

LOWCA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday 18th April 2018

Meeting Opened: - The chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Miss M Oliver(chair), Mrs A Oliver, T Milligan, P Todd

Copeland Borough and Cumbria County Councillors: M Barbour CCC.

Clerk: Mike Milner

Members of the public, one

572.00 Apologises for absence. Mrs D Butterworth LPC, H Thinnesen LPC, Cllr Mrs G Troughton CBC, J Bowman CBC, Mrs J Bowman CBC,

573.00 Declaration of Interest. None

574.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 21st March 2018, as a true record.

574.01 The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr T.M and seconded by Cllr A.O approved unanimously and signed by the chair.

575.00 Public Participation

575.01 A resident was in attendance to complain about a road gully drain which is collapsing and coned at the entrance at Ghyll Grove and needs attention. Also, as Ghyll Grove bends to the left after the entrance, heavy vehicles, dustbin lorry and like, are mounting the kerb, causing the kerbstones to collapse and deeply rutting the grassed area which is turning muddy. The road should be widened at that point, was his suggestion. Clerk and Cllr M.B CCC to investigate and photograph and contact Highways Department.

575.02 Road markings have also faded, two sets of badly faded Give Way markings.

575.03 Resident was however very impressed with the letter that had been circulated to all the Ghyll Grove residents about the parking problems, very appropriate initiative.

576.00 Police Report

576.01 PCSO Hollie Dennis had provided the clerk with a report, which contained information of a ram loose on the road by Lowca school and a RTC outside Lowca school one vehicle had removed a wing mirror from another vehicle.

577.00 Applications for Development.

No development applications or approved applications.

578.00 County and District Councillors Reports

578.01 Cllr M.B CCC advised that the local highways were pushing to get the Lowca embankment sorted.

579.00 War memorial

579.01 Cllr M.O reported that she had met with Trudy Harrison M.P at Parton on 7th April and discussed plans for the war memorial and the Millennium garden play area. A meeting has been arranged for Saturday 16th June at 11am followed by a village litter pick.

579.02 Interested parties are to be invited to the meeting and the school are to be approached for help with the litter pick. Cllr M.O to organise contact with people interested with the war memorial celebrations.

579.03 War memorial bank account currently suspended, clerk to resolve with HSBC.

580.00 Millennium Garden Play Area.

580.01 Cllr P.T advised councillors that Sovereign Playgrounds were showing the most enthusiasm to provide a decent specification and quotation. Others were just rehashing quotes provided 2 years ago. Over the next couple of months, he would start chasing potential sources of funding. He cited Lottery funding, Windfarm funding, Waste management funding, Copeland Community funding and also CCC and their Under 18 funding.

580.02 Clerk advised that Cllr P.T should meet up with Trudy Harrison M.P on 16th June because she is very keen to promote play areas and she will write letters of support to add credence to funding applications.

581.00 Progress report, clerk.

581.01 Clerk had brought up the funding of the footbridge with Trudy Harrison M.P and she was to investigate funding between CCC and Natural England.

581.02 Clerk had a verbal commitment from Parton PC to split the current repair cost with Lowca PC. Contractor has proposed a solution by welding with cost of approx. £400.00.

581.03 Clerk had emailed Copeland about the BMX track, but heard nothing back.

581.04 Clerk had that morning had the accounts audited by Lowca's internal auditor, all in order and they would be presented at the May parish council meeting.

581.05 HMRC have finally advised the new system too enable the clerk to reclaim outstanding VAT. New client reference number supplied.

582.00 Lowca Councillors Reports

582.01 Cllr T.M complained about the amount of litter outside the school and provided photographic evidence of it. He also reminded Cllr M.B CCC that the school sign was still not the larger size as promised and that a drain by the school sign was blocked.

582.02 Chair to chase Copeland street cleaning team.

582.03 Cllr P.T advised that the pot hole in Meadow View was still a problem and getting bigger. Debate as to whether the road at the point in question is actually the responsibility of the property owners in Meadow View as unadopted. Certainly not Highways responsibility. Cllr P.T is to investigate what an owner's deeds say and advise back.

583.00 Correspondence.

583.01 Letter from Local Boundary Commission, Lowca to be included with Parton and Distington in a new ward to be called Distington. Lowca councillors not happy with the name, could it not be called North Copeland? Cllr M.B CCC offered the advice that such a name would be considered with "apprehension" by authorities at it would imply a very large area.

583.02 Clerk to contact Parton for their views.

583.03 Reminder from CALC that their annual subscription due. £225 up from £218.25 an increase of 3%. Unanimous agreement to renew by all councillors.

583.04 An HSBC data protection privacy notice.

583.05 A 4-page Internal Auditors checklist from CALC, which the clerk had inspected and Lowca ticked all the boxes appropriately.

584.00 Payments for approval

IntPay 92 M Milner, clerk, £245.97, salary £200.00p and expenses £45.97p

IntPay 93 HMRC clerks PAYE £30.20p

IntPay 94 CALC £225.00 annual subscription.

All approved

**585.00 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 16th May 2018 at 7.30pm
Lowca Village Hall. The parish council AGM will take place at 7.15pm prior to that
meeting.**

Meeting closed 8.24pm

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