

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 8th July 2015
in St. Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge.

54.07.15: In Attendance: Cllrs. Wood (Chair), Topping, Ayling, McMullen, Johns and Denham-Smith.

Also in attendance: Cllr. J. Dirom (CBC), Ric Outhwaite and Dave Smith (Clerk).

55.07.15: Apologies: Cllr. Shail (Family commitment).

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

56.07.15: Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. Topping declared an interest as a non-executive director of RNEC.

57.07.15: Minutes of the previous meeting:

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

Proposed: Cllr. Ayling

Seconded: Cllr. McMullen

The Chair duly signed them.

58.07.15: Public Participation:

Further to the Parish Council mandating Ric Outhwaite to act on its behalf with regard to the development of an Off Road footpath between the village and the lake, RO reported that he had held a very productive meeting with representatives of the landowners. An application had been put to United Utilities for a grant to cover labour and equipment had been made by UU to assist with the development of the path. This application, in the name of the Parish Council, was to the UU Community Grant Fund for financial support. RO explained that the proposed route of the path, which it is hoped would be a 'Miles without Stiles' path, would be over land owned by either UU or the Forestry Commission, both of whom were supportive of the idea. The next stage in the development of the project is to cost out the materials required for the path and the FC and LDNPA were currently working on a specification for this. RO stated that it would be good to have the stated support of the school when submitting funding applications. There will be a need for a planning application to be submitted in the name of the Parish Council, once the proposed route has finally been agreed by the land owners and the National Park.

ACTION: RO to further develop the project prior to the submission of funding applications.

ACTION: Cllr. Ayling to approach the school for their support.

There followed some discussion regarding the Wild Ennerdale Project and the fact that there had never been a Parish Council Representative at the Wild Ennerdale meetings. Councillors agreed that it would be beneficial to have a PC representative and RO agreed to broach this subject at the next Wild Ennerdale meeting.

ACTION: RO to ask the Wild Ennerdale Group if they would accept an official representative from the PC in attendance at their meetings.

Cllr. Ayling informed the meeting that some local residents had approached him with their concerns regarding the activities at Bridge Farm where there now seems to be people living in two caravans behind the farm.

ACTION: Clerk to write to CBC Environmental Health highlighting the above concerns. (Copy to Cllr. Dirom).

Concerns were expressed regarding the state of the site at Ben Ghyll where UU are undertaking various works.

ACTION: Clerk to contact UU and ask when the works and the site clean-up are to be completed.

59.07.15: Co-option of new Councillor:

The meeting was informed that Ric Outhwaite had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor. He explained that he had previously stood down as a Parish Councillor because of family commitments. The commitments were now less demanding and he was will to be co-opted back onto the Council.

The co-option of Ric Outhwaite onto Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Topping

Seconded by: Cllr. Wood

All those present agreed to the co-option and the Chair welcomed Ric to the Council.

ACTION: Clerk to inform CBC and email RO the various governance documents and Declaration of Pecuniary Interests form.

60.07.15: Progress Reports:

A: Clerk's Report:

The following actions from the previous meeting had been undertaken:

45.05.15: Clerk to deliver forms to CBC before June 4th: Done

46.05.15: Clerk to write to Natural England re: Lynx Trust: Done and response received (see below)

46.05.15: CPG to contact EA re: Emergency Planning: yet to be undertaken

46.05.15: Cllr. Topping to see if the Parish Lengthsman is able to cut verges in village: yet to be undertaken

46.05.15: CPG to discuss need for further questionnaires: Done, questionnaires to be developed.

48.05.15: Clerk to contact Aon re: insurance cover for event: Done & OK.

49.05.15: Clerk to inform signpost contractor that quote no longer needed: Done

49.05.15: Cllr Shail to inform school of SID set up meeting:

49.05.15: Clerk to contact UU re: various issues in the Bleach Green area: Done & response received (see below)

50.05.15: Clerk to send out details of notice-boards: Done (see below)

50.05.15: Clerk to send out all payments: Done

52.05.15: Cllrs to look at website before next meeting: Done

Natural England & Lynx UK Trust: Letter sent to NE and response stated: *Any license application that Natural England receives to release lynx into the wild in England will be assessed against criteria set out*

in guidelines produced by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) for the reintroduction of species. For such a license to be granted by Natural England, all the IUCN criteria must be met. One of the requirements of the IUCN guidelines is that the reintroduction does not result in significant negative impacts on socio-economic interests and that there is public support for the reintroduction, especially from those communities that would be directly or indirectly affected. Therefore, as part of a licence application to release lynx, Natural England will require that appropriately targeted local and national consultations have been undertaken. The outcomes of such consultations will be carefully assessed and form a significant part of Natural England's licensing decision-making process.

Notice-boards: Three examples/quotes were considered by Councillors and it was unanimously agreed that the Notice-it board should be ordered.

1. Notice-it Ltd: Oak, 2 sections (one locked) 1260mm wide x 1100mm high: £795 no VAT
2. Greenbarnes Ltd: Man-made timber, 2 sections 1270mm x 848mm: £826 plus VAT
3. Noticeboard Company: Aluminium, 2 sections 1050mm x 1400mm: £499 plus VAT

ACTION Clerk to place an order for the above notice-board.

