

## **Minutes of Aikton Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Rooms on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> of September 2015 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillors: S Collins (Chairman), N Quayle, S Young, K Oliver, G Thomlinson & D Fairbairn (Councillor & County Councillor)

Also present P MacDonald (Allerdale Borough Council) & E Clark (Clerk).

### **9.1 Chairman's announcements**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **9.2 Apologies**

Apologies were received & accepted from Cllrs Todhunter & Benson & PCSO Irving.

### **9.3 Declarations of interest on the agenda**

No declarations of interest received in respect of items on this agenda.

### **9.4 Requests for Dispensations**

No requests for dispensations received.

### **9.5 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2014 be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### **9.6 Adjournment of the meeting**

No members of the public present.

### **9.7 Reports**

**Report from the Community Policeman** – PCSO Irving apologised for being unable to attend the meeting but forwarded the following report; there has been one incident reported to police for the area of Aikton since the last meeting, an overview of the incident is; on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July there was a report of a vehicle seen parked up in the area of Aikton and the driver was acting suspiciously. The local PCSO made enquiries regarding the vehicle and all appeared in order. Cumbria Constabulary urge members of the community to contact them on 101 in further incidents like this occur.

**Report from the County Councillor** – Cllr Fairbairn reported on the following; the unitary debate was taking off again, the County Council have eighty million pounds savings to find, with only thirty found so far. A 19 page booklet outlines the statutory duties which they have to perform, nine of which are in children services. The only way to save money is to rationalise to 1 or 2 councils. Whether it be north-west or east-west, only one council is needed. The Vito needs removed and discussions need started. The Care Quality Commission Report was discussed and that Carlisle Hospital was not out of special measures.

**Report from the District Councillor** – Cllr MacDonald stated that previously it was proposed that parish/town councils pay for their own lighting but at a meeting in July the portfolio holder was asked directly and advised that, it wasn't going to happen and Allerdale Borough Council were paying for the foreseeable future.

### **9.8 Reports from outside bodies** – an email from the parish rooms committee reported that currently there were only 5 committee members; more members were required to guarantee the parish rooms survive and to lighten the load on the current members. Councillors suggested that the committee directly canvass new comers to the parish, send out a flyer instead of putting an article in the parish magazine and approach the local paper for publicity. It was also agreed that items/a page could be added to the parish councils website when it was up and running. *Resolved; Clerk to forward suggestions to the committee and request the date of the next meeting.*

*Cllr Fairbairn left the meeting.*

## 9.9 Payment of accounts

The payments of the following accounts were authorised:

- |                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| ▪ Clerk's salary and expenses | £179.42 |
| ▪ HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE | £ 38.00 |

## 9.10 Financial Statements

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

The audited annual return for the year ending 31 March 2015 was approved and accepted by the council with no matters that came to the auditor's attention which required the issuing of a separate additional issues arising report.

## 9.11 Planning Matters

The following planning applications were noted with no objections;

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

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

The following planning application was received after the issue of the agenda;

Ref No: 2/2015/0555 – change of use of agricultural land to create a 30 space overflow car park - Watchtree Nature Reserve, Wiggonby – Watchtree Nature Reserve Ltd – no objection.

Cllr Young stated that at a recent planning meeting (and on the Allerdale site) it was advised that if a parish council or any known body objected to a wind turbine, it would be turned down by planning. It was agreed that the clerk should look into this.

## 9.12 Correspondence

The following were noted;

Allerdale Borough Council – Consultation on draft Local Validation Requirements  
Allerdale Borough Council – Recycling  
CALC – Allerdale Parishes Meeting Details  
CALC – Annual General Meeting Details  
Connecting Cumbria – Deployment Map  
National Grid – Community Information Events

## 9.13 Highway Matters

The following highway matters were discussed; the sign 'Brookside' requires painting, the road from Gamelsby to Aikton on the opposite side of the road of Hills Lonning Corner there is a pot hole. On the Thornby road, the hill heading towards the Wiggonby t-junction, water continues to run down the road and three motorists have now damaged their vehicle wheels. The hole that was recently repaired by UU again needs filled in. On the road heading out of Wiggonby towards Aikton, the corner has broken away into squares.

## 9.14 Parish Land

Further information from the Commons Registration showed the area of Whitrigglees and watering places in Gamelsby, nr Stonybridge & Biglands but still not the Watering place in Aikton. It was suggested that it was probably the parish council that called the area the watering hole but to the commons registration it was a piece of land. *Resolved – clerk to mark the area on a map and ask if it is registered to the parish council.*

## 9.15 Parish Councillor Vacancy

It was noted that there were still two vacancies.

## 9.16 Oil Buying Consortium

It was agreed to defer this item until the November meeting.

**9.17 Parish Website**

A website quote from A Ward IT, stated that it would be between £90-£120 for the set-up and £25 per year for hosting, including the domain name. The clerk advised councillors that a transparency fund application enabled councils to apply for a grant for the cost of a computer, scanner and website costs. Councillors agreed that the parish council should apply for the full grant as although the parish council had a laptop it was outdated and wouldn't have the capacity to run a website as now required. *Resolved - clerk to complete the relevant paperwork for the transparency fund application.*

**9.18 Items for inclusion on the next Agenda**

Oil Buying Consortium  
Registered Parish Land

**9.19 Date & time of next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the parish council would be held on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2015 at 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.**