

**MINUTES OF LOWCA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17th JUNE 2015
AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

Lowca Parish Councillors

Mr B Ennis
Mr T Milligan
Miss M J Oliver
Mrs M Moore

Parish Clerk

Mr M Milner

Copeland Borough Councillor

John Bowman
Jackie Bowman

Apologises

Mr J Crawford, Lowca PC
Gillian Troughton C.B.C
Mrs E Walker, Lowca PC
Mrs A Oliver, Lowca PC

Meeting Opened:

The chairman declared the meeting opened at 7.30pm prompt.
He welcomed Copeland councillors John and Jackie Bowman to the meeting and congratulated them on their re-election.

121.00 Apologises.

Duly noted as above.

122.00 Declaration of Interests

C.B.C Jackie Bowman declared an interest in planning matters.

123.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 20th May, as a true record.

The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr M.M and seconded by Cllr M.O
The vote by show of hands was unanimous for approval.

124.00 Police Matters.

124.01 PCSO Sarah Marshall 5388 was unable to attend but she had provided a written report which the clerk read out. Cllrs were concerned that 4x4 Off Road vehicles were accessing the bridle pathway from the southerly entry point by Parton and that this should be pointed out to Sarah by email. Cllr M.O suggested that a substantial bollard across the track would perhaps stop the larger vehicles gaining access.

125.00 Planning Matters.

125.01 C.B.C Jackie Bowman confirmed that she was able to listen to the clerk’s reports and any councillors replies, but she was unable to pass any comment.

125.02 Clerk had received an application 4/15/2189/OF1 dated 21st May, so had contacted the chairman about the Family Annex with Gym facility for Eden Gardens, Stamford Hill, Lowca. The 21 day time to respond would have been before the PC meeting. Cllr B.E had confirmed that there would be no objections so clerk had advised Copeland accordingly, no objections.

125.03 C.B.C Jackie Bowman advised from her planning committee experience what actions the clerk could take for future reference when it would appear that the planning objections date would be prior to the next Lowca PC meeting.

126.00 Matters concerning District and Ward Councillors.

126.01 C.B.C Bowman reported that the costal path Interpretation Boards would be installed at some stage next week, date and time to be confirmed. There are to be two coastal path groups and Cllr M.O would be in contact with Diana Ward at Copeland who was the individual in charge of the project, to ensure that Lowca, through her presence, was part of the group for the Lowca coastal pathway.

126.02 The Cllrs Bowman had come directly from a meeting about the National Grid proposed power line route to carry the power produced by the new nuclear power station at Moorside. On the face of the information they had it would appear that Lowca would not be part of the new power line route and that there was a chance some of the old route pylons could be removed. It was stressed that at this planning stage Lowca PC and residents should make representations to get their views recorded.

126.03 Lowca chairman Cllr B.E was going to visit the Civic Hall in Whitehaven and try and get the U Gen team to attend a Lowca parish council meeting to put their proposals across and listen to Lowca’s views. The style of the pylons to be erected should be voiced. The current plan is for the lines public consultation to finish by April 2016, the route to be finalised during 2017, work commencing 2019 and completed by 2024 for Moorside to start using them for power distribution in 2026.

126.04 Cllr B.E asked C.B.C John Bowman if he would support him at the Howgate Partnership Group to once again create a pressure group to demand action on the A595 road problems, as the new Moorside project would be a source of funding to relieve traffic problems which will get worse at the project develops. C.B.C Bowman said he felt the expression Liaison Group would be more appropriate, but he certainly would support the proposal.

127.00 Proposed Play Area Update

127.01 Cllr B.E present to the meeting a couple of A3 size display posters and a comprehensive specification manual for the first quote he has received for the proposed project to modernise the playground area behind the Miners Welfare Club and Millennium Garden. Before he can move the project forward to obtaining the substantial funding required though, he needs to obtain at least two more competitive quotes.