Dog Fouling: Bleach Green area: UU have responded, email forwarded to councillors, saying that they are happy for the PC to put up notices and to undertake a community clean up in the area.

ACTION: Cllr. Wood to obtain the posters.

ACTION: Clerk to contact dog warden at CBC to discuss patrolling the area and a clean-up.

A list of correspondence was given:

Correspondence	For information	For action
BDO: completion of audit paperwork	X	X
CBC: Election costs invoice	X	X
CALC Newsletter: June & July	X	
Enquiry regarding advertising in the PC newsletter	X	X
Email regarding the off road footpath from Martin Bibby	X	Sent to Ric O.
Email regarding traffic speed on Cold Fell Road: Mr. Thursz	X	Sent to Police
Emails from M. Lachlan re: Nugen & DECC consultation	X	See 66.07.15

Cllr. Wood spoke to the issues raised in the emails from Muir Lachlan:

Nugen Consultation: (see item below)

DECC: Implementing Geological Disposal - a call for evidence on working with communities.

Cllr. Wood explained that this was essentially DECC looking at revised definitions of 'community' and 'wider local interest'. After some discussion it was agreed to respond to the call for evidence and re-state the original view of the council, i.e. that the definitions used in the white paper were still valid.

ACTION: Cllr. Wood to compose a response which will be returned to DECC by the Clerk. CBC are to be copied into the response.

B: RNEC:

Cllr. Topping reported that due to ill health he had been unable to attend the last meeting and therefore there was no report available.

C: ECRAG:

Cllr. Ayling informed the meeting that they were still waiting for news of the funding applications that had been submitted to WREN and Sellafield Donations Ltd. There was a Planning Consent Discharge fee to be paid and after some discussion it was agreed that the PC should pay the fee of £48.50p. It was

further agreed to look at combining the ECRAAG insurance cover with that of the Parish Council at the January 2016 meeting.

ACTION: Cllr. Ayling to send invoice for the above payment to the Clerk.

D: Bus Service 217:

Cllr. Wood reported that at the meeting held on June 3rd it had been agreed to commence the winter timetable from the third week in October. This will result in just one journey each way during the winter months. The summer timetable will resume from the third week in March. It has been agreed that on the return journey from Cockermouth, if there is no passenger on board for Ennerdale Bridge then the bus will stay on the main road to Frizington and not detour into the village.

At the meeting the County Council presented the Parish Councils with a funding agreement together with a terms of reference for the PC representatives to sign. Cllr. Wood does not believe that these documents are necessary as the County Council and the PC's have worked well together without such an agreement in place previously. Cllr. Wood is currently liaising with the other PC's on this issue.

The operator of the service, 3D Travel, have recently given notice that they will cease to operate the service from the end of August. It is feared that a new operator will be more expensive and this may well put the future of the service in jeopardy.

E: Connecting Cumbria:

Cllr. Topping informed the meeting that meaningful communication between the Connecting Cumbria Team and local communities was still very poor. He understood that work was still being undertaken at the Lamplugh Exchange and that as far as he knew BT were still on target for a July superfast broadband connection for Ennerdale Bridge.

F: Community Led Planning Group:

Cllr. Johns reported that the bid to ACT for £500 had been successful as had the request for funding to Wild Ennerdale, who will provide £100.

All those present agreed that the community gather held on Saturday 13 June had been a great success. Attendance had been better than expected and all those who attended had a good time and engaged in the consultation process. Cllr. Topping has now typed up all the responses and this will now be used to inform and develop the community questionnaire that will go out in September. The next meeting of the Community Led Planning Group is to take place on July 22nd.

61.07.15: Planning Matters:

There were no new planning applications to consider.

Two planning applications had been dealt with between meetings:

Ref: 7/2015/4053
Location: Forestry Commission Building, Ennerdale Bridge CA23 3AR (The Ennerdale Centre)
Proposal: Variation of condition No. 2 on planning approval 7/2013/4059 - windows and external works
Reply by: June 26th 2015

A response of 'No Objections' was sent.

Ref: 7/2015/4047
Location: Bleach Green Cottage, Ennerdale CA23 3AS
Proposal: Replacement of existing septic tank with Klargestar biodisc
Reply by: 25th June 2015

A response of 'No Objections' was sent.

62.07.15: Report from the Police and Neighbourhood Watch:

Cllr. Wood reported that five Neighbourhood Watch messages had been sent out in May and four in June.

Police reports were as follows:

May 15: RTC: 1
June 15: RTC: 1

63.07.15: Website Update:

The Clerk informed the meeting that as from 2017 the annual accounts for Parish Councils with an income of less than £25,000 were no longer to be externally audited by a firm of accountants and paid for by the government. To ensure continued transparency in the operation of Parish Councils and the expenditure by them of public funds, the government is telling all local councils, through the Transparency Code for Smaller Councils, that all the paperwork associated with council meetings and income and expenditure should be made available, for the public to view, online. Thus the public will, to all intents and purposes, become the external auditors for the council. Other documents that will be placed on the site include the Register of Assets, the Standing Orders of the Council and the Financial Regulations. This requirement will have an impact on the way the website looks.

