

CROSTHWAITE AND LYTH PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on **Tuesday 1 March 2022**
at 7.30pm in the Parish Church

Present – Cllrs. Mary Harkness (Chair), Angela Dobson, Matthew Dobson, Robert Sykes, Andrew Metcalfe and Edward Sharp; County Cllr. James Bland; District Cllr. John Holmes; the Clerk and 13 members of the public

26/22 Apologies

None

27/22 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2022 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair

28/22 Declarations of Interest

None

29/22 Requests for Dispensation

None

30/22 Chair's Announcements

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished to record that all the formal complaints made against Cllrs. Harkness and A Dobson to the Monitoring Officer at SLDC concerning the Neighbourhood Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan Group have now been adjudicated or withdrawn. The complaints alleged that there had been breaches of the Code of Conduct. The investigations have been completed, having been to two legal experts who both agreed that there was nothing to justify further investigation and that no breaches of the Code, or the duty to declare an interest, have occurred. The Chair stated that all Councillors take their duties under the Code seriously

The Chair continued by stating that the Council trust that the community can now move on to working constructively together with a spirit of goodwill and that, if we don't pull together and move forward, we won't succeed but, if we do pull together, we can get on with our Plan work and that way we will succeed and bring the community with us

31/22 Public Participation

The owner of Mireside Farm, Crosthwaite explained a forthcoming planning application for the property

32/22 Reports

- a. District Cllr. Holmes reported regarding the elections for the Westmorland & Furness unitary authority on 5 May 2022 with the elected members running as a shadow authority alongside the current members for Barrow, South Lakeland and Eden until April 2023 when they will take over from the County Council and the three district authorities. The appeal for a judicial review by the County Council has been dismissed and this has been accepted. SLDC's contribution towards the initial set up costs will be £1.6m plus the additional costs of the shadow authority up to vesting day. He also reported on the increases in the respective shares of the Council Tax for 2022/23 including 1.5% for SLDC, 0% for CCC but an additional 2% for adult social care and 3.67% for the Police & Crime Commissioner; the possibility of second home owners electing to pay business rates (and claiming small business rate relief) but from April 2023 having to prove availability for rent of a minimum of 140 days pa and achieve at least 70 days pa or pay full Council Tax; and the continuation of the local council tax reduction scheme for 2022/23 – SLDC being one of a few local authorities nationally to continue to offer up to 100% relief
- b. County Cllr. Bland reported regarding various highways matters including Helsington Moss Bridge still awaiting Environment Agency approval
- c. Cumbria Police: There was no report but Cllr. Metcalfe stated that the volunteer farm watch for the Lyth Valley area to help on night time operations had been set up

33/22 Planning

- i) It was noted that no planning applications had been submitted to LDNPA and circulated to members of the Council since the last meeting
- ii) It was noted that the following planning applications had been notified as approved by LDNPA since the last meeting:
 - 7/2021/5565 Land south of St Mary's Green, Crosthwaite**
Outline permission for two dwellings and a footpath
Granted with local occupancy conditions
 - 7/2021/5693 Barkbooth, Winster**
Convert barn into 3 bed local needs dwelling
Granted after application amended to local needs dwelling in accordance with Council objections to original holiday let inclusion
 - 7/2022/5051 The High, Crosthwaite**
Demolition of a redundant steel framed agricultural building
Prior approval not required
 - 7/2022/5094 Land to rear of Cross Howe, Totter Bank**
Approval of reserved matters on planning permissions 7/2018/5506 and 7/2019/5809
Information only and not a consultation
- iii) It was noted that the following planning application had been withdrawn:
 - 7/2021/5958 Fields at Starnthwaite Road, Starnthwaite**
Change of use to campsite

34/22 Highways & Footpaths

Highways:

- a) Cllr. Bland was still investigating road safety on the narrow section of the A5074 including the possibility of additional slow signs, cones and reflectors, together with the possibility of funding to widen the section
- b) No action had yet been taken by Highways regarding the erosion on Mill Lane

Footpaths/Tracks:

- i) It was agreed that the opening ceremony for the new Walkway would be on 30 March 2022 at 2.30pm and that a rowan tree would be planted
- ii) It was confirmed that the repair and drainage work to the Oak Lane (Nurses Lane) track would be administered by LDNPA and the Clerk was asked to write requesting urgent attention to this
- iii) It was agreed that the Clerk should repeat to LDNPA that the footpath from the church to Mill Lane was in urgent need of repair

35/22 Trees, Woods & Hedges

- i) No trees and woods matters were discussed
- ii) It was reported that Alan Fawcett had lightly trimmed back highways hedges in several places

