

Witherslack Meathop and Ulpha Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting - Monday 9th January 2017 at Witherslack Parish Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors C Carter (Chairman), A Coates, B Duffin, J Mason, S Pickup, M Walford and B Wilson, District Councillor J Holmes, and the Clerk Mr K M Price. Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor J Bland and PCSO Jayne Park.

17/1 Declarations of Interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters on the agenda.

17/2 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2016, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

The Chairman said that the gate signs to be placed next to the cattle grid (minute 91/16d refers) are in hand.

The Clerk will produce the Contract of Employment (minute 102/16 refers) for signing as soon as possible, including the additional hour of work each week.

17/3 Public participation: None.

17/4 Councillor matters:

Councillor Wilson said that the memorial seat on Whitbarrow Scar had twice been removed and now had been thrown into the beck. The base had also been destroyed and repaired twice. It was agreed to make this an agenda item for the next meeting and possibly to alert the public via the website, if anyone has any evidence concerning the perpetrators of this vandalism.

17/5 Police Report:

17/6 Reports from County and District Councillors:

Councillor Holmes circulated his report which will be attached to these minutes in the file. Items covered included steps being taken to resolve the issues for Meathop Road/Winster Flood Defence Group, the future maintenance of cattle grids in the parish and the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme being continued by SLDC for the forthcoming financial year.

17/7 Council property:

A number of items have been passed on to the Chairman from the former Clerk. As the present Clerk does not require a laptop, it was agreed to obtain a valuation on this and, if suitable, to prepare the machine for sale. Ireby with Leck Parish Council may be interested if the price was acceptable to them. The Clerk will make enquiries.

The Clerk is meeting the former Clerk in February and will be able to put the material required under the Transparency Code on to the website shortly after that, the deadline for compliance being 1st April 2017.

17/8 Planning:

The following decisions, notified to the Council by the Planning Authority, were noted:

7/2016/5714 Rose Hill, Witherslack. Proposed single storey rear extension with bedroom above in roof space. Granted.

7/2016/5706 Foulshaw Moss Nature Reserve, Near Witherslack. Replacement of a wooden viewing platform for looking at wildlife. Granted.

7/2016/5668 3 Town End Close, Witherslack. Small projection to front of existing garage. Granted.

17/9 Pinfold Quarry:

The decision of LDNPA on the Council's planning application is still awaited. Discussion took place on the possibility of looking at alternative sites, such as the land by the Derby Arms, rather than waiting for much longer. This land would require clearing. It was resolved that the Councillors would make a site visit on a Sunday morning to be arranged. Councillor Holmes said he would ask a representative of Crosthwaite and Lyth Parish Council to look at this land, too.

17/10 Parish Land:

The Clerk had received an expression of interest in the two remaining portions of land available to rent. Councillor Walford agreed to follow this up with Councillor Duffin and to inspect the two sites.

17/11 Land Trust:

Councillor Walford reported that there had been a good response to the survey and the results will now be appraised. It was agreed to make this an agenda item for the next meeting.

17/12 Strategic Long Term Plan for the parish:

Councillor Wilson had circulated a document to Councillors prior to the meeting and this was considered. It was agreed that the document was a good start on formulating such a plan and there is now a need to assess what must be done, to set targets, and to list actions. Councillor Wilson agreed to go through the document and produce a set of actions to be considered at the next meeting. The Clerk spoke about similar plans at Barbon, Burneside and Natland he will try to obtain some of these for circulation, if they are available online, before the next meeting.

17/13 Finance:

a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

Diane Malley	£29.00	Payroll Administration (half year)
HMRC	£270.00	PAYE
K M Price	£150.99	Quarterly expenses to 31st December including use of home office and travel

b. The cash and budget statements were noted.

c. The Budget Report, prepared by the Clerk, was considered and it was resolved that this Council makes a Precept upon South Lakeland District Council in the sum of £8,255.00 for the financial year 2017-18.

17/14 Correspondence:

This had mostly been circulated to Councillors and no action was required.

The Clerk agreed to report the following to CCC Highways:

- a. Low branches of trees overhanging the road opposite Low Yeat.
- b. Potholes between Slate Hill corner and Blea Cottage triangle.
- c. Dangerous pothole (especially for cyclists) by Birks Farm (this may be a United Utilities issue).

17/15 Date of next meeting:

Monday 3rd April 2017 at 7.30pm at Witherslack Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed:

Dated: