

Minutes of a meeting of Witherslack Meathop & Ulpha Parish Council held at Witherslack Parish Hall on Monday 3rd April 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present were Councillors Christine Carter (Chairman), Andrew Coates, Bruce Duffin, Janet Mason, Stuart Pickup, Mike Walford and Brian Wilson, County Councillor Jim Bland, District Councillor John Holmes, two members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were received from PCSO Jayne Park.

17/16 Public participation:

A number of emails had been received from members of the public, in the light of recent burglaries, for the Neighbourhood Watch scheme to be reinstated in the parish. It was agreed to ask PCSO Jayne Park for advice regarding this and to make it an agenda item for the next meeting. It was pointed out, however, that the 'Community Messaging', where texts or emails are received from the Police directly to those individuals who sign up for the service, has now largely replaced Neighbourhood Watch.

17/17 Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Coates declared an interest in planning application 7/2017/5123 (Ulpha Farm, Meathop) and took no part in the discussion.

17/18 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2017, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

17/19 Reports:

- a. **County Councillor:** Councillor Bland said there had been a traffic accident earlier this evening on the A590 near Gilpin Bridge. The number of potholes continues to give cause for concern and these are being followed up.
- b. **District Councillor:** Councillor Holmes circulated his report and this will be appended to the minutes in the file.
- c. **Police:** PCSO Jayne Park had been present prior to the meeting but had been called out to an accident and she had left her report with Councillor Mason. Since the last meeting there had been three burglaries in the parish and two sheds broken into when a cycle and a chain saw had been stolen.

17/20 Councillors matters:

It was noted that B4RN is shortly to be operating in Levens village.

17/21 Council website:

The former Clerk, Lucy Rogers, had offered to run the village website, free of charge, on behalf of the Council and the thanks of the Council was to be recorded in the minutes. The legally required Council documents would be uploaded, but also any community news or activities. The Clerk will report this in the Two Valleys magazine and invite material to be sent to him for inclusion on the site

17/22 Laptop:

As the Council's laptop is now surplus to requirements, it was resolved to sell it to the Chairman, who then tendered a cheque for £100.00.

17/23 Cattle grids:

Councillor Homes reported that these should by now have been “filled up” to the underside of the metal rails. This should significantly reduce noise levels and as such will be acceptable to the Environmental Officer (SLDC). This is a temporary measure and Highways England have advised that these grids will be completely renovated during 2018.

17/24 Planning:

a. The following applications were considered::

7/2017/5123 Ulpha Farm, Meathop. Change of use of building to provide alternative educational provision including accommodation of two portakabins within the existing building for a period of 3 years. Approval recommended.

7/2017/5106 Beck Head Farm, Beck Head. Replacement building to house a new home studio/bicycle shed and workshop and change of use land to garden. Approval recommended.

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

7/2016/5708 Black Bull Farm, Mill Side, Witherslack. Erection of farmstead, comprising agricultural worker's dwelling and agricultural building for animal housing, general storage purposes and agricultural contractor's business. Granted.

7/2015/5575 Black Bull Farm, Mill Side, Witherslack. Retention of chalet dwelling, on site of original chalet dwelling, for a five year period. Granted.

7/2016/5859 Foulshaw Moss Nature Reserve, Witherslack. Construct 480m of pedestrian boardwalk from sawn treated timber to allow visitor access to an edge area for recreational use and the viewing of wildlife. Granted.

j7/2016/5815 Wilson House Farm, Kendal Road, Lindale. Confirmation of compliance with condition 6 (pest management) of planning application

7/2015/5752 - erection of agricultural building to accommodate egg production unit. Two feed hoppers. Granted.

17/25 Pinfold Quarry:

The Council's planning application (7/2016/5538 Land to south of Village Hall, Witherslack. Change of use of land to recreational use) had been granted.

An alternative site has now been viewed by all Councillors, including Councillors Bland and Holmes, and it was agreed that Councillor Holmes would take a plan of this site to Andrew Smith at LDNPA for his comments regarding its suitability for recreational use.

It was agreed that the group wishing to establish a play area should be contacted and asked about their intentions due to both these developments, (not solely on the Pinfold Quarry application, as the granting of this had the added proviso – that this planning permission relates to the material change of use of land only. No permission for physical works or operations is granted or implied pursuant to this application and a flood risk assessment would be required before any work could begin).

17/26 Parish Land:

Councillor Walford said that nothing had come of the enquiry noted at the last meeting for the rental of the land and it was agreed to advertise in the Two Valleys magazine again.

17/27 Land Trust:

Councillor Walford said there was nothing to report at present.

17/28 Strategic Long Term Plan for the parish:

Councillor Wilson had circulated a further document, outlining how a 'vision statement' could be formulated, to all Councillors and he said he is happy to discuss the way forward on an individual basis with Councillors. The Chairman and Councillor Mason agreed to meet with him shortly. This will now be an agenda item at every meeting.

17/29 Memorial seat on Whitbarrow Scar:

There is nothing further to report on this matter at present.

17/30 Neighbourhood Watch:

(This had been dealt with during public participation).

17/31 Finance:

a. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Diane Malley	£81.00	Payroll Administration
HMRC		to be advised due to tax code changes

Treble 3 Design Ltd	£144.00	Website domain etc (noted)
K M Price	£128.90	Quarterly expenses to 31st March including use of home office and travel

b. A letter from Diane Malley had been circulated and it was resolved to accept the conditions outlined therein for Payroll Administration at a cost of £81.00 per annum.

c. *The following applications for grant funding were agreed:*

St Paul's Church, Witherslack	£300.00
Witherslack Parish Hall	£300.00
Witherslack Youth Club	£300.00

d. The bank standing orders, payable to the Clerk, were amended to reflect the nationally agreed 1% increase in salaries from 1st April 2017.

e. The Clerk's Contract of Employment was formally signed by the Chairman and Clerk, as agreed at a previous meeting.

f. The Clerk notified the Council that he has completed the Council's Declaration of Compliance for the Pensions Regulator. He also indicated that he has opted out of any pension scheme that the Council is compelled to offer him and so there will be no costs to the Council.

17/32 Correspondence:

(This had all been circulated to Councillors).

17/33 Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 3rd May 2017 at 7pm at Witherslack Parish Hall (This will be the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting).

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed:

Dated: