

AIKTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Aikton Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Rooms on Monday the 9th of January 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors: G Thomlinson, S Young, S Collins, D Fairbairn, K Oliver, S Todhunter & G Benson.

Also present: E Clark (Clerk).

1.1 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Graham, Quayle, MacDonald (Allerdale Borough Councillor) and PCSO Irving. It was noted that Cllr Quayle had now failed to attend 3 consecutive meetings (6 months). On all three occasions the chairman had accepted her valid reasons for non-attendance (prior engagement, recovering from an operation & currently in New Zealand) and it was therefore unanimously agreed that she be permitted to continue to serve as a councillor.

1.3 Declarations of interest on the agenda

No declarations of interest were received.

1.4 Requests for Dispensations

No requests for dispensations were received.

1.5 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th of November 2016 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

1.6 Adjournment of the meeting

No members of the public present.

1.7 Reports

Report from the Community Policeman – an email received from PCSO 5351 Irving apologised for not being able to attend the meeting. It was noted that although the crime figures could now be obtained via the Cumbria Police Website or using the link; <https://www.cumbria.police.uk/Your-area/Your-area.aspx>, the website was not yet up to date so was ineffective. An email from Inspector Smillie advised that he had acknowledged concerns that the crime information was not up to date and would be taking the matter forward to the next review meeting. He noted that it had been widely reported that the Constabulary were under massive financial restrictions and all resources needed to be utilised to best serve the public and prevent crime and disorder. He asked that the parish council keep checking the website to see if the situation improved, that this may take some time and so apologised and gave thanks for the parish council's patience in the matter.

Report from the County Councillor – Cllr Fairbairn reported that Peter McCall (Cumbria Police & Crime Commissioner) had held a surgery at Wigton and advised that PCSOs' would be able to attend Town Council meetings but due to workloads would not be able to attend the parish council meetings. They were currently pushing to get the website updated.

He advised that he was presently investigating the non-existent Superfast Broadband, with box 7 seeming to be the issue. The end stone repair to the Thornby culvert is on a schedule but there is a delay due to the stonemason attending to issues of a public safety nature. On the 18th of January in the Links office, Wigton there is a County Council Local Committee for Allerdale meeting. Other items discussed included a new committee being formed at the Wigton Boxing Club, a newspaper article on a speeding motorist on the A595, library

consultation on opening hours, fines for parking, the fire service being able to identify houses from postcodes and the Allerdale Business Growth Strategy & Heritage Strategy which although their remit is to all points of Allerdale (including Aikton, Drumbrugh, Sebergham, Welton, Thursby etc) most of the money will be spent between Maryport & Egremont.

Report from the District Councillor – No report received.

1.8 Reports from outside bodies

No report received from the parish rooms.

1.9 Payment of accounts

The payments of the following accounts were authorised:

▪ Clerk's salary and expenses	£193.26
▪ HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE	£ 37.80
▪ Mr G Thomlinson (Post Concrete)	£ 38.22

1.10 Financial Statements

The current balances of the Council's Bank Accounts as at the 31st of December 2016 were noted.

Cllr Fairbairn left the meeting at 8pm.

1.11 Planning Applications

The following planning application was noted with no objections;

Ref No: HOU/2016/0072 – Proposed two storey extension – Westfield Cottage, Aikton – Mr D Carruthers.

The following grants of planning permission were noted;

Ref No: 2/2016/0423 - Erection of one agricultural worker's dwelling – Land to the West of Manor House far, Gamelsby – Mr M Graham.

Ref No: HOU/2016/0003 - Demolition of existing bathroom and store. Replace with single storey extension to rear of property – 1 Knox Cottage, Thornby – J Irving.

Ref No: 2/2016/0647 - Application to display advertisements and for the removal and replacement of road entrance sign – Watchtree Nature Reserve – Wiggonby to Kirkbampton, Carlisle.

Ref No: HOU/2016/0047 - Extension to bungalow – Elimar, Wiggonby – Mr & Mrs Cleminson.

1.12 Correspondence

The following were noted;

Allerdale Borough Council – Flood Support Drop In Sessions

CALC – Buckingham Palace Garden Parties 2017

CALC – November Circular

CALC – December/January Circular

CALC – 3 Tier Meeting Info

Allerdale Borough Council – Budget Consultation Document 17/18 – *Clerk to reply*

Cumbria Constabulary – Police Reports Update

CALC – Request to Complete & Promote Dependent Carers Survey

1.13 Highway Matters

The following highway matters were noted;

Repairs on the Thornby Road still remain outstanding (ref no. 12/1399697). At the bottom of Drumleaning, going towards Wigton, over the bridge & 20 yards on the left there is a large pothole. Knoxwood Hill has potholes (reported in November).

Cllr Benson left the meeting (work) at 8.20pm.

1.14 Superfast Broadband

The non-existent parish superfast broadband was discussed and it was suggested that satellite broadband might provide a good interim solution with the government-funded satellite voucher scheme which is being administered by Connecting Cumbria. If a property receives speeds of 2mbps or less, they are eligible to apply for a voucher from Connecting Cumbria to install a satellite system. The voucher is valued at up to £350 and can only be used for the installation costs. Once an application is received by the Council the team will assess the validity of the claim (that is, to verify the speeds) and will ensure that the homeowner is not likely to get an upgrade to a faster service via Phase 2 of the wider BDUK rollout within the next 12 months. Assuming the criteria are met, the voucher will be issued together with a list of registered suppliers for installation; obviously, the homeowner is responsible for paying the bill. It was agreed that the clerk should continue to try and contact Matt Lloyd (BT) to accept his offer of attending a future parish council meeting.

1.15 Parish Land

It was noted that there had been no reply from Beaty & Co following the update email regarding the common land at Whitrigglees.

It was confirmed that the cost to register the Watering Hole in Aikton as parish land would be £300 plus vat plus a land registry fee based on the value of the land (if the value doesn't exceed £80,000 then the fee would be £40.00 and thereafter it goes up on a sliding scale). In order to register the land copies of the title documents would be needed or in the case of lost title deeds a statement and any supporting documentary evidence would be required. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with registering the land and Cllr Young volunteered to go to the Carlisle Archives to search for proof to support the claim.

1.16 Watering Hole Grass Cutting

The clerk advised that she had currently received one tender for the grass cutting and it was agreed that the decision of which tender to accept should be made at the March meeting.

1.17

First Aid Course

Deferred to the next meeting as the article had not yet been in the parish magazine.

1.18 Items for inclusion on the next Agenda

Parish Land
First Aid Course
Watering Hole Grass Cutting Tender

1.19 Date & time of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the parish council would be held on Monday the 13th of March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm