

CROSTHWAITE AND LYTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council

held on Monday 03 October 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Room

Present: Cllrs. Andrew Metcalfe (Chair), Matthew Dobson, Mary Harkness, Edward Sharp, Robert Sykes, H. Young.

In Attendance: District Cllr. John Holmes, Cllr. Steve Bavin (Shadow Westmorland & Furness Co.), Martin Curry (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

135/22 Apologies: Cllr. Angela Dobson, County Councillor J. Bland. Councillors were sorry to hear that Cllr Dobson's recovery was protracted and Agreed to send a card with hope for a speedy return to health.

136/22 Minutes: The Clerk reported that the Responsible Finance Officer had requested that Minute 130/22(d) be amended to read "The RFO reported on and explained the variances between the budget and the actual figures for 2021/22. He will present six-monthly figures to September 2022 for the November meeting of the Council." This amendment was accepted and subject to which it was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 05 September 2022 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

137/22 Declarations of Interest: Cllr. M. Dobson declared an interest in Item 8(i) – land off Woodside Road, Crosthwaite.

138/22 Requests for Dispensation: None

139/22 Chair's Announcements: The Chairman made the following announcements:

- a) Payment for the new noticeboard at Bowland Bridge has been made; the board at the Village Hall will remain the primary one for the display of Minutes, Agendas and other Parish Council matters.
- b) New rubber matting had been laid on the grass bank access to the Parish Room door. This had been procured as an emergency health and safety requirement and it was **Agreed** to reimburse £136 to the Chairman. It was noted that the rubber mats could be locked and anchored at a later date if necessary.
- c) On behalf of Crosthwaite & Lyth Parish Council, the Chairman requested a one minute silence to mark the passing of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.
- d) It was **Agreed** that the Council will discuss a commemorative bench in memory of the late Queen.

140/22 Public Participation: No matters were raised under this item.

141/22 Reports

- a) **District Councillor:** Cllr. Holmes reported that other than SLDC's active involvement with the establishment of the Westmorland & Furness Council, there were no other matters of significance to report. With the agreement of the Parish Council, however, he took the opportunity to update it on the proposal to provide back-up electric supplies to Argles Memorial Hall in the event of a major electrical outage. This will enable the Hall to act as a haven and refuge for the residents of Crosthwaite to provide heat, power and cooking facilities in such an emergency. He outlined two options:
 - i. To provide an electric supply through the Hall into a 100amp auto-switch from which a generator could be run. This would be dependent on either NorthWest Electricity agreeing to supply a suitable generator at 'point of need' and 'hard wired' into an external connection box or a private contractor hiring out a suitable generator. This approach would leave the facility vulnerable to demand for generators in an emergency event;
 - ii. To purchase a single-phase, 240 volt 12KW diesel powered generator to be wired into an auto-switch. This would give greater security in the event of an emergency and was felt to be the preferred option subject to:
 - Further discussion with the Hall Committee on general principles;
 - Securing funds (costs (including VAT) are estimated at a little over £16,000). Cllr; Holmes is in discussion with CVS to explore funding opportunities;
 - Planning permission may also be required;
 - Agreement as to ongoing arrangements for maintenance, insurance, fuel etc.

Cllr Holmes confirmed that he will act as coordinator on these and other matters. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Holmes for his work on moving this initiative forward and offered himself as Parish Council liaison. He confirmed that the matter will be an Agenda item for the next meeting.

- b) **County Councillor:** In the absence of Cllr. Bland no report was received.
- c) **Shadow Councillor, Westmorland & Furness Council:** Cllr. Bavin reported as follows:
 - i. The repairs to the bridge on the Toll road appear to be nearing completion and the Parish Council endorsed his thanks to Cllr. Bland for pushing this forward.
 - ii. The consultation on the developing Council Plan is nearing completion and the outcomes will be published when available.
 - iii. The appointment of a Director of Resources has been confirmed and the appointment of the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer is expected soon.
 - iv. There are ongoing discussions on a range of policies including cost of living support, social care, climate change and bio-diversity issues.
 - v. The NHS has launched an on-line consultation on new hospital provision for Preston / Lancaster to which contributions from the public are invited.
- d) **Cumbria Police:** No report had been received.

142/22 Planning

- a) **Applications submitted to LDNPA since the last meeting:** It was noted that none had been received.
- b) **Planning applications received and circulated to members after publishing the Agenda:** It was noted that none had been notified.
- c) **Responses submitted to LDNPA following consideration by the Parish Council:**
 - i. **7/2022/5480: High Cartmell Fold, Crosthwaite:** Agricultural workers dwelling and associated works. The Clerk reported that the consultation period had closed on 29 August, but on representation had been extended to 29 September to allow comment. Following email consultation with Councillors, he had advised LDNPA that the Parish Council has no objection to the proposals, subject to the house being designated as an agricultural dwelling for local occupancy use only.
 - ii. **7/2022/5519: Barkbooth, Winster:** On behalf of the Parish Council, the Clerk had, on 21 September, confirmed to LDNPA that it has no objection to the development subject to it being for local occupancy only.
 - iii. **7/2022/5542: 1, Oak Fold, Crosthwaite:** On behalf of the Parish Council, the Clerk had, on 21 September, confirmed to LDNPA that it has no objection to the development subject to it meeting stated development specifications.
 - iv. **Starnthwaite Field – new structure:** The Clerk confirmed that this had been referred to LDNPA for a view on whether planning permission is required for this development.
- d) **Councillors noted the following applications notified as approved by LDNPA since the last meeting:**
 - i. **7/2022/5300: Town End, Crosthwaite:** Construction of a lake to secure bio-diversity gain – notified as approved on 05 September, 2022
 - ii. **7/2022/5463: Land off Woodside Road, Crosthwaite:** It was noted that a Decision Notice approving 2 agricultural buildings (Notice of Intention: Agriculture) had been granted by LDNPA on 12 September. The Chairman reported that this development had been the subject of complaint letters and offered the opinion that this should have been dealt with as a full planning application. However, it had been dealt with under agricultural planning legislation and that there was no further action that the Parish Council could take.

143/22 Highways and Footpaths

- a) Highways matters:
 - i. Tarnside Lane: The Chairman confirmed that he had checked out the junction of Tarnside Lane with the A5074. There is a junction sign to the south, but it is partly obscured by trees and needs cleaning. He had also looked at the adjacent pond which has been much enlarged recently. This now leaves the question of ownership of both the trees and the pond and the Clerk was asked to try to clarify this via HM Land Registry. The item was noted for inclusion on the Agenda for the next meeting.
- b) Footpaths / tracks matters:
 - i. Chris Smith has cleared the footway over Clapper Bridge to the Jubilee Path.
 - ii. Oak Lane (Nurses Lane): It was noted that this matter had been passed to LDNPA and CCC.

144/22 Trees, Woods, Hedges and Grass

- a) The Clerk has written to Castles and Coasts regarding the need to cut back the hedge at Oak Fold.
- b) The Chairman confirmed that he has asked Alan Fawcett to strim and trim paths and hedges as he had done in early 2022.

- c) Concern was raised about evidence of ash die-back on roadside trees which need to be dealt with sooner rather than later. It was **Agreed** to raise this issue with Cllr. Bland and also to log the issue on CCC Highways reporting system.

145/22 Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman reported that work has continued since the last meeting and asked the Clerk to summarise progress. The Clerk gave a detailed report on work undertaken during September and outlined a series of steps proposed to be taken during October. There was some general discussion about next steps and the wider issue of securing buy-in from the wider community for the process. The Council **Agreed** to progress in line with the proposed next steps, including a broader review of the Terms of Reference. A transcript of the Clerk's report is part of these Minutes and may be viewed on the Parish Council website at <https://www.crosthwaiteandlythpc.co.uk/>

146/22 Speed Restrictions and Speed Indication Devices (SIDS)

Cllr Sykes reported his understanding that there were no plans to include Starthwaite Road within a speed restriction zone which appears illogical given that there had been no quibble about other areas of the village. Cllr. Sykes believes that CCC Highways officers are continuing to work on proposals.

