

LOWCA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday 21st February 2018

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

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

Copeland Borough and Cumbria County Councillors: M Barbour CCC.

Clerk: Mike Milner

Members of the public, none

540.00 Apologises for absence. Cllr J Crawford LPC, Mrs D Butterworth LPC, T Milligan LPC, H Thinnesen LPC, Cllr J Bowman CBC, Cllr Mrs J Bowman CBC, Cllr Mrs G Troughton CBC

541.00 Declaration of Interest. None

542.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 17th January 2018, as a true record.

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

543.00 Public Participation

No public participation

544.00 Police Report

544.01 PCSO Hollie Denis sent her apologies but had provided a police report from the logs and advised that in January a car was stopped in Stamford Hill and seized as driver disqualified. Report of car broken down in dip by Moresby church, but no vehicle found by patrol.

545.00 Applications for Development.

545.01 No new development applications, but clerk reported on his attendance at Copeland Planning Panel on 14th February with regard to the Blomfield Ltd application to extend use of 6 mobile homes. Despite his attendance and verbal objection, Copeland planning voted 5-1 in favour of the continued extension of the mobile homes.

546.00 County and District Councillors Reports

546.01 Cllr Jackie Bowman had provided a written report to clerk. It advised that new recycling boxes would be delivered Monday 26th February, but new service would not start until in April. A new calendar and information booklet would be distributed mid-March and residents to use the old system until told to change.

546.02 Cllr G.T had also provided a report about the boundary changes, new area has suggested name, North Copeland. Lowca to stay with Parton and Distington. Council tax increase to remain at current level of 1.9% not the 3% permissible.

546.03 Cllr M.B advised that CCC were pushing Highways England for their contingency plan if the Lowca embankment was to become unusable. There was a 12-month delay as route decisions were trying to be tied in with the new Whitehaven relief road.

546.04 Cllr M.O asked Cllr M.B about waste bin availability, he advised that he should contact Janice Carol and chair confirmed she would do so.

At the end of the agenda item at 7.50pm chair asked Cllr M.B if he wished to stay, which he did.

547.00 War memorial working group and project costs.

547.01 After a discussion on the need to draw all potentially interest parties together as November 2018 is a major celebration and only 9 months away, Cllr P.T proposed that as there were only 3 councillors present Cllr M.O be authorised to make contact and discuss with all interested parties' possible plans. Seconded by Cllr A.O. A list of possible individuals was drawn up, Cllr M.B CCC to check on funding available.

547.02 War Memorial in need of cleaning but Cllr T.M probably has a plan for that.

548.00 Millennium Garden Play Area.

548.01 Cllr P.T had received 3 possible layouts and he had that morning taken the possible projects to the Lowca School and discussed with the children which layout they preferred. As kids of course, they wanted to mix and match one play piece to the bulk of another layout.

548.02 Cllr P.T remarked how enthusiastic all the kids were and some of their in-put was very sensible. He would make the amendments as suggested and get requotes. He thought the plan could be formalised by July 2018, then a funding application would be made in February 2019, which hopefully would be successful and the project completed next summer 2019. The children are fully aware of the timescale. Local neighbours close to the play area must also be considered.

549.00 Reinstatement of the BMX track

549.01 The parish council have received a very interesting proposal to redevelop the BMX track, which would involve a MUGA area and all-weather play areas. All Cllrs present were very supportive, however they requested that the clerk establish from the individual proposing the development if it was a community-based scheme or a commercial enterprise? On receipt of that clarification Lowca PC would consider the proposal at greater length.

550.00 April – December 2017 Financial report

550.01 Clerk had distributed prior to the meeting the 9 monthly accounts and bank reconciliation. No councillors had any questions and chairman signed the bank statement No 311 confirming the account balance tallied with the bank reconciliation figure.

551.00 Progress report, clerk.

551.01 minute 535.01 refers, photo of new bus shelter sent to Suzanne Cooper at Cumbria Funding. Also, clerk had this morning met up with Cllr G.T and taken pics for Lowdown.

551.02 Clerk advised that he had attended the 15th Feb Lowca Village Hall Management Committee meeting. Rose Lord of ACTs had explained and answered questions of the new committee members about the Occupational Licence required to allow the Lowca Social Club to occupy the club side of the village hall building and run the bar. She then explained the requirements to the Lowca Social Club chairman, Marc Johnston, treasurer, Nicola Johnston and secretary Trevor Ennis. Both parties now understand the work required to complete the documentation by 1st May as stipulated by Copeland Licensing authority, which includes changing the licence into the name of Lowca Social Club.

551.03 VHC had elected John Spedding as chairman, Paul Todd as secretary and Janet Sim as treasurer. Rose Lord to provide draft copies of the Occupational licence to enable the process to begin immediately.

551.04 Clerk requested the completed "declaration of interest" forms from councillors' present.

551.05 Content for the Lowca Lowdown was discussed, agreed new VHMC make up, plans for war memorial, Millennium Play area plans, bus shelter pics, Lowca/Parton footbridge repairs and clerk to ask Lowca school for a contribution.

552.00 Lowca Councillors Reports

552.01 Cllr P.T raised concerns about a very large and deep pot hole in Meadow View. Cllr M.B would raise the issue with highways Department. He would also check on pot holes outside Glen Lea Guest House in Stamford Hill.

552.02 general discussion about dog mess. Cllr M.B and chair to tackle relevant person at Copeland. If people report problems to the Dog Warden, they will investigate and fine if appropriate.

553.00 Correspondence.

553.01 Email from Chris Shaw with copy of his letter to Electoral Review panel in London.

553.02 Emails from Natural England and CCC about the repairs required for beck footbridge. Cllr M.B to contact David Gibson and get the repair funded and undertaken before further damage or a problem with health and safety.

553.03 email from local resident Paul Graham about planting at war memorial. Minute 547.01 at this meeting refers, Cllr M.O to contact P.G directly.

553.04 Invoice received for £774.46 from Copeland BC to cover the 2017 grass cutting and playground inspection charges.

553.05 Three Tier Meeting at Copeland BC offices 1st March at 6pm.

554.00 Payments for approval

IntPay 87 M Milner, clerk, £319.50, salary £268.95p and expenses £50.55p

IntPay 88 HMRC clerks PAYE £47.60p

IntPay 89 Copeland BC £774.46 Grounds maintenance contract for 2017

All approved.

Meeting closed 8.40pm

555.00 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 21st March 2018 at 7.30pm Lowca Village Hall.

Page 129 (3 of 3) Chairman's signature.....21st March 2018.