

**MINUTES OF LOWCA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2016
AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

Lowca Parish Councillors

Mr T Milligan, deputised as chairman.
Mr J Crawford
Mr P Todd.

Parish Clerk

Mr M Milner

Copeland District and Cumbria County Councillor

John Bowman CBC
Jackie Bowman CBC
Gillian Troughton CBC & CCC

Apologises

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

Meeting Opened:

The chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm.

345.00 Apologises.

Duly noted as above. Electric supply problems in Lowca meant some councillors absent

346.00 Declaration of Interest

None

347.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 19th October, as a true record.

347.01 The minutes were proposed as a true record by Cllr P.T and seconded by Cllr J.C The vote by show of hands was unanimous for approval.

348.00 Public Participation

348.01 Bill Armstrong from the Lowca Rugby Club wanted to bring to the attention of the parish council that the rugby club were to have installed on the outside wall of their building a defibrillator. They nearly had all the funding in place and he was asking if any parish councillor wanted to be a member of the contact team.

348.02 Cumbria County Cllr G.T asked how much more funding was required and that if B.A contacted her on Thursday she had a small pot of money available from public funds and she would make up any shortfall, to speed the project on. B.A thanked her and all the council for their time and left the meeting.

349.00 Police Report

349.01 Clerk reported he had checked the police website for recent reports, but the site only included information to September, details already known to the PC.

249.02 Cllr John B CBC advised that Distington were organising a meeting with the local police Inspector Craig Lowry and he would forward details to the clerk as the more parish councils represented the stronger would be the dissent at the new reporting procedure.

350.00 Applications for Development.

None

351.00 County and District Councillors Reports

351.01 Cllr Jackie B CBC advised that there had been meetings with National Grid, but the clerk obviously from the material in front of him had all the relevant details. The new pylons would not impact on Lowca and as already known the existing 132kV line in Lowca was to remain to carry local infrastructure demands.

351.02 Both CBC Cllrs advised that the planning department could not stop or put restrictions on any development, unless a utility raised objections. Lowca Cllrs were concerned about the 100 dwellings at Moresby Park, discharging rain water into Lowca Beck. The water utility has raised no concerns.

351.03 Clerk confirmed he had pointed out to Moresby PC clerk their concerns and that had been acknowledged.

351.04 Cllr J.C asked who was responsible for footpath clearance as the one approaching the church was over grown with weeds. Cllr G.T said Copeland were responsible for sweeping kerbs, but that was behind schedule. So, leaves build up, then weeds start and so the problem grows. Cllr G.T to investigate the area and contact Copeland.

351.05 Cllr T.M queried the size of "school" sign by Lowca school. Cllr G.T to check. That concluded this item, chair advised that the Cllrs involved could leave, or stay as council's guests. All 3 chose to remain.

352.00 HGV Traffic in Lowca

352.01 Clerk circulated the "summary of traffic movements (existing and proposed)" that had accompanied the Blomfield planning application submitted in late 2013. After discussions, it was agreed that continued surveillance of the situation should be maintained by councillors.

353.00 War Memorial and Bus Shelter progress reports.

353.01 The war memorial site had been successfully fenced by volunteers, who wished to remain anonymous and sought no reimbursement for their time and effort.

353.02 Clerk reported that Cllr M.O who was unable to attend the meeting had been seeking funding for a metal seat and some landscaping. The Cllrs present indicated that the project was not yet complete as the remaining ground available to the PC had yet to be fenced and that once that had been done a memorial to the miners of Lowca should be erected on the area. Then perhaps a seat could be sited, but not on the area of the war memorial as concerns were raised that children may use it as a place to congregate.

353.03 The bus shelter has been ordered and should be available to collect from the manufacturer 2nd December. The clerk had the collection and delivery organised and would liaise with Cllr T.M.

354.00 Lowca Lowdown.

354.01 Clerk ran through a list of items for the coming December Lowdown. He had already received contributions from the school and was aware of the entertainment and Christmas opening hours of the village hall social club. He confirmed that when writing about the war memorial progress he would only refer to "past and present" volunteers, no names.

355.00 Progress Report, Clerk.

355.01 minute 337.01 refers, notice about public completion of online survey put in village noticeboard.

355.02 minute 340.01 refers fly tipping sign in situ

355.03 minute 342.02 refers, resident who complained of speeding vehicles in the village acknowledged thanks for matter being in police hands.

355.04 minute 342.06 refers, Parton/Lowca bridge still not repaired.

356.00 Councillors Reports

All queries covered during meeting.

357.00 Correspondence.

357.01 Clerk in receipt of the full National Grid information pack including maps.

357.02 Request from Great North Air Ambulance service for their annual donation from the parish. Cllr J.C proposed a £50 donation as was normal, which was seconded by Cllr P.T.

357.03 Agenda for Howgate District meeting 22nd November at Distington Boys Club, 7pm start. Cllr T.M will attend if possible.

357.04 Email from local resident Paul Graham thanking the parish council for completing the fencing of the war memorial and how he had enjoyed the Sunday Remembrance Ceremony. His relation is named on the memorial.

358.00 Payments approved for payment via internet banking.

IntPay 43 Cllr T Milligan, materials to complete war memorial £153.93p

IntPay 44 M Milner, clerk, £206.31, salary £172.05p and expenses £34.26p

IntPay 45 HMRC clerks PAYE £23.40p

All approved.

Meeting closed 9.00pm

359.00 Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 21st December 2016 at 7.30pm Lowca Village Hall.