

Minutes of the Meeting of Crosthwaite and Lyth Parish Council
held in the Parish Church on Tuesday 02 November 2021 at 7.30pm

(contact details for clerk crosthwaiteandlyth.pc@hotmail.co.uk)

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Mary Harkness (Chair), Cllr Angela Dobson (Vice Chair)
Cllr Lisa Bibby, Cllr Matthew Dobson (*), Cllr Edward Sharp, Cllr Robert Sykes (*)

Invited :

Cllr Jim Bland	-	County Council Representative
Cllr John Holmes	-	District Council Representative

16 members of the public present

MINUTES

1. Apologies to be noted and accepted

Cllr Andrew Metcalfe had emailed his apologies which were noted and accepted

2. Declaration of interest

Cllr Edward Sharp for Item 8a
Cllr Matthew Dobson for Item 8c
Cllr Angela Dobson for 8c

3. Dispensations

None

4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 05 October 2021

It is **proposed** that item 8e should show that Council approved, as part of the objection, that ‘an amenity space that includes a full kitchen, shower etc, living spaces is not an amenity but an independent dwelling’.

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the above proposal was accepted and that with this amendment to the minutes they are accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. (all in favour)

5. Chairman’s Announcements

- Welcome to everyone and many thanks to John Holmes for arranging this meeting in the Church.
- Cllr Mary Harkness confirmed that Cllr Angela Dobson and herself will not take part in Item 12 due to complaints lodged with the Monitoring Officer.

6. Open Session

- Charlotte Robinson – asked the Council to push forward with the Neighbourhood Plan and to agree a date to restart the process. It is not helpful to delay any further.
- Graham Pane – the Council should stall no longer on the Neighbourhood Plan process. The excuse that Cllr Harkness and Cllr Angela Dobson have stepped aside due to complaints is not acceptable.
- Brian (Surname) – the Council should not delay any further in getting the Neighbourhood Plan completed as it will mean information will become out of date. It needs to represent all parts of the Parish and needs to start up again as soon as possible.
 - Cllr Harkness responded by saying that she had been advised to step aside from Neighbourhood Plan matters on the agenda
- Robert Mosser – here to listen in particular to item 8a, and provide any information that may be required.

- Another person - agrees with other speakers on the Neighbourhood Plan in that it should move forward and questions why there should be any further delay.

7. Reports

- County Councillors Jim Bland
Cllr Bland confirmed that various works had been done on roads within the Parish. The Unitary Council matter is ongoing.
- SLDC Councillor John Holmes
Cllr Holmes confirmed that SLDC was involved with Unitary Council matters. They are awaiting the outcome of Judicial Enquiry on the Unitary Council process. At this time it is expected that there will be elections for a Shadow Council in 2022.
- Police
None

8. Planning

Cllr Edward Sharp left the room

- 7/2021/5816
Location : Cannydale, Lyth, LA8 8DG
Proposal : Demolition of existing barn, wood store, stabling and shed. Erection of new single timber clad building which will contain a barn, workshop, storage, utility room and ancillary accommodation. The ancillary accommodation will comprise 1no bedroom, 1no bathroom and kitchen/living/dining space. This constitutes a partial change of use from buildings which are currently agricultural (barn and stabling). The agricultural use will remain

Discussions took in the matter of the accommodation being registered for local occupancy

It was **proposed** that the Council has no objection to this application.

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept this proposal and asked that the a Local Occupancy clause is added to the accommodation. (all in favour)

Cllr Edward Sharp returned to the room

- 7/2021/5833
Location : Damson Dene Hotel, Crosthwaite LA8 8JE
Proposal : Site 1 pre-fabricated pod accommodation unit in grounds of hotel wit dedicated parking.

Discussions covered the increase in size on the Hotel within the last six years and with that whether or not the business was acting in a sustainable manner. Available accommodation has almost doubled in size over this period having a negative effect on infrastructure. It is apparent from this application and previous ones that there is no move to an environmentally sustainable future. There appears to be no additional staff accommodation so the business is not bringing additional jobs for local people.

It was **proposed** that Council has no objection to this application but questions the long term sustainable strategy for this Hotel and the implications for local infrastructure.

The Council **RESOLVED to** accept this proposal and asks the LDNPA to give serious consideration to the implications of long term development on the local infrastructure. (all in favour)

Cllr Matthew Dobson and Cllr Angela Dobson left the room

- c. 7/2021/5845
Location : Broadoak Farm, Crosthwaite, LA8 8JL
Proposal : Amendment to design for barn 1, condition 2 (plans) on planning permission 7/2019/5588 for conversion of two barns to three dwellings.

