

# **BOWNESS ON SOLWAY PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk: Peter Streatfeild

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Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Bowness on Solway Parish Council held on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024** in The Lindow Hall, Bowness on Solway at 7.00 pm.

## **PRESENT**

Chair: Pauline Hinks

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

Cumberland Councillor: Tony Markley

Clerk: Peter Streatfeild

No member of the public attended.

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

There were no apologies.

Councillor Carruthers declared an interest in point 5.5 regarding Glasson Play Area.

### **2. Minutes**

2.1 The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were accepted and **approved** unanimously.

### **3. Reports**

3.1 Report on action by members of the Council.

There were no reports.

3.2 Report from the Clerk.

The Clerk reported that the Statement of Precept Levied for 2024/2025 had been received.

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

There were no public present.

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

4.1 Letter received from H & H Land Agents re Basic Payment Scheme – de-linked statements.

The Chair reported that the de-linked statements needed checking from the year beginning 2020/21 to ensure the council was receiving the full amount of rebate due. She pointed out there would be a cost involved but it was proposed and **unanimously approved** that M/s H & H Land Agents be requested **to check** through the past years.

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

5.1 To receive community reports.

It was reported that the Christmas Warm Space Community Lunch in the Lindow Hall on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 was well received and enjoyed by many. Councillors Hinks and Carruthers along with others were congratulated on the success.

Cumberland Councillor Tony Markley arrived.

5.2 Update on Pandora Technologies Ltd Speed Indicator Devices installation.

Councillor Hinks reported that matters were still pending with the Highways Department as it was proving difficult to contact the relevant people. Councillor Markley suggested emailing Amber Sykes with a copy to him.

3.4 Report from Cumberland Councillor Markley.

Councillor Markley reported that the past weeks had been quiet with the holiday period and the 'bedding down' of new councillors and staff as changes were taking effect and communication skills were improving.

No decision had yet been made regarding the Bus 93/93A service between Carlisle and Bowness on Solway.

Councillors Hinks and Carruthers thanked Councillor Markley for the grant towards the Warm Space Christmas Lunch.

5.3 Update on maintenance of metal fingerposts in the Parish.

The Clerk reported that he was still awaiting news about the maintenance. Councillor Markley suggested Amber Sykes of the Highways Department be contacted.

Cumberland Councillor Markley left the meeting at this point.

5.4 Update on changes to HSBC bank account signatories.

The Clerk reported that all papers had been signed and delivered to HSBC. It was suggested that the next cheques be countersigned by Councillor Harrington, the new signatory.

5.5 Update on the Glasson Community Association (GCA) and Play Area and possible signing of the Deed of Surrender.

The Chair reported that the Deed of Surrender had not yet been issued by the GCA's solicitors, M/s Bendles, but maintenance work was being carried out in the Play Area. The Council's solicitors, M/s Cartmel Shepherd, had written asking if we were prepared to proceed with the Deed of Surrender and take the land back in its current state. It was noted that the legal expenses were mounting between meetings. It was proposed and agreed that we would go forward with the Deed of Surrender.

Councillor Hinks proposed to hold an extraordinary meeting as and when the Deed was ready. This was seconded by Councillor Graham and agreed upon.

5.6 Update on 'right turn' signage for heavy/long vehicles leaving Glendale Holiday Park.

The Clerk read the Manager's email in which he reported the Glendale Holiday Park will be visited by their Properties Department on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 regarding the 'right turn' signage.

5.7 Update on parking 'obstructions' in Drumburgh at T-Junction to/from Drumburgh Moss.

Councillor Hinks reported that she is hoping to meet with Councillor Markley and others from Cumberland Council next week.

5.8 Update on the Fells and Solway Community Panel.

It was noted that the final date for funding applications to be submitted to the Community Panel is 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and will be considered at the next panel meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

5.9 Update on matters regarding the demolition of Rogersceugh.

On referring to Peter Leech's email of 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023 concerning the demolition of Rogersceugh Farm the Council was unanimous in confirming they would, in principle, support him in holding to account either Natural England, RSPB or relevant employees in Cumberland Council.

5.11 Participation in D-Day 80 celebrations 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

The Clerk reminded Council of the national plans to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day Landings by all Town, Parish & Community Councils on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 by lighting Beacons or lighting Lamp Lights of Peace at 9.15pm and encouraging the Churches to Ring Out For Peace by ringing their bells at 6.30pm. It was unanimously agreed that the Council will participate and encourage others to also participate. The Clerk is to contact the different associations/groups in the parish and St Michael's Church about the national commemoration.

5.12 To agree co-option notice to be posted on website and notice boards to recruit Councillors.

The Chair pointed out that the Council was low in number so, to encourage new members, she proposed and it was **unanimously approved** that Co-option Notices should be posted on the parish council website, the notice boards and in the parish magazine.

5.13 To review payscale of Clerk following notice from CALC regarding pay increase.

The Chair reported that she had received an approved new pay scale for council employees, including parish clerks, therefore she proposed that the Clerk, Peter Streatfeild, should be put onto the new scale and receive one year increment in his pay to Level 6. This was **approved unanimously** to be effective from April 2023, the beginning of the financial year.

5.10 To approve grass cutting tenders for 2024 & 2025.

It was reported that four tender documents had been received which were read out and noted. Discussion took place.

Councillor Carruthers proposed M/s Graham & Turner which was seconded by Councillor Harrington – total 2 votes.

Councillor Graham proposed M/s I Rumney which was seconded by Councillor Wills – total 3 votes.

Councillor Carruthers left the meeting before proceedings were completed.

There was 1 abstention which resulted in M/s I Rumney being awarded the contract for two years pending submission of his insurance documents.

## 6. Finance Information

6.1.1 To Approve the monthly accounts and bank statements ending 30<sup>th</sup> November & 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. **Approved** and signed by the Chair.

6.1.2 To Note the payment of £3,512.00 to M/s Ian Rumney, Solway Gardens and Landscapes, towards the final grass cutting expenses for 2023. **Noted.**

6.1.3 To Note the payment of £84.00 to The Lindow Hall for room hire during 2023. **Noted.**

6.1.4 To Note the Clerk's expenses totalling £240.70 reimbursed (towards telephone £40.20, 6 x ink cartridges £140.97 & mileage £59.53 – 132.3 miles @ 0.45ppm). **Noted.**

6.1.5 To Note the payment of £158.40 to M/s Ian Rumney, Solway Gardens and Landscapes, towards the strimming of public parish benches during 2023. **Noted.**

6.1.6 To Note £500.00 donation paid to the 70Plus Club. **Noted.**

6.1.7 To Note £200.00 donation paid to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal for 2023. **Noted.**

6.1.8 To Note the Clerk's monthly salary of £388.62pm paid for November & December 2023. **Noted.**

6.1.9 To Note the HMRC monthly PAYE payments of £97.20pm for November and £97.00 for December 2023. **Noted.**

## Payment authorisations

6.2.1 To Authorise the reimbursement of the Clerk's expenses.  
Expenses of £59.99 towards the annual subscription for Microsoft was **Approved.**

6.2.2 Invoice from Thorpe Trees.

It was reported that **No Invoice** has been received to date.

## 7. Highways

There were no matters to report.

## **8. Planning**

### **8.1 Applications outstanding with Cumberland Council**

8.1.1 FUL/2023/0157 – Proposal to erect a replacement concrete slurry tank with a flexible cover at Drumburgh Castle, Drumburgh. Still under consultation. **Noted.**

8.1.2 FUL/2023/0247 – Proposal to erect a general purpose crop store at Campfield Farm, Bowness on Solway. Under consideration. **Noted.**

### **8.2 Applications decided by Cumberland Council**

8.2.1 FUL/2023/0201 – Proposal to put a roof over an existing muck midden at Marsh House, Easton Village. Granted with conditions on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. **Noted.**

8.2.2 CAT/2023/0029 – Proposal to pollard an ash tree in the back garden of Hillcrest, Bowness on Solway. Permission granted on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023. **Noted.**

8.2.3 CAT/2023/0030 – Proposal to remove height of young ash trees on the terrace, crown lift a sycamore on the shore/garden border, remove height from ash tree on shore/garden border and remove a large ash tree from the garden at Maia, Bowness on Solway. Permission granted on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023. **Noted.**

### **8.3 Applications for discussion at this meeting**

8.3.1 VAR/2023/0038. Applicant: Park Holidays (UK) Ltd. Proposal: Variation to condition 7 (foul drainage) on approved application FUL/2020/0252 to change to a pre-occupation/Use condition rather than pre-commencement. Location: Glendale Holiday Park, Port Carlisle , Wigton CA7 5DJ. There were **No Objections** from the Councillors.

8.3.2 FUL/2023/0276 - Applicant: Mr Wilson. Proposal: To roof over an existing cattle feeding area with steel framed lean-to structure. Location: Marsh House, Easton Village, Easton CA7 5DL. There were **No Objections** from the Councillors.

### **8.4 Applications discussed under standing orders.**

8.4.1 FUL/2023/0247 – Proposal to erect a general purpose crop store at Campfield Farm, Bowness on Solway. There were no objections from the Councillors. **Noted.**

## **9. Documents received for comment.**

9.1.1 CALC circulars – to Note that CALC is now a limited company. **Noted.**

9.1.2 To note the annual CALC portion of fees increased by £1.00 to £38.00 for 2024/25. **Noted.**

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

10.1 Brought by members. **None.**

10.2 Brought by the clerk.

Croft Surgery at Kirkbride has made a request of £150 donation towards a 'Health and Wellbeing Event' being organised on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024. To be brought to the next meeting. An invitation has been extended to all local residents by the Glendale Holiday Park during the March – October "Season" for extensive entertaining programmes and events.

11. **Date of next meeting** – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

The Meeting was brought to a close at 9.05pm.