147/22 Emergency Planning Group

The Chairman reported that in the absence of Cllr. A. Dobson there was no new update to give. He referred, however, to the detailed report presented by Cllr Holmes earlier in the meeting on the possible procurement of a generator for the Village Hall which should be seen as part of the emergency planning initiative.

148/22 Disposal of Debris at The High, Crosthwaite: The Chairman reported that he had discussed this with Liam Robinson who had confirmed that the site was in the process of being tidied-up prior to sale.

149/22 Clerk's and Associated Matters: It was noted that a new filing cabinet had been acquired for the Parish Room and the Council recorded its thanks to the Chairman for arranging this. It was Agreed to await developing proposals from the Clerk for ICT hardware requirements and a possible sharing arrangement with Levens and Helsington. It was also Agreed in principle to make a contribution towards the Clerk's training costs for the CiLCA qualification estimated at £40.00. This will be confirmed after discussion with Levens and Helsington.

150/22 Finance: Councillors recorded their understanding that Malcolm Richardson as RFO will now only attend meetings periodically. On his behalf and based on information received from the RFO, the Clerk reported:

- a) Receipts: It was noted that there had been no receipts since the last meeting
- b) Payments between meetings: The following payments made between meetings were approved:
 - i) Notice Board Company (UK) Ltd – New noticeboard: £ 415.77
 - ii) M R Richardson – Salary and expenses to 31 August 2022 £ 916.86
- c) Payments to be made: The following payments were approved:
 - i) HMRC - PAYE and national insurance to August 2022 £ 343.82
 - ii) Npower – Parish Room electricity for August 2022 £ 20.42
 - iii) M R Curry – salary and expenses for September 2022 £ 307.15
 - iv) M R Richardson – salary and expenses for September 2022 (incl. filing cabinet) £ 255.09
 - v) HMRC – PAYE for September 2022 £ 114.80
- d) The payment of the Data Registration fee of £35 by Direct Debit (saving £5) was noted
- e) Bank Reconciliation: Councillors noted the figure of £19,157.91p as the reconciled bank balance at 30 September 2022.

151/22 Correspondence: The following items of correspondence were noted with no additional comment:

- a) Further items concerning Local Government Reorganisation
- b) CCC – Feedback on Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (emailed to Cllrs 06/09/22)
- c) CALC - Engagement / Community Plan – virtual session 03/10/22 (emailed to Cllrs 06/09/22)
- d) CCC – Cumbria Coast & Flood Forum – 20/10/22, Kendal 10-4pm (emailed to Cllrs 27/09/22)
- e) CALC – Wednesday update 21/09/22 (emailed to Cllrs 27/09/22)
- f) CALC – CALC News July / August (received 20/09) (emailed to Cllrs 27/09/22)
- g) CCC – Zero Carbon Cumbria Update via CALC (emailed to Cllrs 27/09/22)
- h) CALC – Sustainable Transport in the Lake District –07/10/22 (emailed to Cllrs 27/09/22)
- i) Orsted – Autumn Newsletter with info on community Benefit Grants (emailed to Cllrs 27/09/22)
- j) Cllr.S. Bavin – Resilience Grants from ENW (emailed to Cllrs 27/09/22)
- k) Correspondence - land off Woodside Rd and Clerk's response (emailed to Cllrs 27/09/22)

152/22 Items 'for Information': None

153/22 Councillors' Issues to be Raised

To be placed on the Agenda of the next meeting:

- a) H.M. The Queen - Memorial Bench
- b) Generator at the Village Hall
- c) Pond at Tarnside
- d) Review of rents for Parish land

Date of next meeting – it was confirmed that the next meeting will be held on Monday 07 November 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Room.

The meeting finished at 8.53 p.m.

Crosthwaite & Lyth Parish Council

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17/10/2022