It was **proposed** that the Council has no objection to this application.

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal. (all in favour)

Cllr Mathew Dobson and Cllr Angela Dobson returned to the room

- d. 7/2021/5875
Location : Field near Starthwiate
Proposal : Gap in wall to be widened and 14 foot gate installed (resubmission of withdrawn application 7/2021/5660)

It was **proposed** that the Council has no objection to this application subject to approval by Highways.

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept this proposal. (all in favour)

- e. Any other applications received.
There were no further applications

9. Finance

- a. Bank balance at
£ 17,908.46 Business account
£ 11,340.63 Business Premium Account
Statement not available at this time
- b. Martin French (Wages) £ 207.76 (28 hours)
- c. HMR&C £ 51.80 (PAYE)
- d. PCC of St Mary's Church £ 30.00
- e. CALC £ 20.00
- f. NPower £ awaiting invoice
- g. It is **proposed** that above payments are made, and receipts recorded

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal. (all in favour)

10. To consider a request for funding assistance from Crosthwaite C of E Primary School

After some discussion and a review of projected year end balances it was **proposed** that Council donates £750.00 to Crosthwaite C of E Primary School

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept this proposal (all in favour)

11. Vacancy for Clerk (LB)

- a. For the Council to agree the recruitment and appointment process for the vacancy of Parish Clerk.

Cllr Bibby outlined the process for selecting a new Clerk with :-

03 Dec at 12 noon – Closing date for applications

03 Dec evening – 4 councillors to come up with short list and questions to ask at interview

06 Dec evening – 4 councillors to interview

Councillors to be involved are Cllr Harness, Cllr Dobson, Cllr Bibby, Cllr Sykes

It was **proposed** (LB prop, MH sec) that the post of Clerk should be for up to 30 hours per month (reviewed after 6 months) and at an hourly rate between £12.98 to £14.42 dependant on qualifications and experience.

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal and asked that the vacancy is promoted via the Westmorland Gazette, the Community Web Site, the Two Valley News, Facebook, CALC, and Job Centre Plus.

Council thanked Cllr Lisa Bibby for the work done in providing information for the appointment of a new Clerk.

Cllr Mary Harkness and Cllr Angela Dobson left the room

The Clerk asked for a proposal for a Chair for this section of the meeting

It was **proposed** that Cllr Robert Sykes takes the Chair for this item

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal (3 in favour) that Cllr Sykes Chairs this item

12. Neighbourhood Plan

- a. To consider the actions of the Council in relation to Standing Orders
 - Cllr Bibby said it was her opinion that, following a discussion with CALC, Council should not have paused the Neighbourhood Plan process on 10 August. She was also of the opinion that the actions of Cllr Harkness and Cllr A Dobson to withdraw from discussions on the Neighbourhood Plan was correct. It is clear that Council should continue with the NP and has a responsibility to spend the grant.
 - Cllr Sykes was of the opinion that the decision to pause the plan was valid.
- b. To consider further consultation with CALC on the Neighbourhood Plan progressing
 - Cllr Bibby feels that the Neighbourhood Plan should continue and that it may be worth looking at CALC acting as a mediator with all concerned.
- c. To review the pausing of the Neighbourhood Plan process
 - After some discussion it was **proposed** that Council should meet on 10 November to further consider options.

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal with all councillors in agreement.

Cllr Harkness and Cllr A Dobson returned to the room, whereupon Cllr Harkness took the Chair

13. Walkway (AM)

- a. To provide an update on purchase and construction

The Clerk reported that both construction and purchase are well underway. Jim Bownass had provided a video of construction for councillors. There was some discussion about an opening Ceremony and tree planting, with Cllr Harkness agreeing to speak with Jim Bownass and the tree planting to be on the December agenda.

14. Speed Restrictions (Clerk)

- a. To update Council on progress

The Clerk will be having a conversation with Cumbria CC on Wednesday 03 November

15. To consider the impact of Ash die back on the Parish and possible action

- a. To update Council on progress
The Clerk has communicated various information through the usual channels.

16. Secure email addresses

- a. To update Council on progress (Office 365 and paper on Secure Emails circ 12-10-21)
It was agreed that this should be discussed again in December when councilors have more information. The Clerk was asked to contact SLDC IT department.

17. Communications

The Vacancy for a clerk is to be circulated through as many channels as possible.

18. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 07 December 2021 in the Parish Church starting at 7:30pm

..... Cllr Mary Harkness (Chair)

Dated:- 07 December 2021