

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 13th March 2013
in St. Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge.

21.03.13: In Attendance: Cllrs. Lachlan (Chair), Oakley, Wood, Topping and Denham-Smith.

Also in attendance: Cllr. Salkeld (CBC), Gareth Browning (Forest Enterprise) & David Smith (Clerk).

22.03.13: Apologies: Cllrs. Taylor (family illness), McMullen (illness) & Ayling (holiday).

23.03.13: Declarations of Interest: There were no specific declarations of interest, though all councillors presents are shareholders in the Ennerdale Hub.

24.03.13: The Wild Ennerdale Project: update from Gareth Browning.

Gareth informed the meeting that he was going to highlight four areas of work that were going to be undertaken in the coming year.

Larch Tree Disease: (Phytophthora ramorum), has now been found in three locations in the Ennerdale Valley. Larch trees have no defence against the fungus like organism and the chances are that a 'Plant Health Order' will be served on the Forestry Commission which will mean that the trees within 100m of the diseased trees will have to be felled. This could potentially mean felling between 8 and 10,000 trees. Birch trees would probably be planted as replacements to try and recreate the autumnal colours of the Larch. As climate change kicks in it is expected that there will be a massive increase in plant pests and diseases.

Red Squirrels: trapping in the valley has shown that there is now a healthy population of red squirrels, now estimated to be in excess of 190. 6 grey squirrels were caught and killed during the four months of trapping and it would appear from the lack of reports that the greys have been removed from the valley. There is funding in place to keep this work going for another year but then additional funds, in the region of £5,000, will be required.

Tree felling operations: Natural England have asked for the removal of about 50 Beech trees in a SSSI, important for its lichens and biophytes. There will be some temporary road closures during felling operations and the trees will be left as they fall in the wood. There is also some felling to complete at the Ennerdale end of the Cold Fell Road.

Tree planting operations: some 10,000 Birch, Oak and Willow will be planted at the head of the valley opposite Black Sail during the coming year.

Councillors asked the following questions:

What trees would help with the consolidation of river banks? Willow and Alder or possibly Willow and Spruce stakes.

Does the Parish Council own land around the old 'Parish' quarry at Bowness Knott? Yes, further information will be provided.

The Chair thanked Gareth for his attendance.

ACTION: GB to provide information re: land at Bowness Knott and write an article for the newsletter

25.03.13: Minutes of the meeting held on 9th January:

The minutes of the January meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr. Topping

Seconded: Cllr. Denham-Smith

The Chair duly signed them.

26.03.13: Public Participation:

The Chair reported that he had been approached by a number of local people regarding changes to the collection of waste bins. In the near future, people will be required to wheel their bins to the kerbside for collection. A number of elderly and/or disabled residents are being asked to wheel their bins a considerable distance to get them to the nearest kerbside.

Copeland BC have confirmed that they will look at cases on an individual basis and the Chair is to meet up with an officer from the relevant department to voice the concerns of the Parish Council.

ACTION: ML to meet with Jenna Trewartha from CBC.

ACTION: Clerk to forward email correspondence on this matter to councillors.

ACTION: Cllr. Wood to raise the issue at the CBC Customer Focus Group

27.03.13: Progress Reports:

A: Clerk's Report:

The following actions from the January meeting were reported as being completed:

4.01.13: Copy of 'Miles without Stiles funding bid sent to United Utilities.

8.01.13: All payments sent out and now cleared through the account.

10.01.13: Governance & Procedures group has met.

11.01.13: Letters sent to Cabinet and executive members of CCC and CBC in light of referendum results.

16.01.13: Clarification received from RNEC re: payment to be made.

16.01.13: Precept confirmed with CBC

17.01.13: Councillor information and meeting dates sent for placement on website.

Two further actions were noted: CiLCA training – ongoing and the Review of the Parish Plan – yet to be commenced.

A list of correspondence was noted and none required a specific response.

B: RNEC:

Cllr. Lachlan reported that at the most recent meeting of the local regeneration group the Ehen Valley Green Infrastructure Plan had been discussed together with the related cycle routes along the Green Corridor. The 'Opportunity Zone' followed the River Ehen from Wath Brow to Ennerdale Water and new footpaths and cycle paths were included in the zone.

There is yet to be official confirmation of the site for the West Lakes Xtreme sports centre but it is understood that there is considerable private sector interest in the project.

