

CROSTHWAITE AND LYTH PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council

held on Monday 17 April 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Room, Crosthwaite

Present: Cllrs. Andrew Metcalfe (Chair), Angela Dobson, Matthew Dobson, M. Harkness, Edward Sharp, Robert Sykes.

In Attendance: Cllr. S. Bavin (Westmorland & Furness Co.), Martin Curry (Clerk).

229/22 Apologies: Cllr. Heather Young. Via the Clerk, the RFO asked the meeting to note that his attendance was unnecessary for this meeting.

230/22 Minutes: It was **Resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 06 March 2023 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

231/22 Declarations of Interest: Cllrs. A. Dobson and M. Dobson declared an interest in Item 8(d)(ii) - planning matters Espford Farm.

232/22 Requests for Dispensation: No requests for dispensation had been received.

233/22 Chair's Announcements: The Chairman had no announcements to make.

234/22 Public Participation: There were no questions or comments raised from the floor.

235/22 Reports

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

- i) The new Council is up and running with the intention that all services are being delivered as usual – if any glitches are noted then he urged the Parish Council to tell him. The website needs updating, otherwise the focus now will be on maximising opportunities for cost efficiencies. It was noted that there are no Parish elections in South Lakeland in the upcoming round.
- ii) He regards progress with the road works on the A5074 as a priority and that although it will be expensive there is provision in the budget for ongoing work. All agreed that the traffic lights had been in place for too long there is concern that they are now being ignored and therefore dangerous. There was discussion about other locations on the road and it was **Agreed** that Cllrs. Bavin and Metcalfe would tour various locations to better understand where improvements might be required. The efforts of volunteers who have filled potholes was praised but it was stressed that effective drainage is the key. Cllr Bavin highlighted the importance of reporting problems using the system on the website – the value of 'what3words' to identify locations was noted.
- iii) He has spoken to United Utilities about water supply, and they are about to check the resilience of the system in the area. He asked that any pressure fluctuations be advised to him to aid his discussions with them.
- iv) Gritting – Cllr Bavin confirmed the problems with lack of contractors and the associated costs. However he was following up ideas for a joint approach by Parish Councils and will report back any progress on this.
- iv) There was discussion on the prevalence of second homes in the locality including a proposed consultation on the requirement for Air-B&Bs to apply for planning permission. It was **Agreed** to place this item on the agenda of the next meeting of the Parish Council.
- v) Cllr Bavin mentioned the Borderlands Partnership to which W&FC has signed up – this might release funds for environmental projects in particular.

b) Police: No report had been received.

236/22 Planning

a) To note that the following planning applications have been received from LDNPA and circulated to Members of the Council since the last meeting:

- i) **7/2023/5108: 6, Oak Fold, Crosthwaite LA8 8EZ** – Application for a Certificate of Proposed Use or Development. It was noted that this was **Withdrawn** on 24/03/2023.
- ii) **7/2023/5202: Dodd's Howe, Crosthwaite LA8 8HX** – Non-material amendment to 7/2021/5265 (single storey extension). It was noted that this was a non-material amendment on which there was no provision for consultation.

b) To note any planning applications received and circulated to Members of the Council after publishing the Agenda – None had been received.

- c) **To note responses submitted to LDNPA** following consideration by the Parish Council:
 - i) **7/2023/5132: Redwood House, Crosthwaite LA8 8HX** - single storey extension and alterations. **No Objection submitted** 17/03/23. The following decision was noted: **ACON 05/04/23**.
 - ii) **7/2023/5136: High Yews, Crosthwaite, LA8 8JB** - Two storey side extension with new open porch. **No Objection submitted** 17/03/23. No Decision at the time of writing.
- d) **To note decisions on the following planning applications** as notified by LDNPA since the last meeting:
 - i) **7/2023/5132: Redwood House, Crosthwaite LA8 8HX** – **ACON 05/04/2023** - see (c)(i) above.
 - ii) **7/2023/5107: Espford Farm, Crosthwaite LA8 8BS** – Notice of Intent (Agricultural) – erection of steel framed timber clad barn. **Refused** under NOI Procedure 28/03/2023.
- e) **To Note any other Planning Matters:**
 - i) The issue of sheds erected at various locations without planning permission was noted. It was **Agreed** that a list should be prepared and submitted to LDNPA.
 - ii) The Parish Council had received a report of tipping at Damson Dene and it was agreed to monitor this.
 - iii) Councillors noted an email received from a Councillor from a neighbouring Parish regarding the use of local properties as holiday rentals including issues to do with local occupancy and the use of council services whilst 'de-registered' from Council Tax. Cllr. Harkness undertook to phone him and discuss in more detail.

237/22 Highways and Footpaths

a) Highways matters:

- i) Cllr. Sharp confirmed that he had advised National Highways about the poor state of road markings at Gilpin Bridge and had had an acknowledgement of his concerns. On the wider question of the A590, Cllr. Bavin confirmed that road improvements were planned but that primarily for cost reasons implementation is likely to be a medium / long-term initiative.
- ii) Councillors noted an email received from Satterthwaite Parish Council seeking support for its concerns about local road closures with little or no notice from the Highways Authority. Cllr. Bavin confirmed that there are clear protocols in place on the W&FC website, but he is working with Satterthwaite on these concerns. It was **Agreed** that Crosthwaite and Lyth should support Satterthwaite in its efforts to resolve the matter but would do so via Cllr. Bavin rather than attending a meeting on the subject.

b) Footpaths / Tracks Matters: There were no matters raised under this item.

238/22 Trees, Woods, Hedges and Grass: There were no matters raised under this item.

239/22 Parish Land

- a) **Letting of Vacant Parish Land:** The Clerk confirmed that the letting of Hubbersty Head and Cowmire Quarry was progressing. Following an expression of interest, it was **Agreed** that Mr A. Baron should be offered Mearson's (Far Fell) (currently vacant) to undertake and remove the thinnings in the Autumn.
- b) **Ownership of trees and pond, Tarnside Lane:** This item will be removed from the Agenda until such time as there may be developments to report.
- c) **To consider the Procurement and Siting of a Memorial Bench:** Cllr. Harkness reported that she had found a second possible location near Hubbersty Head in addition to the Totter Bank site previously identified. The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted Highways about the Totter Bank site but had not yet received a reply. However, he was meeting an Area Highways Officer on another matter the following day and will raise the siting question with her. Following discussion about the material to be used for the bench and security requirements for emplacement, Cllr. Metcalfe undertook to do some research into the options available and costs and to report back.
- d) **Installation of an External Porch light at the Parish Room:** A new lamp has been installed as previously agreed.

240/22 Neighbourhood Plan: The Chairman reported that work has continued and asked the Clerk to summarise progress. The Clerk gave a detailed Report on work undertaken since his last report in March. His April report will be posted on the website (<https://www.crosthwaiteandlythpc.co.uk/>) as part of these Minutes.

241/22 Emergency Planning Group: Cllr. Dobson reported attendance on an online training session for community groups with an interest in emergency planning for weather events on 09 March. In terms of general development of the Plan, it is intended to meet with volunteers in the near future to develop communication links and individual roles in the event of an emergency. It was **Agreed** place an advert in the Parish Magazine and on the local Facebook page for suitably qualified volunteers to deal with wind-blown trees. Cllr. Sharp offered to join the list of chainsaw operatives.

242/22 Finance:

- a) **Receipts:** On behalf of the RFO, the Clerk reported that the bank statement for March had not yet been received and therefore there was no detail available on receipts.
- b) **The following payments made between meetings were Approved:**
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| i) Kirkwells Ltd: Neighbourhood Plan Consultancy Fees: | £1,296.00 |
| ii) M R Richardson: Salary & expenses to 31 March 2023: | 305.34 |
| iii) M R Curry: Salary & expenses to 31 March 2023: | 320.95 |
| iv) HMRC: PAYE for March 2023: | 126.20 |
- c) **The following payments to be made were Approved:**
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|----------------------------------|----------|
| i) CALC: Annual Subscription: | 218.93 |
| ii) Groundwork UK: Grant Refund: | 1,850.00 |
- d) It was noted that there is no payment due from Npower for Parish Room electricity for February and March 2023 because £150.00 has been credited as a Non-Domestic Alternative Fuel Payment.
- e) **Bank Reconciliation:** Due to not having the March bank statement it had not been possible to submit the bank reconciliation for the end of the month.
- f) **AGAR documentation** – Councillors noted that the RFO will report on 2022-23 accounts at the May meeting.

243/22 Correspondence: Items of correspondence listed on the Agenda were noted with particular comment as follows:

- a) 05/04/2023: Lakes Parish Council – Tackling Water Quality: It was **Agreed** to offer support to Lakes Parish Council in its initiative to draw attention to poor water quality.

245/22 Items ‘for Information’: No additional items for information were raised.

246/22 Councillors’ Issues to be Raised

No matters other than current open actions were raised.

Date of next meeting – In a change to previously publicised dates, the following meeting dates were confirmed:

Annual Parish Meeting: Monday 15 May

Annual Parish Council Meeting: Monday 22 May

The meeting finished at 9.15 p.m.

Signed as a correct record:

Date: