

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Witherslack Meathop & Ulpha Parish Council held at Witherslack Parish Hall on Wednesday 23rd May 2018 at 7.30pm.

Present were Councillors Christine Carter (Chairman), Andrew Coates, Bruce Duffin, and Stuart Pickup, County Councillor Jim Bland, District Councillor John Holmes and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Brian Wilson, The Revd. Michael Woodcock and John Geldard.

18/29 Election of Chairman:

Councillor Christine Carter was elected Chairman for 2018-19.

18/30 Appointment of Vice-Chairman:

It was agreed to defer this until the next meeting.

18/31 Casual Vacancy:

It was agreed to co-opt John Geldard to the Council. He will sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting.

Councillor Duffin was retiring from the Council at the end of this meeting and the Chairman thanked him for his years of service to the community as a Councillor. The Clerk will notify SLDC of this further vacancy and put the usual procedures in place, including asking for the Vacancy to be advertised on the website.

18/32 Declarations of Interest:

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

18/33 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2018 having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

18/34 Police Report: None.

18/35 County and District Councillor's Reports:

Councillor Bland reported that over £1M had been spent on highways maintenance in his Division and the situation was now generally better. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Peter Hosking at CCC Highways for the amount of work done.

Councillor Holmes said that, following the recent District Council Elections, the new Wards are up and running.

18/36 Councillor matters: None.

18/37 Planning:

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

7/2018/5227 Bleacott Farm, Witherslack. Change of use of land to site two domestic wood stores with stone vehicular access and surface water drainage.

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

7/2018/5085 East Gate, Beck Head, Witherslack. To demolish an existing open fronted concrete store under a corrugated roof and erect an oak framed garage/carport along with log store under a slate roof. Granted.

7/2018/5044 Foulshaw Moss Nature Reserve, Witherslack. Construct three bird watching structures from timber to improve visitor experience. Granted.

c. The Appeal in respect of the Refusal of Planning Permission for 7/20175569 High Fell End Farm, Witherslack (Conversion of barn and former cart building to three one bed holiday lets) was noted.

d. *The following comments, submitted to the Planning Authority since the last meeting were noted:*

7/2018/5217 Land adjacent to the Old Vicarage, Witherslack. Erection of proposed two storey (Lower-ground and Ground floor) family home including adjoining garage. Approval recommended.

e. The following was noted (for information only). Application for Prior Notification of agricultural or forestry development - proposed building. 7/2018/5239 Birks Farm, Witherslack. Storage building for implements and tractor.

18/38 Pinfold Quarry:

The use of this area or that at Bownass Beck was deferred for the present time, pending the newly formed group in the parish finding an alternative site.

18/39 Parish Land at Yewbarrow Quarry:

The rent for Yewbarrow Quarry has been paid and the Clerk was handed £230 to cover the five year period.

18/40 Parish Land at Slate Hill:

Mike Walford had signed the agreement for the land at Parish Land Slate Hill. The rent is £250 for a five year period and payment will be made shortly.

18/41 Strategic Long-Term Plan for the parish:

In the absence of Councillor Wilson, this was deferred until the next meeting. In the meantime, Councillors are requested to send any material they already have to him.

18/42 General Data Protection Regulation:

It has now been confirmed by the government that Parish and Town Councils do not need to appoint a Data Protection Officer. The Clerk had produced a Data Protection Policy and a Website Compliance Statement, both of which were adopted as the Council's policies. He had also emailed everyone on his circulation list asking for their permission to continue to contact them with minutes and agendas etc.

18/43 A590 Meeting:

Councillor Pickup reported on the recent meeting, which had also been attended by Councillor Duffin and Councillors Bland and Holmes. Various matters had been discussed, including:

- a. The signs at Foulshaw showing vehicles emerging onto the A590 are still not working properly, and were referred to the Road Safety Officer.
- b. The sensors at Witherslack Underpass lights do not pick-up all approaching traffic and the Highways Authority were asked to re-check them.
- c. The Foulshaw Nature Reserve signage will be addressed in the Road Investment Strategy report.
- d. Kerb Drainage Maintenance had been completed and would be ongoing.
- e. WPS Consultants to Highways England presented a 15 page document outlining future proposals for the A590 from Brettagh Holt to Meathop.
- f. The next meeting will be held in September to progress this report.

18/44 Finance:

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

Zurich Municipal	£257.60	Insurance premium
CALC	£186.00	Annual subscription
CALC	£70.00	Councillor training
Witherslack Parish Hall		
	£62.00	Hire of hall
K M Price	£113.70	Quarterly expenses to 31st March, including use of home office and travel.
K M Price	£3.37	Balancing payment
K M Price	£653.40	Tax refund
HMRC	£216.48	PAYE

- b. The provisional accounts for 2017-18 were presented by the Clerk and noted.
- c. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Certificate of Exemption, the Accounting Statements and the Annual Governance Statement.
- d. David Ingram has agreed to renovate the flag at the Parish Hall (minute 18/21 refers) and this was accepted with thanks.
- e. A request from Witherslack Village Shop for funding for a new cash register (£595) was considered. It was resolved to contribute £500 as this is the amount allowed for the shop in this year's precept.
- f. The Clerk agreed to ask if the Parish Handyman had commenced working in the parish yet.

18/45 Correspondence:

Marian Jones, Area Ranger (Central & South-East) offering to attend a Council meeting and speak/give a presentation. The Clerk will invite her to a future meeting.

18/46 Date of the next meeting:

Monday 15th July 2018 at 7.30pm at Witherslack Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed:

Dated: