

Clerk's Updates – Meeting 15th March 2022

Actioned from last meeting Those not otherwise mentioned below:
Minutes 675, 677, 679 (still looking), 682, 683, 684

Key Contacts I have written to alternative emails at National Trust and Natural England, still awaiting their key contacts.

Forestry Lorries We have a meeting arranged for March 21st – 10am in The Gather. This is to discuss and agree the timber transport route. Forestry England and CCC Highways will be attending, we have also invited Cumbria police to come and advise as they have first-hand experience of the Ennerdale show traffic management. I have asked the head of the school for a timetable of busy periods that should be avoided. The Council needs to delegate the authority to represent the views of the Council at this meeting to two or three councillors. Those delegated must be mindful that they are representing the Council's position, not their personal view.

Development at 3 Forest Houses The LDNPA have confirmed that they have spoken to the householder and are expecting to receive a retrospective planning application.

Stow Bank Farm Development Planning officer from Copeland has visited and has advised the site owner that they need to submit a planning application for this. They have advised them to submit a pre-planning application in the first instance and will keep us informed.

SSSI Training Awaiting a response.

Queen's Jubilee Volunteers can be requested now the Facebook page is set up. Just let me have a list of what and when. However – more people need to like and follow the page or this is unlikely to get much of a result. Please can all councillors with Facebook do this and share posts to increase the page's following. The head teacher has confirmed that there are no plans to give the children commemorative items.

FE Larch Consultation FE have extended the deadline for their online consultation regarding the Phytophthora Ramorum. It is now open until March 28th.

Forestry Meeting/Presentation A number of issues have been raised with the Council regarding changes that Forestry England are making or possibly making in the area. These range from parking charges, closure of car parks, reconfiguration of car parks, beaver release and the future of Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre. The Council have not been made aware of what FE's plans are, so I have invited the Regional Director of FE to come to Ennerdale and present their plans and vision for the valley, where we can ask questions to (hopefully) get some answers. He has agreed to this, but a date has not been set yet. We are pushing for this to happen as soon as possible.

Planning Complaint 2 Forest Houses A resident has made a complaint to LDNPA regarding an alleged breach of planning by Forestry England. I have asked LDNPA to keep me updated with any progress. The resident also complained of being harassed by FE and I have asked them for details to see if I could offer advice or assistance, but have not received a reply.

Common Land Discussions with Forestry England There are ongoing discussions with Forestry England about the ownership and location of common land. As this has been ongoing for some time, Councillor Taylor has done extensive research in the past, but unfortunately, I have not managed to find the opportunity to sit with him and go through what he has yet. In the meantime, they are asking for permission to fell the diseased larch trees on common 107, if it is owned by the Council.

Budget and Precept I received a query from a resident regarding the increase in the precept and asking for an explanation, which I was able to give to the satisfaction of the enquirer, who said she would pass the information on to her friends. In light of this I will also look for somewhere suitable on the website to put this information.