The RNEC Annual Action Plan has been updated and Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council are identified as 'delivery partners' in the following areas:

- Further development of the village recreation facility (ECRAG)
- Continuation of Parish Lengthsman scheme

- Support the management of 'Green Areas' and environmental improvements
- Continue to support the 217 bus service
- Maintain list of derelict and dilapidated buildings
- Review the role of the website www.necopeland.co.uk
- Support the development of Ennerdale Hub
- Work with partners to investigate opportunities for community based renewable schemes
- Revisit Parish Plans and local Action Plans.

C: MRWS:

Cllr. Wood reported that as a result of the County Councils decision not to proceed to Stage 4, the MRWS process was now at an end.

D: ECRAG:

Cllr. Oakley reported that the group had heard back from some of the funders to whom they had applied and had had confirmation of £13,200 being awarded, this being 50% of the total project costs.

E: Bus Service 217:

Cllr. Wood reported that the funding was now in place for the next twelve months. The possibility of CCC being able to access a Revenue Support Grant to further support the 217 was highlighted.

ACTION: Cllr. Wood to investigate the possibility of CCC applying for a Revenue Support Grant.

F: Connecting Cumbria:

Cllr. Topping stated that there was no progress to report but that he would inform councillors as soon as there was some news available.

G: Parish Council Website:

Cllr. Topping reported that website was now fully functioning on www.eandkpc.co.uk

F: Governance Sub-Group:

The Clerk reported that the first meeting of the Sub-Group had taken place and it had been agreed that the following documents would be reviewed and/or developed:

1. Standing Orders
2. Financial Regulations
3. Freedom of Information Statement
4. Risk Assessments
5. Agendas

It was further agreed by councillors present that the Council Complaints Procedure should be added to the list of documents. Standing Orders are currently being reviewed.

28.03.13: Planning Matters:

There was one planning application to discuss:

App. No: 7/2013/4008: Low Moor End, Ennerdale – change of use of farmhouse to agricultural occupancy dwelling with associated holiday cottage on revised farm holding boundaries.

Councillors had 'No Objections' to the application.

Information was provided on two slight changes to existing public rights of way, these being along the western shore of Ennerdale Water and on the new foot bridge at Longmoor Head. Notice of compliance with a planning condition at black Sail YH was also supplied.

ACTION: Clerk to inform LDNPA of the views of the council.

29.03.13: Report from the Police and Neighbourhood Watch:

Cllr. Wood informed councillors that there had been one non- domestic burglary incident in January and one incident of a motor-bike being used on Kinniside Common in February.

The Cumbria Community Messaging service sent out 13 alerts during the last two months, 7 in January and 6 in February.

30.03.13: Highways Matters:

Cllr. Lachlan reported that Cumbria Highways have now agreed to provide a street light outside St. Mary's and that all associated costs will be covered by the County Council.

All other works, see previous minutes, were ongoing and the work associated with the Croasdale Road width restriction would be undertaken in the next financial year.

Councillors were reminded to report any problems they noticed on the highways network to the Highways Hotline 0845 609 6609.

31.03.13: Council Finance:

The Clerk provided councillors with a revised bank reconciliation showing the balance of the main account as £12,120.63p as per the latest available bank statement dated 24th January. The Chair checked the balance with the bank reconciliation and initialled the latest statement.

The following payments were agreed:

- Clerk's Salary & expenses Quarter 4: £255.26p
- HMRC PAYE Quarter 4: £50.06p
- RNEC Contribution 12/13: £200.00p
- JD Crozier (hedge cutting): £187.20p
- CCC 217 Bus Service: £100.00p

Once the above payments had been taken into account, together with those that have yet to clear, the reconciled balance of the main account was £11,328.11p.

ACTION: Clerk to send out all payments

32.03.13: Feedback from meetings:

The Chair reported back from the CALC Copeland Three Tier meeting at which the main topic was the developments at West Cumberland Hospital and the progress of the building works on the site. Also discussed were the waste recycling sites at Lillyhall and Frizington. The Frizington site has now had operations extended, initially for a further year.

The Chair also reported back from the meetings arranged by Peter Maher from the Ennerdale Hub at which he updated local people on the potential developments on the Old Forestry Store site and the associated Big Lottery funding bid.

33.03.13: Date of next meeting:

7.00pm on Wednesday 8th May 2013 in St. Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge

The Annual Parish Meeting followed by the May Parish Council meeting.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Chair

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