36/22 Neighbourhood Plan

Terms of Reference were to be circulated to the Council shortly. It was agreed that the Council will not seek to redesignate a revised Neighbourhood Plan development area. It was noted that the information gathered to date by the Neighbourhood Steering Group, including all emails sent and received in that name and all evidence gathered, had not yet been received by the Clerk and the Clerk was asked to request all such items

37/22 Appointment of Councillor to fill Casual Vacancy

It was agreed to make enquiries as to persons willing to be co-opted with a view to making a decision at the next meeting

38/22 Speed Restrictions and Speed Indication Devices

The Chair and the Clerk were to progress the Council's resolution that there are extended speed limits in the village

39/22 Parish Council Website

It was noted that the parish council website was now operational and the Clerk was thanked for his work in this regard. There were still some items to be included and the site should be on google shortly

40/22 Post Office

More information would be soon available regarding a possible location for one or two days per week

41/22 Litter Pick

The Chair thanked those volunteers who had offered to help in the 2022 litter pick, which would be from 27 March to 3 April 2022, and District Cllr. Holmes who was to arrange litter gloves, etc

42/22 Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting in the village hall on 3 May 2022 at 6.30pm for 7.00pm and to invite local organisations to give their annual report

43/22 Finance

- a) It was noted that no receipts had been recorded since the last meeting
- b) The following payments were approved:
 - PCC of St Mary's Church – Hire and associated costs of meeting - £15.00 – cheque 994
 - Thomson Hayton Winkley – Legal charges re purchase of strip of land, east of Hollow Clough, Crosthwaite – £899.40 - cheque 995
 - Chris Smith - Contractor - £344.00 – cheque 996 (thanks were expressed for the work done after Storm Arwen)
 - A2A Advertising Ltd – New website plus domain registration fees, annual hosting fees and SSL certificate - £576.00 – cheque 997
- c) The proposed renewal of the parish noticeboards was deferred until the next meeting
- d) The Clerk reported that he was awaiting documentation from Barclays regarding amendments to the cheque signatories
- e) It was noted that the bank statements for January and February 2022 had not yet been received

44/22 Correspondence

The following correspondence received and not included as an item on this agenda was noted:

- a. Further items giving information re coronavirus (covid-19) matters
- b. Further items concerning local government reorganisation
- c. Items concerning the severe weather warning status of Storms Dudley and Eustace
- d. CALC – New Cumbria Highways online reporting system (emailed to Cllrs.2/2/22)
- e. Lake District Green Lanes Alliance – Details of campaign with Green Lanes Environmental Action Movement regarding lanes deemed to be the most vulnerable and at risk from recreational motorised traffic (emailed to Cllrs.8/2/22)
- f. SLDC – Information from Cumbria Action for Sustainability re wide range of home energy / retrofit items (emailed to Cllrs.8/2/22)
- g. CALC – Cumbria County wildlife sites event on 17/2/22 (emailed to Cllrs.8/2/22)
- h. CALC – Request for input for revamped newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.8/2/22)
- i. CALC – North West Coastal Access update February 2022 (emailed to Cllrs.11/2/22)
- j. CALC – Request to promote 30/3/22 NALC online policing event on working together to make communities safer (emailed to Cllrs.11/2/22)

- k. CALC – Flooding training sessions on 3/3/22 and 8/3/22 (emailed to Cllrs.11/2/22)
- l. CALC – Civility and respect – February 2022 newsletter (emailed to Cllrs.22/2/22)
- m. SLDC – Funding still available for Greening campaign – meeting 10/3/22 (emailed to Cllrs.22/2/22)
- n. CALC – Cumbria in Bloom, Tourism and RHS “It’s Your Neighbourhood” Awards 2022 (emailed to Cllrs.24/2/22)

45/22 Items for Information- *no decisions or action permitted*

Reminder that the Parish Council is joining with the Crosthwaite and Lyth Landowners in inviting parishioners to a Grand Jubilee Picnic on Saturday 3 June 2022. This will be a bring your own picnic and bottle and will take place at the square limestone outcrop at the top of Row Lane. After the picnic the plan would be for those who wish to walk to the Landowners’ recently purchased new section of woodland on the north end of Whitbarrow where there will be a formal opening ceremony

46/22 Councillors’ Issues to be Raised – *no discussions must take place on these matters but will be placed on the next Agenda*

- Purchase of a plank bench on the walkway to commemorate the Queen’s Jubilee
- Emergency Planning Group work streams
- Grit bins

47/22 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 5 April 2022 and will commence at 7.30pm in the Parish Church

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm