

**MINUTES OF LOWCA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20th APRIL 2016
AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

Lowca Parish Councillors

Miss M J Oliver (chairman)
Mrs V Stafford
Mrs A Oliver
Mr T Milligan
Mr J Crawford
Mr H Thinnesen

Parish Clerk

Mr M Milner

Copeland District and Cumbria County Councillors

John Bowman CDC

Apologises

Jackie Bowman CDC
Gillian Troughton CDC & CCC
Mrs D Butterworth

Meeting Opened:

The chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm.

260.00 Apologises.

Duly noted as above.

261.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 16th March, as a true record.

The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr H.T and seconded by Cllr V.S
The vote by show of hands was unanimous for approval.

262.00 Public Participation/open Session (15 minutes allowed)

No public present

263.00 Police Matters.

263.01 The PCSO Simon Kane 5167 was not at the meeting but had submitted a written report which the clerk read out. The councillors commented that his report did not mention an ASB in Ghyll Grove, which they were all aware of and asked the clerk to query the point.

263.02 The report had included details of incidents that occurred in the village of Parton, PCSO Kane in his covering email thought that by including Parton and Lowca together there could be an exchange of local intelligence. Clerk asked to request Lowca specific reports as rarely any public present to hear the report.

264.00 Applications for Development.

None

265.00 County and District Councillors Reports

265.01 Cllr J Bowman enquired if Lowca parish received any grant on an annual basis to compensate for lack of council tax from demolished properties. The clerk advised no and other Cllrs remarked that development of property numbers not the demolishing of them was probably more appropriate for Lowca. The clerk to investigate if the parish are missing a possible source of income.

The chair thanked Cllr J.B for his attendance and advised he was free to leave the meeting, but could stay. He accepted the chairs invite to remain.

266.00 Council vacancy, sub-committee to interview candidate(s)

266.01 Clerk reported there had been one applicant for the 2 vacancies that were currently available on the Parish Council. The council members agreed that Cllr J.C, Cllr V.S and Cllr M.O should arrange to meet and interview the candidate; if the clerk was unavailable Cllr V.S would take minutes. The sub-committee would report back to the next council meeting and their decision would be accepted by the full council.

267.00 Lowca War Memorial

267.01 Cllr J.C advised that the company making the railings were well advanced with their production.

267.02 Cllr J.C and Cllr T.M arranged to meet the clerk on Tuesday 26th at 9am at the war memorial site to work out the positioning of the wall for the railings to be fixed to, and then the clerk would contact 3 builders to get quotes for the project.

268.00 Progress report, clerk

268.01 Clerk advised that the A595 drop in event had been a great success and that 180 residents and interested parties had attended the four and a half hour session. Highways England were impressed with such interest and numbers.

268.02 Following minute 257.02 clerk had written to Marjorie Moore thanking her for service as a parish councillor. Letter read out.

268.03 Clerk reminded all councillors that the May meeting would be preceded by the Lowca Parish Council AGM, with a 7.15pm start.

268.04 Clerk distributed a completed, but unaudited set of accounts for the parish financial year 2015/16 to allow them to peruse them prior to next month's formal presentation of the accounts for acceptance.

268.05 Clerk handed out a "Terms of Reference" document for the council to consider with regard to Lowca's involvement with the North Copeland Coastal Community Team. The councillors were happy for the clerk to continue to represent the parish on the NCCCT committee along with Cllr M.O and the clerk advised that other council members could attend such a meeting if they wished. The clerk would create a feasibility study document to present to the council, so that a invitation to tender could be created to cover the proposed plan for Lowca Brow pathway.

268.06 Clerk gave a quick report on the Howgate Partnership meeting which had taken place the previous evening. The next meeting will be 7pm 21st June at Moresby Rugby Club.

268.07 Clerk out of courtesy advised the council that he had also become clerk to Oughterside and Allerby PC which meets on 2nd Tuesday of the month and is part of Allerdale B.C area, so no conflict of interest. He had been put forward for the vacancy by the Calc office.

269.00 Councillors reports

269.01 Cllr J.C questioned whether the traffic census data had been carried out yet. The clerk advised no but he would chase the Cumbria Highways department to do it soonest possible.

269.02 Cllr T.M reported that the school warning sign at the entrance to Lowca by the school had been stolen, it was over 2 months since he had mentioned it. Cllr M.O said she would personally contact Karl Melville of the Cumbria Highways department. She would also raise the question of flooding by the old shop corner.

270.00 Correspondence

270.01 Clerk confirmed that he had received all the documents for the transfer of the £2000 from Cumbria CC Members Funding source for the bus shelter. All had been returned along with appropriate supporting bank details to enable the funds to be transferred into the Lowca bank account.

270.02 Copeland BC advised that in addition to the precept, Lowca would receive an additional grant of £544.19p for this coming financial year.

270.03 Annual Calc membership invoice received £214.00 the same as last year and council approved its payment.

270.04 Calc charges for the Good Councillors course held at Cleator Moor which was attended by 3 Lowca councillors. £73.75 approved for payment.

270.05 Invoice from Printpoint for March edition of the Lowca Lowdown, £155 approved for payment.

270.06 Invoice received for the cost of Lowca website set up and annual hosting charge, £130 + £35 = £170, from AW IT Services, approved for payment.
270.07 Email from local resident Neil Lister offering regular historical items on Lowca for the Lowdown. Councillors were pleased to see that Lowca residents were happy to contribute towards the Lowdown.

271.00 Payments approved for payment via internet banking.

Intpay 14 M Milner, clerk. £251.28, salary £174.60 and travel/office exp £76.68p
Intpay 15 HMRC clerks PAYE £53.20p
Intpay 16 AW IT Services £170.00. Website development £135.00 Hosting £35.00
Intpay 17 Printpoint £155.00. Lowca Lowdown March 2016 printing costs
Intpay 18 Calc £214.00 Annual subscription
Intpay 19 Calc £73.75 Councillor training, 3 councillors

Meeting closed 8.33pm

272.00 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 18th May 2016 at 7.30pm Lowca Village Hall.

NB this meeting will immediately follow the Lowca Parish Council Annual General Meeting to be held at 7.15pm at the same location.

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