

Minutes of a meeting of Witherslack, Meathop & Ulpha Parish Council held by ZOOM on Monday 12th July 2021 at 7pm.

Present were Councillors Christine Carter (Chairman), Rachel Bell, Andrew Coates, Jolyon Dodgson, and John Geldard, County Councillor Jim Bland, District Councillor John Holmes and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Mike Walford.

21/32 Public participation: None.

21/33 Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Coates declared an interest in agenda item 11b (Grant funding from Dean Barwick Primary School) and took no part in the discussion.

21/34 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th May 2021, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

21/35 Council Vacancy:

There had been no expressions of interest in the vacancy. This will be taken off the agenda now but, should anyone come forward, the Council will be able to co-opt.

21/36 County and District Councillors:

Councillor Holmes had circulated his report earlier in the day, to all Councillors. This included comments about the Green Initiative (Cafs - Cumbria Action for Sustainability) and the Community Energy Scheme. Councillor Holmes agreed to ask representatives of the two projects to speak at a future meeting of this Council.

Councillor Bland said that problems with trees that had ash dieback had now been resolved. The 'jet patch' system for repairing potholes has been withdrawn at present.

21/37 Planning:

- a. *The following decisions, notified to the Council by the Planning Authority, were noted:*

7/2020.5811 The Old Vicarage, Witherslack. Single storey extension. Granted.

7/2021/5007 Palace House Witherslack. Convert redundant workshop to dwelling. Granted.

b. *The following application was considered and approval recommended:*

7/2021/5509 Rockwood, Beck Head, Witherslack. A house with an extension where small changes to the planning approval were made, for example the garage doors were changed from timber folding doors to metal electric doors, a small porch was added to front entrance and a bay window was enlarged to rear elevation

21/38 Bus shelter repairs:

Councillor Bell gave a full update of work carried out on the bus shelter at Meathop. The following was agreed:

- a. Mr Dobson will put the lockable display case in the shelter at a cost of £25.
- b. A further quotation is to be sought for the replacement of the roof on the bus stop.
- c. The rotten window frame will be reconstructed at a cost of £175
- d. The invoice for £20, for cleaning the bus shelter, will be paid. Councillor Bell said she would clean the shelter in future months and Councillor Carter agreed to help if required.
- e. The inside will be painted with masonry paint at a cost of £299, which could be reduced by volunteers assisting with the painting.
- f. Councillor Bell will look into the possibility of grants being available.
- g. CCC are being contacted again regarding the promised provision of the 'flag and pole', in order to reinstate the stop on their timetable.

Councillor Coates said he would clean the two Witherslack bus shelters and Councillor Carter the Millside one, in addition to the one at Meathop.

It was noted that the two shelters at Witherslack are in a poor condition and there will be significant finance required then.

21/39 Parish notice boards and benches:

The notice board and bench at Millside have been renovated. An invoice is awaited.

21/40 Woodland leases:

The was deferred until the next meeting.

21/41 Greening Campaign:

Councillor Bell updated the Council; many emails have also been received which have been circulated to all Councillors. The exercise with A5 cards being placed in everyone's window in the parish should enable a calculation of the local carbon footprint to be calculated. The end of the first 'strand' of the project has been reached and there are no meetings now until September.

21/42 Finance:

- a. The cash and budget statements were noted and all payments listed were approved.
- b. The report from the Internal Auditor was noted. There were no issues or concerns raised for the Council to consider.
- c. An application for grant funding from Dean Barwick Primary School was considered, and it was resolved to grant the £500 requested.
- a. It was resolved, as recommended at the time of last year's Pay Award, to increase the Clerk's annual leave entitlement from 5.6 weeks to 7 weeks per annum, backdated to 1st April 2020. His Contract of Employment will be updated and signed at the next meeting by the Chairman and Clerk.

21/43 B4RN:

Councillor Geldard reported that the project is going well and much work is being carried out by a dedicated team. Meetings are currently being held every fortnight. The thanks of the Council is recorded to Steve Radcliffe and his team, for their work on behalf of the community. Connections to the school and the Village Hall were made according to plan. Anyone with any concerns or questions should contact Councillor Geldard.

21/44 A590 road improvements:

There is nothing further to report at present. A meeting is planned for late July, possibly at 'Junction 36'. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

21/45 Date and place of the next meeting:

Provisionally Wednesday 22nd September 2021 at 7pm at Witherslack Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed:

Dated: