved** unanimously to bring the particular matter to a close.

## 11. Date of next meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

The meeting was brought to a close a 9.35pm.

Peter Streatfeild,

Clerk to Bowness on Solway Parish Council.