128.00 A595 Road Junction Trial.

128.01 Clerk reported that after 3 emails and a phone call he had received a response from Karl Melville, Senior Manager at C.C.C Highways about the proposed trial of a left turn only at the exit from Lowca on the A595. KM is still waiting for confirmation that the Highways Agency had secured the funding for the project. KM has also requested the installation of temporary traffic management cameras at the junction.

128.02 KM was able to confirm that the long awaited signage advising HGVs of the route to get to the Blomfields Nursery have been ordered and should be installed during the summer.

128.03 Cllr B.E again stressed his desire for the local councils to organise a pressure group through the Howgate Partnership.

129.00 Lowca Lowdown.

129.01 The clerk had produced a new edition of the Lowca Lowdown and circulated it to the councillors prior to the meeting. He had produced 10 versions with varying outer coloured covers. All agreed that the white option was the preferred one, Cllr M.O proposed that option and Cllr M.M seconded the proposal and that was approved unanimously.

129.02 Clerk to get 350 copies printed off by Print Point in Whitehaven and delivered to Cllr B.E and then they would be distributed as soon as possible.

129.03 All would actively find sponsors and advertisers to buy the spaces available to help offset the printing cost. The clerk to with the help of Cllr M.O get the school involved with providing a regular quarterly article about some aspect of the school.

130.00 Matters Arising from the last Minutes.

130.01 Clerk confirmed that Community Lincs (116.01 refers) had confirmed the indemnity insurance for the war memorial ground at £106 for a one off payment to cover the 25 year sub-lease period.

130.02 The clerk and Cllr B.E had been chasing Brian Holmes, Road Lighting Supervisor for C.C.C about the Millennium Garden lighting. The clerk advised that the problems had been resolved on Monday.

131.00 Matters of Report

131.01 Clerk reported that he had sent off the Lowca PC audited and approved year accounts for April 2014 to March 2015 to BDO the external auditors. Prior to sending them he had asked for clarification on what disclosures were necessary concerning the Miners Welfare Building, as the PC is shown as Custodian Trustee.

131.01 Matters of report cont'

BDO confirmed no declaration necessary on the audit form, however they did point out that as the PC's Responsible Financial Officer the clerk should be aware that the Miners Welfare Building accounts for 2012/13 and 2013/14 were both overdue and would he resolve that position as soon as possible.

130.02 Cllr B.E who is chairman of the Welfare Building had not been aware that the accounts had not been submitted to the Charity Commission. He would make it a priority to resolve.

130.03 Clerk to write to Rugby Club about parking arrangements for major matches, use BMX track. Cars parked on the war memorial grassed area.

132.00 Correspondence

132.01 Letter from Community Lincs with a revised insurance schedule confirming Lowca have agreed a 3 year contract. Copy of Employers Certificate enclosed

132.02 CALC have advised that on Tue 23rd June at St Bees village hall there is to be a seminar for newly appointed parish councillors. The seminar is suitable for councillors who would like a refresher on their potential duties. Cllr T.M confirmed that if his shifts allowed he would like to attend. The clerk advised the meeting that he would also go, as there are 2 vacancies at Lowca and a reminder of what was expected of candidates would be no bad thing.

132.03 Cumbria C.V.S West Funding Event is being held on 9th July at Distington Community Centre. As Lowca will be looking for substantial funding in respect of the fencing and landscaping of the war memorial and also the playground modernisation Cllr B.E and the clerk will attend.

132.04 The clerk had received an email from the owners of the Old Methodist Church. They confirmed that there was still no evidence of bats, but the bat expert was still inspecting as an ongoing project. They also confirmed that there were no owls, but that a black and white pussy cat occasionally visits the site, however as that is not an endangered species no further action about it.

133.00 Cheques for signing

133.01 Zurich Insurance Plc Chq No 100315 £106.00 Memorial indemnity policy

133.02 M Milner clerk Chq No 100316 £239.74, Salary £185.60 and £54.14 for travel and office consumables.

133.03 H.M.R.C Chq No 100317 £26.80 PAYE on clerks salary.

Meeting closed 8.57pm

134.00 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 15th July 2015 at 7.30pm Lowca Village Hall.

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