

**MINUTES OF LOWCA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2017
AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

Lowca Parish Councillors

Miss M J Oliver (chairman)
Mr H Thinnesen
Mrs A Oliver
Mrs D Butterworth
Mr T Milligan
Mr J Crawford
Mr P Todd.

Parish Clerk

Mr M Milner

Copeland District and Cumbria County Councillor

Apologises

John Bowman CBC
Jackie Bowman CBC

Meeting Opened:

The chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm.

375.00 Apologises.

Duly noted as above.

376.00 Declaration of Interest

None

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

377.01 The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr A.O and seconded by Cllr H.T approved unanimously.

378.00 Public Participation

No public present

379.00 Police Report

379.01 No police presence, but clerk had checked the police website and advised the councillors of the 3 incidents logged on the website.

379.02 Cllr M.O asked that the clerk contact the police about the parking problem in the area around the school as she had nearly collided with a car door thrown open by a parent who had clearly not looked to check if safe to open the door. Minutes 364.03/4 refer to these problems.

7.42pm Cllr J.C Joins the meeting

380.00 Applications for Development.

None

381.00 County and District Councillors Reports

381.01 There were no County or District councillors.

381.02 Councillors though requested the clerk to write to Copeland Planning department about the holiday park planning application. Residents were aware of a visit to the site on the edge of the village, which has never been developed, but the area maybe being considered for temporary housing for the Moorside project and has there been any development application along those lines.

381.03 Cllr T.M requested that the clerk establish what is happening on the road down from St Bridgett's Church, as it was continually flooding, but workmen had been seen in the area.

381.04 Could the clerk establish the whereabouts of a proper large school sign outside Lowca school. The old sign had been really big, current replacement is small triangle.

381.05 Local resident at Seabreeze on the main road through Lowca states the bin lorry at least one week in three fails to stop and empty their bins. It does not come back from them; can the clerk please contact the bin collection service about the problem.

382.00 Bus Shelter Progress Report

382.01, Clerk advised that Cumbria County Council funding had been chasing for confirmation of expenditure on the bus shelter as the money allocated 25th April 2016 and should be spent within 6 months. Clerk had filled in the appropriate form, provided invoice evidence to show shelter purchased and also delivered. Delay explained by legal paper work confirming land in East Road transferred to parish council. Acknowledgement received that all was now in order by CCC.

382.02 Cllr T.M just waiting for better weather to install the shelter.

383.00 April to December 2016 Financial report.

383.01 Clerk had circulated with the agenda for the meeting various financial documents and a bank reconciliation. That showed the PC had at the end of December £8803.53 in the bank, which tallied with the bank statement sheet 296.

383.02 There were no questions about the accounts, so the chairman duly signed the bank statement to confirm that the unaudited 9 month accounts had been accepted.

384.00 Lowca Grass and Play equipment contract 2017.

384.01 Clerk had received the official contract for 2017 from Copeland B.C who had the annual contract. The total cost for the year was £769.52 ex VAT and there was no price increase from 2016.

384.02 The council agreed unanimously to accept the contract and clerk to return the documentation.

385.00 War Memorial and Miners Memorial Area

385.01 Gen2 have asked when it would be appropriate to have photo session with their apprentices in attendance. Cllr T.M was just waiting for a decent weather window to finish the project, as he has all the paint and brushes.

385.02 The council agreed that they would look out the availability of an old mine tub, rails to put the tub on. If possible complete the project behind the war memorial ready for the 2018 anniversary of the war memorial.

385.03 Council agreed that the cost of fencing would be met from their funds if alternative funding was not forthcoming. Cllr T.M would be reimbursed for any financial outlay.

386.00 Progress Report, Clerk.

386.01 Councils views as per minute 367.01 had been submitted to National Grid.

386.02 ENW were dealing with the clerks request for confirmation that the pylon number 248 above the A595 landslip was safe.

386.03 Clerk had submitted 2017/18 precept to Copeland B.C for £7500.

386.04 Clerk to put details of recent village projects in the March edition of the Lowca Lowdown.

386.05 Clerk to request further traffic census in the village.

386.06 Clerk had claimed a VAT refund of £879.12 for period July 2014 to December 2016. Approved by HMRC and paid by Bacs payment 24th Jan 2017.

386.07 Website is up and running and up to date, the council require a Facebook presence and Cllr P.T agreed that he would help the clerk provide that facility.

387.00 Councillors Reports

387.01 Dog mess was also a problem in Solway Road, clerk requested to contact the dog warden about the problem. Clerk to point out the problem in next Lowca Lowdown and fines can be issued if dog owner was not carrying poo bags for their pets mess.

387.02 Cllr T.M concerned that the vehicle escape route by the Vicarage on Moresby Hill is overgrown and not fit for purpose if required by vehicle in an emergency. The clerk pointed out the road was not in Lowca parish, but he would contact Moresby parish clerk to voice the concern.

387.03 Cllr T.M also raised the topic of no meeting in January. It was proposed by Cllr T.M that Lowca parish council adopted a holiday break in August, but met in January. Seconded by Cllr A.O and passed unanimously.

8.15pm Cllr H.T left the meeting

388.00 Correspondence.

388.01 Invoice received from Copeland for 2016 grass cutting contract £641.32. Unanimously approved for payment.

388.02 Letter of thanks from Great North Air Ambulance for the £50 donation.

388.03 Invoice from Oughterside and Allerby parish council for £25 to cover Cllr P.T's attendance at a good councillor training course held at O&A. Payment approved.

389.00 Payments for approval

IntPay 50 Copeland BC Grass cutting contract for 2016, £641.42

IntPay 51 M Milner, clerk, £263.76, salary £229.50p and expenses £34.26p

IntPay 52 HMRC clerks PAYE £37.80p

IntPay 53 Oughterside & Allerby PC Cllr P Todd training course £25.00

All approved.

Meeting closed 8.28pm

390.00 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 15th March 2017 at 7.30pm Lowca Village Hall.

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