

**MINUTES OF LOWCA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017  
AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:**

**Lowca Parish Councillors**

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

**Parish Clerk**

Mr M Milner

**Copeland District and Cumbria County Councillor**

John Bowman CBC  
Jackie Bowman CBC

**Apologises**

CCC Gillian Troughton  
Mrs D Butterworth

**Meeting Opened:**

The chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm.

**405.00 Apologises.**

Duly noted as above.

**406.00 Declaration of Interest**

None

**407.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last meeting held on  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017, as a true record.**

407.01 The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr P.T and seconded by Cllr J.C approved unanimously.

## **408.00 Public Participation**

No public present

## **409.00 Police Report**

409.01 Both Police Community Support Officers Hollie Dennis and Mark Fishpool were in attendance at the meeting. Hollie updated the council with recent reports and discussed with the council the recent spate of bent windscreen wipers.

409.02 The school parking problem was again aired and Hollie advised that she is putting pressure on to get the yellow road markings in the vicinity of the school remarked. She advised the chair that if individuals felt victimised by the attention being made on this topic then please refer them directly to her. Over the past 2 years there have been 2 RTA involving children around the school, that makes the topic of parents parking around the school important. Mark reinforced his colleague's remarks and suggested that those dropping children at school could park in Ghyll Grove or even use the BMX track area and walk the children up to the school.

409.03 Hollie advised that she had spoken to Whitehaven News about the situation and they had printed an article on the problems in 13<sup>th</sup> April paper.

409.04 Hollie advised that when there were reports of neighbours and antisocial behaviour, before Home Group took steps to evict resident's other agencies were involved to try and establish if there were other underlying problems.

409.05 The topic of the safety lane or arrester bend, on the way down from Low Moresby was discussed and clerk read email from Kevin Cosgrove CCC Highways Dept'. PCSO remarked that a couple of years ago in heavy rain he was called to investigate an "aggrate" spillage at the bottom of the road. Investigation showed they were not looking for a lorry, the source of the aggrate was the safety lane. Cllr T.M acknowledged that there was a possible plan being formulated, but until that happens, and there is no time scale for the CCC Highways Working Group meeting, there is a problem and so the situation is far from satisfactory from a safety aspect. He requested that clerk make that point to CCC Highways Department.

The chair thanked the PCSOs for their attendance and input, and they left the meeting.

## **410.00 Applications for Development.**

None

## **411.00 County and District Councillors Reports**

411.01 Both Cllrs Bowman reported that with the CCC elections on 4<sup>th</sup> May and now the general election On June 8<sup>th</sup>, they had nothing special to report that involved Lowca.

## **412.00 Current Position.**

412.01 clerk read emails from Highways England, and Kier that outlined the current position of completion for the project as Autumn 2019.

### **413.00 School Parking.**

413.01 As the situation had been discussed fully in the Police report minute 409.00 this item was considered fully covered.

### **414.00 Progress Report, Clerk.**

414.01, Clerk has written to Threkeld Quarry Museum enquiring if they have a spare mining tub for the Miners Memorial at Lowca. No reply yet. Cllr T.M suggested that perhaps Whitehaven Mining who have taken over at the old Haig Museum may have a tub to spare. Clerk to visit and find out.

414.02 Clerk has started the 2016/17 year end parish accounts and the bank reconciliation balances with the parish ledgers so before the next meeting he will get them audited and presented for acceptance in May. Envelopes with the agenda for the next meeting will have all relevant documents for councillors to study in advance of the meeting.

414.03 Clerk read out again his email exchanges about the Low Moresby arrester bend. Minute 409.00 refers.

414.04 Stamford Road signs advising no HGV's, use East Rd, have again been promised by CCC Highways Department.

414.05 Road traffic survey for HGV using Lowca is still being chased by clerk for early action.

414.06 Clerk reported that he, Brian Ennis chair of Miners Welfare Committee and Cllr H.T had met with the CISWO Northern Area Manager, Ian Tally, on 4<sup>th</sup> April. The meeting established that the Miners Welfare Building is no longer "affiliated" to CISWO and have not been since 1976.

414.07 Ian Lally suggested that the trustee document should be updated, he would forward various specimen documents for the parish council, Miners Welfare Committee and Social Club too consider.

414.08 There is absolutely no prospect of CISWO funding for assistance with refurbishment of the building, CISWO only support individuals.

414.09 The next parish council meeting will be preceded by the parish council AGM at 7.15pm, to elect a chairman and possibly a vice chairman.

### **415.00 Councillors Reports**

415.01 Cllr J.C confirmed a conversation with a resident about Meadow View lights attached to the properties. As discussed at previous meetings Copeland and Home Group will not replace them as lights are considered obsolete and the cost to replace one would be over £2000, a sum the parish council could not possibly consider.

415.02. Cllrs requested clerk to write to Gas Board about repairs done at night time in the area of A595 slippage seeking confirmation as to reasons for the repairs.

415.03 Cllr P.T questioned the number of Lowca Lowdown's needed. Clerk to see if he has copy of electoral roll if not Cllr P.T happy to count Lowca properties.

**416.00 Correspondence.**

416.01 Clerk had received all the annual audit material from BDO.

416.02 Clerk had received via email a lengthy new document concerning Governance & Accountability for smaller authorities. He will study its content, ensure that Lowca complies, advising the council if changes need to be made and may if needs be present changes to current documentation governing the way the council acts.

416.03 Cumbria County Council Highways Dept' have opened a new website for reporting problems. Clerk reported that it is excellent and easy to use plus one could see what current problems were being currently investigated by the department.

416.04 Invoice received from Printpoint £186.00 for March/April Lowdown.

**417.00 Payments for approval**

IntPay 56 M Milner, clerk, £264.35, salary £200.85p and expenses £63.50p

IntPay 57 HMRC clerks PAYE £30.60p

IntPay 58 Printpoint. £186.00 March/April Lowca Lowdown, 400 off

All approved.

Meeting closed 8.30pm

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