

## CROSTHWAITE AND LYTH PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

Held on Monday 04 September 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Room, Crosthwaite

**Present:** Cllrs Mary Harkness (Vice-Chair in the Chair), Matthew Dobson, Edward Sharp, Heather Young

**In Attendance:** Cllr. S. Bavin (Westmorland & Furness Co.), Martin Curry (Clerk). Two members of the public were present.

**56/23 Apologies:** Apologies had been received from Cllrs A. Dobson, A. Metcalfe, R. Sykes and from M. Richardson (Responsible Finance Officer).

**57/23 Minutes:** It was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 17 July 2023 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Vice-Chair.

**58/23 Declarations of Interest:** Cllr. M. Dobson declared an interest in Item 8 (a) ii & iii – Land off Woodside Road and would vacate the meeting at its consideration if necessary.

**59/23 Requests for Dispensation:** No requests for dispensation had been received.

**60/23 Chair's Announcements:** The Chairman had no announcements to make.

**61/23 Public Participation:** K and J Beeby spoke in respect of proposals for Oak Fold, west of St Mary's Green in Crosthwaite. It was likely that they will submit a planning application for one detached and a pair of semi-detached houses in early October. They had previously engaged with the Parish Council in June 2020 as they were keen to understand what the village wished to see in a development. They have checked design codes and believe the current plans are sympathetic to the local aesthetic and incorporate considerable energy-saving technology. In response to a query about affordability, they confirmed that the semis were deliberately designed to be of modest size. Cllr. Harkness thanked them for their presentation and explained that the application would be formally considered once the proposals had been notified to the Council by the planning authority.

#### 62/23 Reports

**a) Westmorland & Furness Council:** Cllr. Bavin reported as follows:

- i) Two bridges are currently out of commission – that at Mill Lane is awaiting in-river permissions from the Environment Agency for inspections and the timescale remains uncertain. The Parish Council asked Cllr. Bavin to monitor progress on this one. The LDNPA pedestrian footbridge at Cock Moss has been declared unsafe pending work – though it was noted that people are still using it.
- ii) There is now funding by way of a bursary to help 16–19-year-olds secure transport for education e.g. to Kendal College. This is available via W&FC.
- iii) Cllr. Bavin apologised for recent disruptions to the green bin collection service caused by a combination of holidays and sick leave. This is being addressed.
- iv) Work on the A5074 hasn't yet started but a contract has been awarded and will hopefully commence in October / November. There is work proposed for the A590 and a contra-flow with lights will be in place from Witherslack to Meathop from 18 September to 07 November.
- v) W&FC has confirmed that there are no issues in its area with the recently publicised faulty concrete (RAAC). This does not cover Church of England schools, however.
- vi) W&FC is asking people to be on the look-out for the Asian Hornet. This invasive species is not yet recorded in Cumbria but is an aggressive predator of native honeybees. Sightings should be reported. Cllr. Harkness thanked Cllr. Bavin for his report.

**b) Police:** A recent edition of Focus had been published, otherwise no specific report had been received. Cllr. Harkness referred to a recent incident of cold-calling which is to be discouraged. Cllr. Young reported a suspicious vehicle seen locally recently. It was confirmed that anything suspicious or of concern should be reported to the police on 101.

#### 63/23 Planning

**a) The following planning applications received from LDNPA** and circulated to Members of the Council since the last meeting were considered:

- i. **7/2023/5466: Blues Barn, Broadoak Farm**, Crosthwaite, Kendal LA8 8JL - New garage to side of property + solar panel array. Councillors were pleased to note the proposal for a solar panel array and confirmed **No Objection** to this application.

Cllr. M. Dobson left the meeting during consideration of the following two items:

- ii. **7/2023/5479: Land off Woodside Road**, Crosthwaite, Kendal – Erection of midden (part retrospective).
- iii. **7/2023/5480: Land off Woodside Road**, Crosthwaite, Kendal – Erection of multi-purpose agricultural building (retrospective)

It was **Resolved to Object** to both these applications on the grounds that the building described as retrospective has not been built in accordance with the planning application. Construction of the second building is already well-underway without planning consent. The Parish Council confirmed that it cannot approve applications that have not followed the development management process and should therefore object on that basis.

- b) **To consider any planning applications received and circulated to Members of the Council after publishing the Agenda:**
  - i) **7/2023/5476: Gilpin Cottage, Lyth, LA8 8DQ** – Replacement Agricultural Building: It was **Agreed** that there should be **No Objection** subject to the replacement building being used for agricultural purposes.
- c) **To note responses submitted to LDNPA** following consideration by the Parish Council: None since the last meeting.
- d) **To note decisions on the following planning applications:**
  - i. **7/2023/5307: Mireside Farm, Crosthwaite LA8 8BT** - Alterations to farmhouse etc as previously notified. No Objection submitted 19/06/2023. **Approved** with conditions 17/08/2023.
  - ii. **7/2023/5308: Mireside Farm, Crosthwaite LA8 8BT** – Same details as above, but listed building consent. No Objection submitted 19/06/2023. **Approved** with conditions 17/08/2023.
- e) **To note any other Planning Matters:** It was **Agreed** that the Clerk should follow up the previous enquiry about sheds and planning permission with LDNPA.

#### 64/23 Highways and Footpaths

##### a) Highways matters:

There were no highways matters other than those that had been dealt with under Cllr. Bavin's earlier report.

##### b) Footpaths / Tracks Matters:

There were no footpaths / tracks matters reported.

**65/23 Trees, Woods, Hedges and Grass:** It was **Agreed** that Cllr. Harkness should ask Chris Smith to trim at Jubilee Wood and make recommendations on the need for coppicing along the stream.

#### 66/23 Parish Land

a) **Letting of Vacant Parish Land:** The Clerk reported that following a conversation with the prospective tenants for Hubbersty Head the property is once again available for rent. The prospective tenant for Cowmire Quarry is considering taking Hubbersty Head instead.

##### b) Other Land Related Matters

- i) **Bench to commemorate Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II:** Councillors were pleased to note that Cllr. Metcalfe and Chris Smith had sited the bench at Hubbersty Head as agreed. They wished the Minutes to record their appreciation and to note that the work had been done voluntarily for the benefit of the Parish.
- ii) **Proposed skate-board circuit:** Councillors noted a response from the Playing Fields Committee to the effect that it would not be possible to site a skateboard circuit on the playing field grounds. It was **Agreed** to advise Chris Tomlinson of this development. It was further **Agreed** to write to the Chair of the Landowners of Crosthwaite and Lyth to enquire if there might be any place on Whitbarrow which might be appropriate for off-road non-motorised activity.

**67/23 Neighbourhood Plan:** The Vice-Chair reported that work has continued and asked the Clerk to summarise progress. The Clerk's full report will be posted on the website (<https://www.crosthwaiteandlythpc.co.uk/>) as part of these Minutes. With regard to the opportunity to apply for grant, it was **Agreed** to pursue this after the proposed meeting with LDNPA.

**68/23 Emergency Planning Group:** With the creation of the list of volunteers it was **Agreed** that this initiative had developed as far as practicably possible and that it would be taken off the Agenda of future meetings.

#### 69/23 Finance:

- a) Receipts: The following receipt in addition to investment income since the last meeting was noted:
  - i) Snooker Club – Parish Room electricity September 2022 to April 2023: £ 236.40
- b) It was noted that there had been no receipts since publishing the Agenda.
- c) The following payments were **Approved**:
  - i) Npower - Parish Room electricity February to July 2023: £ 68.93
  - ii) M R Curry - Salary & Expenses July & August 2023: £ 641.54
  - iii) HMRC - PAYE for July and August 2023: £ 147.00
- d) The following payment due since publishing the Agenda was Approved:
  - i) Chris Smith – Lengthsman: Insurance and maintenance work: £ 280.21
- e) Councillors noted the bank balance of £24,307.48 at 31 August 2023 and authorised the Chair to counter-sign the bank statement.

**70/23 Administrative Items**

The Clerk reported on various administrative items including the need to move Parish Council filing onto a cloud-based platform to ensure a robust back-up. A number of archival items, and particularly older Minutes, needed to be brought within the Parish Council system.

It was also **Agreed** to take out a subscription to the on-line digital mapping site Parish On-line at an annual cost of £45.00. This would enable the development of an effective digital record of Parish Council assets. Asked if he had the capacity to develop these initiatives the Clerk responded that the work would have to be gradually phased and would take time, but that it was advisable for the proper management of Council interests.

**71/23 Correspondence:** Items of correspondence on the Agenda were noted. It was decided not to commit to D-Day 80 for the time being. Otherwise no further comment was made or follow-up required.

**72/23 Items 'for Information':** Cllr. Harkness mentioned the development of the local environment group CLEAN and it was **Agreed** to monitor and where appropriate support and assist this initiative.

**73/23 Councillors' Issues to be Raised**

No items were raised for inclusion on the next Agenda.

**Date of next meeting** – The next full Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 02 October 2023**

The meeting finished at 8.40 p.m.

**Signed as a correct record:**

**Date:**