

**MINUTES OF LOWCA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17th MAY 2017
AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

Lowca Parish Councillors

Miss M J Oliver (chairman)
Mr H Thinnesen
Mrs D Butterworth
Mrs A Oliver

Parish Clerk

Mr M Milner

Copeland District and Cumbria County Councillor

John Bowman CBC
Jackie Bowman CBC
Gillian Troughton CBC
Martin Barbour CCC

Apologises

Mr T Milligan
Mr J Crawford
Mr P Todd.

Meeting Opened:

The chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm.

418.00 Apologises.

Duly noted as above.

419.00 Declaration of Interest

Cllr Jackie Bowman CBC for the Development agenda item.

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

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

421.00 Public Participation

No public present

422.00 Police Report

422.01 PCSO Hollie Dennis was present, however at this item the police control room contacted her and she departed to a problem in Distington.

422.02 Clerk had a copy of her report and read out the list of recent police involvement in Lowca, up to 25th April.

423.00 Applications for Development.

423.01 Application CH/4/17/2166/OF1 the building of two semi-detached dwellings on land adjacent Seagrove, Lowca. All councillors present were concerned that the land currently has vehicles parked on it and used by the residents of Ghyll Grove, plus the row of terraced dwellings above Ghyll Grove. The road is double yellow lined.

423.02 It was finally proposed by Cllr A.O and seconded by Cllr D.B and unanimously agreed that the clerk to write to the planning department, request details of any planning conditions when Seagrove or Westgrove were granted planning permission and importantly request a site visit prior to a planning decision.

424.00 County and District Councillors Reports

424.01 The chair welcomed Cllr Martin Barbour to the meeting and congratulated him on his recent success in the Cumbria County Council elections and hoped the council would see him as a regular visitor.

424.02 The clerk requested that he could have the opportunity to apologise to Cllr Gillian Troughton because he knew she had recently lost her county councillor status but he had forgotten she was still a Copeland District Councillor and omitted to send her a copy of the agenda. That was an error which should not have happened.

424.03 Cllr M.B CCC thanked the council for his welcome, obviously as he was still getting things sorted and it was purdah due to the forth coming general election he had nothing to report.

424.04 The CBC councillors also advised nothing of significance to report affecting Lowca.

425.00 Approve Asset Register Valuation of Parish Assets as of 31/3/2017

425.01 Clerk had circulated revised register prior to the meeting and ran through the changes. Cllr H.T proposed acceptance and Cllr D.B seconded it, council agreed unanimously.

426.00 Receive and approve the Lowca Parish Council accounts for the year end 31/3/2017.

426.01 All councillors had received copies of the accounts and appropriate documents prior to the meeting.

426.02 Clerk ran through all the details of the internal audit, the figures and his variance report. No questions were raised.

426.03 Clerk read through the Governance Statement of the accounting statement prior to signature. Cllr A.O proposed acceptance of the statement, Cllr D.B seconded the proposal and the council approved unanimously. Clerk and Cllr M.O signed page 2 as required.

426.04 Clerk went through the accounting statement on page 3 of the accounting form and Cllr H.T proposed acceptance which was seconded by Cllr D.B and approved unanimously. Clerk and Cllr M.O signed page 3 as required.

426.05 Clerk to complete and send forms to BDO plus display in the noticeboard and put them on parish council website.

427.00 War memorial ground maintenance.

427.01 Cllr M.O advised that she had cut the grass on the war memorial as the local resident who usually undertook the task was no longer able to carry out the task. The clerk had arranged for Copeland's Open Spaces manager Sue Fryer to meet he and the chair at the war memorial on Friday 12th. They had discussed a regular cut and strim for the war memorial and also a one off cut for the grass behind the memorial, which the parish were responsible for.

427.02 A quote of £3.99 ex Vat had been received for a regular cut of the war memorial area, when the team were in Lowca, plus a one off £32.25 ex Vat for a one-off litter pick and cut of the area to the rear of the memorial. After a brief discussion Cllr A.O proposed that parish council take the responsibility for the areas in the cutting schedule contract with Copeland, which was seconded by Cllr H.T and unanimously agreed by all.

428.00 Playground refurbishment, Millennium garden area

428.01 Council decided that as three councillors were absent it would be best to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

429.00 Progress Report, Clerk.

429.01 Minute 414.01, no response yet from Threkeld Quarry about a miners tub.

429.02 Minute 414.03, no further details about the Low Moresby arrester lane.

429.03 Minute 414.04, no visible sign of Stamford Hill HGV road signs

429.04 Minute 414.05, still waiting latest road survey date.

429.05 Minute 414.06, The CISWO North Area Manager Ian Lally had on 16th May confirmed that he was sorting out template documents for a new trustee document for the Miners Welfare Building, plus details of CRB sources and an "occupational licence" for the social club. As soon as the clerk had all the documentation he would be putting the options to the Welfare Buildings Management Committee and also the parish council.

430.00 Councillors Reports

430.01 Cllr D.B raised the question of the grassed areas at the end of Solway Road at East Road. The area on the left with the pathway through it looks neglected and the one on the right gets cut by a resident. Would it be possible to get these two areas included in the scheduled grass cutting schedule as that would make the area look much better.

430.02 Clerk to contact the Copelands Open Spaces Manager and get a quote.

431.00 Correspondence.

431.01 Calc had sent their annual subscription renewal letter requesting a sum of £218.28, which clerk would be seeking payment approval for at the next item.

431.02 Email from Parton clerk Chris Shaw about the decking plates on the foot bridge between Parton and Lowca, again being loose. Clerk has emailed Bob Muscat at Cumbria pathways and he was dealing with the matter with Natural England.

431.03 Received notification that Copeland had transferred the village precept of £7500 via BACs to Lowca, payment seen on statement 301 as credited 28th April.

432.00 Payments for approval

IntPay 59 CALC. £218.25 annual Calc subscription

IntPay 60 M Milner, clerk, £239.41, salary £173.35p and expenses £66.06p

IntPay 61 HMRC clerks PAYE £23.60p

All approved.

Meeting closed 8.34pm

433.00 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 21st June 2017 at 7.30pm Lowca Village Hall.

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