

AIKTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Aikton Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Rooms on Monday the 9th of November 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

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

Also present: E Clark (Clerk), & Cllr MacDonald (Allerdale Borough Councillor)

11.1 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

11.2 Apologies

Apologies were received & accepted from Councillors Quayle & Young & PCSO Irving.

11.3 Declarations of interest on the agenda

Cllr MacDonald declared an interest in item 11.11, Watchtree Planning Applications.

11.4 Requests for Dispensations

No requests for dispensations were received.

11.5 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th of September 2015 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

11.6 Adjournment of the meeting

No members of the public present.

11.7 Reports

Report from the Community Policeman – An email from PCSO 5351 Irving apologised for being unable to attend the meeting & advised that there had been no incidents reported to police in the parish since the last meeting. She also stated that she had been speaking with a local resident who asked if it would be possible to arrange a bike marking event to help prevent crime and identify bikes if they were stolen. The kits are £5 for each bike. Dates for the event could be 16th, 17th, 23rd or 24th of January 2016. Councillors agreed that this would be a good idea.

Report from the County Councillor – Cllr Fairbairn reported that the County Council were currently consulting on its draft budget for the next financial year, they have to save a lot of money and are proposing to close five fire stations (around here are safe). Libraries are under pressure, with some due for closure or transfer (Silloth and Aspatria due for transfer). Wigton Swimming Pool is going well under the new ownership with an increased footfall and opening hours. Wiggonby school has not had its budget cut, it is static as far as its budget is concerned.

Report from the District Councillor – Cllr MacDonald stated that the portfolio holder for Allerdale's Footway Lighting had done a complete turnaround and had now agreed to continue with the maintenance and replacement of footway lights. Thursby post office branch is temporarily closed so at the moment there is no post office in Thursby. The placement of defibrillators in rural areas is favourable to a full rapid response team which is expensive and requires volunteers. The nearest defibrillator to Aikton will be that of the Watchtree. A Defibrillator can now be housed in a telephone box.

Cllr Fairbairn advised that the police budget was to be trimmed by quite a lot but the wrong formula had been inputted so it had now been returned to what it was before and will be re-looked at in 6 months' time. He also gave an update on the unitary authority and the Police & Crime Commissioner elections which were due next year.

11.8 Reports from outside bodies – it was noted that there hadn't yet been a meeting of the parish rooms committee.

11.9 Payment of accounts

The payments of the following accounts were authorised:

- Clerk's salary and expenses £175.50
- HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE £ 37.80
- H Strickland – Watering Hole £320.00*

* Price as per last year as the fence was not creosoted this year.

11.10 Financial Statements

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

The following receipt received was noted;

Allerdale Borough Council – Precept £1950.00 (inc CTRS Grant of £48.35)

11.11 Planning Matters

The following planning applications were noted with no objections;

Ref No: 2/2015/0603 – Portal frame cubicle shed – Park House, Aikton – Park House Farming Co Ltd.

To note the following grants of planning permission;

Ref No: 2/2015/0456 – Single storey extension to increase the floor area of an undersized classroom in school – Wiggonby C of E School.

Ref No: 2/2015/0555 – Change of use of agriculture land to create a 30 space overflow car park – Watchtree Nature Reserve, Kirkbampton.

Ref No: 2/2015/0530 – Provision of a composting toilet & urinal – Watchtree Nature Reserve, Kirkbampton.

11.12 Correspondence

The following were noted;

Cumbria County Council – Consultation on New Council Plan

NW Coast Connectons – Press Release from NW Connections Project

Cumbria County Council - Cumbria Minerals & Waste Local Plan

Allerdale Borough Council – Conservation Areas Supplementary Planning Doc

BT – Phone Box Clean Update

CALC - AGM Agenda

11.13 Highway Matters

The following highway issues were noted; half a mile outside Biglands, heading towards Wampool, there is a large hole on the side of the road. Heading out of Wiggonby towards Aikton, the tarmac on the corner is broken into squares (previously reported 12/1361424). There are still no road markings at the Wiggonby junction (off the airfield) (previously reported 12/1331349). It was noted that a dog bin was required in the middle of Aikton and there had been fly-tipping of tyres and plastic bags of rubbish – clerk to advise Allerdale Borough Council.

11.14 Parish Precept

Following a full discussion and acceptance of the budget it was agreed that the precept for the year 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017 be increased to £4500 (including the CTRS grant which was estimated at approximately £64.80). The question of company pension provision was discussed and the clerk advised that the parish council did not have to provide a pension as the salary paid was below the threshold.

11.15 Oil Buying Consortium

It was noted that all the information with regards to an oil buying consortium was in the current parish magazine.

11.16 Watering Hole

A letter from Mr Strickland stated that he was no longer able to tend to the Watering Hole. The grass cutting for 2016 was discussed It was agreed that it be put out to tender via the parish magazine.

11.17 Parish Land

Correspondence from Beaty & Co stated that land at Whitrigglees Moss had been registered as Common Land by Aikton Parish Council but belonged to Mr Studholme. Councillors studied a map of the said land and it was agreed that the land in question was in the parish of Kirkbride. Resolved – clerk to advise Kirkbride PC and Beaty & Co. Further information from the Commons Registration confirmed that the Watering Hole in Aikton was not registered to the Parish Council. Resolved – clerk to complete the relevant application to register the land.

11.18 Telephone Box Defibrillators

Information received was very vague with no mention of capital costs, maintenance etc. Resolved – clerk to request further information for the next meeting.

11.19 Items for inclusion on the next Agenda

Parish Land
Defibrillators

11.20 Date & time of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the parish council would be held on Monday the 11th of January 2016 at 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm