

LOWCA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday 21st June 2017

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

Present: Cllrs Miss M Oliver(chair), T Milligan, J Crawford, Mrs D Butterworth, P Todd.

Copeland Borough and Cumbria County Councillors: Cllrs J Bowman CBC,

Mrs J Bowman CBC, M Barbour CCC.

Clerk Mike Milner

Members of the public, none.

435.00 Apologises for absence. Cllr H Thinnesen LPC, Mrs G Troughton CBC.

436.00 Declaration of Interest

Cllr Jackie Bowman CBC for the Development agenda item.

437.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 15th March 2017, as a true record.

437.01 The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr M.O and seconded by Cllr D.B approved unanimously.

438.00 Public Participation

No public present

439.00 Police Report

439.01. Clerk advised no police report and the Police website was still showing crime details more up to date than March 2017.

439.02 Clerk reported an email from the local PCSO Hollie asking if anyone knew the ownership of the land directly opposite the school at Lowca. Brief discussion on ownership but nothing conclusive.

439.03 PCSO advised clerk double yellows at school repainted by 15th July.

7.37pm Lowca school head Joanna Crawford entered the meeting and wanted to explain about the land use. Clerk pointed out that public participation had ceased, but the chair could at her discretion open public participation to allow the head to put her comments.

440.00 Public Participation, reopened.

441.01 Head from Lowca school put her case for seeking assistance from the parish council because of a car parking problem as pupils are dropped off and collected. She wanted a car park and then a pedestrian crossing for pupils to use. Cllr T.M pointed out that a pedestrian crossing would be tens of thousands of £s.

441.02 Cllr J.C asked it be minuted that the only time the council saw the head was when she needed funds. Cllr M.B CCC advised the meeting that he would take up the situation with the head directly because no one wanted a blanket no parking situation to arise to the detriment of the school but more importantly to local residents.

441.03 Lowca head thanked him for his offer of assistance and could she make a further contribution. She explained to the meeting that she was also seeking £1k contribution for the school pre-school project and £300 for a lawn mower. Letter to be topic for July agenda. She left her notes and letter with the clerk and left the meeting at 7.55pm. Cllr M.B CCC left to exchange contact details.

442.00 Applications for Development.

442.01 Clerk confirmed no applications for development, however with regard to minute 423.01 Application CH/4/17/2166/OF1 at the May meeting he had taken up all the issues raised at the last meeting and had been advised by Sarah Papalea the planning officer handling the application that there is a discussion taking place regarding the condition attached to a previous application relating to public parking. The Council have requested that this condition be removed before any application for housing is considered.

443.00 County and District Councillors Reports

443.01 All councillors advised that following the recent local and national elections there was nothing to report. However, Cllr J.B CBC did say that Copeland were undertaking a new local development plan. Cllr M.O (chair) thanked the Cllrs for their attendance and invited them to stay if they so wished. All remained.

444.00 Consider and approve a Financial Code.

444.01 The clerk had circulated a 14-page document prior to the meeting for Lowca Cllrs to consider. He explained that as he ran through the document it would be evident that he as their responsible financial officer was carrying out all the procedures as laid out in the NALC template he had used.

444.02 At the end of the clerk's presentation Cllr J.C asked if the parish council had a credit or debit card, the clerk confirmed no as the code indicated, so Cllr J.C proposed acceptance of the code presented, which was seconded by Cllr D.B and approved by all.

445.00 Lowca Lowdown June edition.

445.01 Clerk raised concerns that he was struggling for ideas on content. Within a couple of minutes Cllrs had suggested various topics and clerk could title the Lowdown Summer 2017.

446.00 Playground refurbishment, Millennium Garden Area.

446.01 Cllr M.O (chair) had carried this agenda item over from the last meeting. She explained that Cllrs had looked at the play area at the rear of the Village Hall, Miners Welfare building, and also the Millennium Garden. The former Lowca councillor Brian Ennis had undertaken extensive researches into replacing the existing play area with a modern and up to date play area.

446.02 To see this project through needed a dedicated Cllr and was there a volunteer. Cllr Paul Todd is now to undertake the challenge, the clerk to provide him with all of the research material that Brian Ennis had handed over.

447.00 Progress Report, Clerk.

447.01 War memorial maintenance 427.02 refers now on schedule and the one off cut behind the memorial has been carried out.

447.02 Photoshoot with Sellafield apprentices took place Friday 16th June for Sellafield's records and Lowca Lowdown.

447.03 still no news on a Miner's Tub for the miners' memorial project

447.04 minute 414.03 no further news on Low Moresby arrester lane.

447.05 Stamford Hill signs, 414.04 still not installed

447.06 Further traffic survey, 414.05 still no date for that to commence. Cllr M.B CCC will see Kevin Cosgrove and bring up the last three points and the question of a large school sign.

447.07 Clerk read out an email he had received the day before, sent by the CISWO northern Area Manager. The CISWO along with Lowca Parish Council have 6 representatives on the Miners Welfare Building management committee. The area manager had visited the Building in April and met with the chairman of the management committee Brian Ennis, Cllr Hugh Thinnesen who is also a trustee on the management committee and the clerk who is treasurer for the management committee. CISWO want to update the original trustee document, resolve other issues with the documentation and have suggested that the social club should be "hived off" as a separate limited company using the building under the umbrella of a "licence of occupation." The clerk advised that this arrangement had been set out as a course of necessary action as far back as 2005. The parish council as the trustees for the building must realise that this situation has to be resolved. This was why he was bringing this to the council's attention now. He was going to arrange another meeting with CISWO and would also be seeking other advice.

447.08 Clerk read out a quote he had received from Copeland about the grass areas at the end of Solway Road. Cllr J.C said he would resume the 2 areas on his side, so the only area to be cut was the left-hand side if viewed from East Road, the one with the pathway through it.

447.09 Clerk to get a new quote and also get a quote for cutting the area behind the war memorial on a regular basis.

447.10 Clerk not available for the September meeting so Lowca will have an August meeting and no September meeting.

448.00 Councillors Reports

448.01 Cllr M.O advised that the BMX track is not owned by Copeland, she is still trying to discover who the owner is. The council registered their collective concerns about the rubbish on it, fly tipping potential and that for bonfire night, inviting local companies for timber or burnable material was actually illegal. Any such material provided by a registered business which had provided a proper contracted disposal service to one of their customers and taken payment for that act, were in themselves fly tipping by not disposing of the material as contracted.

449.00 Correspondence.

449.01 Clerk had received details of Household Emergency Plan from Action with communities in Cumbria.

449.02 There is to be a Howgate Partnership meeting 5th July 7pm at Lowca village hall.

449.03 CALC had finally sent invoice for 10 Good Councillors Guides £25.00

449.04 Letter from the Pensions Regulator, clerk has already registered the parish council and there is no liability.

449.05 Copeland have circulated a list of all current departmental managers for clerks use.

449.06 Clerk had received an email about "Copeland Village Services Survey." He ran through the service that Copeland thought Lowca had. Clerk to advise the author of the report that Glenlea House B&B no longer trading. That Lowca does have a regular daily bus service the No 1 route. There is a cycleway connection, Lowca part of the C2C track. That Lowca does have a post box, but not a Phone Box, BT are cancelling the facility.

449.07 The footbridge between Parton and Lowca across Lowca beck is missing a chequer plate. The matter has been reported, Natural England would pay 75% of the cost and Parton parish council have agreed to split the balance 50/50 with Lowca. Quotes are being obtained.

450.00 Payments for approval

IntPay 62 CALC. £25.00 CALC 10 copies Good Councillors Guide

IntPay 63 M Milner, clerk, £231.44, salary £180.90p and expenses £50.54p

IntPay 64 HMRC clerks PAYE £20.40p

IntPay 65 Simone Morgan. £30.00 2016/17-year end internal audit fee

All approved.

Meeting closed 9.19pm

**451.00 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 19th July 2017 at 7.30pm
Lowca Village Hall.**

Page 108 (4 of 4) Chairman's signature.....19th July 2017.