Cllr. Topping explained that he felt that, in light of the above, it was a good time to refresh the website. Feedback he has had from councillors and members of the public has indicated that people would like to see a more user friendly site with a more accessible version of the minutes on the home page together with associated pictures. It was also felt that there should be councillor profiles available on the site. During the next two months Cllr. Topping will work on the site and the update will be discussed again at the September meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to send Cllr. Topping the various papers for placement on the site in PDF format.

ACTION: Clerk to send out profile questionnaires to all councillors.

ACTION: Cllr. Topping to further develop the site.

64.07.15: Highways Matters:

The following issues were discussed:

Fingerposts and other signs within the village: Cllr. Wood had undertaken a survey of the fingerposts in the village and felt that there was work required on many of them that stopped short of full refurbishment. Concerns were also raised on the time that was being taken to put in place the poles for mounting the SID on.

ACTION: Clerk to set up a meeting with Kevin Cosgrove to discuss these issues.

White-lines around the school: Concerns have been expressed regarding the repainting of certain white-lines around the school and the potential impact this might have on local residents and visitors to the school.

ACTION: To be discussed at the above meeting initially.

Use of the SID: Cllr. Wood informed the meeting that he had set up the SID outside the school on June 3rd from 6.00am for ninety minutes. Most of the vehicles travelling towards the Cold Fell road were under the 30mph limit. Three were above 35mph but slowed on see the SID reading.

The Cold Fell Road: In light of the recent complaint from Mr. Thursz regarding speeding traffic on the Cold Fell road, Cllr. Wood suggested placing the SID on the road, though this would require a councillor to stay within sight of the SID to ensure its safety. It was also agreed to approach the police to see if they would have any problems with the speed gun being used on the fell road and' if not, where would be appropriate places to stand with the gun.

ACTION: Cllr. Wood to contact the Police re: using the speed gun on the fell road and placement of the SID.

There followed a discussion on the traffic flows along the fell road and the Kirkland road. The Clerk explained that during recent months the police presence on the fell road had been quite pronounced and that the feedback from the police was that the vast majority of drivers were sticking to the speed limit. The regular traffic monitoring that is carried out on the fell road also shows that most drivers are complying with the law and that the volume of traffic is reducing over time. Councillors felt that the main concern was not necessarily speed but driver behaviour, i.e. the aggressive way that drivers use the road and the flows of traffic along the road. Cllr. Wood suggested taking a video of oncoming traffic from a car driving the opposite direction during peak times of traffic flows and presenting this to the police and the Cold Fell Communities Group.

ACTION: Cllrs. Wood and Topping to make a video of oncoming traffic.

School Mosaic: Cllr. McMullen raised a concern regarding the condition of the school mosaic in the centre of the village. Cllr. Ayling informed the meeting that the intention was to reassemble the mosaic and place it in the Ennerdale Centre.

ACTION: Cllr. Ayling to find out what the intention is regarding the future of the mosaic and the site of the art work.

65.07.15: Council Finance:

The Clerk reported that the balance of the main account was £12,912.77p as per the latest available bank statement dated 19th June 2015.

The following payments were agreed:

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| • D. Smith - salary Qtr 1: | £266.51p |
| • D. Smith - expenses: | £80.35p |
| • HMRC PAYE Qtr 1: | £60.60p |
| • BDO Audit Fee: | £120.00p |
| • CBC - uncontested election costs: | £80.00p |
| • Cumbria Loos - community gather: | £204.00p |
| • Muir Lachlan - Speedy Services generator - community gather: | £175.20p |
| • Bridget Johns - North Press posters - community gather: | £25.20p |
| • Ian Topping - website costs: | £77.85p |
| • The Shepherds Arms Hotel - community gather: | £741.00p |

Once the above payments, had been taken into account, the reconciled balance of the account as of July 8th 2015 is £11,082.06p

ACTION: Clerk to send out payments.

66.07.15: Feedback from meetings:

CALC 3 Tier Meeting: Cllr Wood reported that some 26% of Parish Council seats in Copeland were vacant after the recent election. CALC are to consider a review of the number of councillors sitting for each Parish Council. A spokesman from the National Grid outlined the preferred north and south routes from Sellafield. Both are to be over-ground. Copeland BC reported that all street-lighting in Copeland on ENW poles are to be removed. Cllr. Wood reminded councillors that the next CALC 3 Tier meeting is to be held in the church in Ennerdale on Wednesday 23rd September at 6.30pm.

Nugen Consultation: Cllr. Wood had attended the Cockermouth session and reported that he had concerns that the companies idea of getting most of the contractors to access the Moorside site by rail was probably unrealistic. If this proves to be the case then there will certainly be an increase in the volume of road traffic causing further problems for rural communities on the present 'rat-run' from Cockermouth to Sellafield via Ennerdale Bridge and Cold Fell. It was agreed that a detailed response to the current consultation be sent from the Parish Council.

ACTION: Cllr. Wood to draft a response and submit before the closing date.

67.07.15: Items for the next meeting:

- Website Update
- Off Road Footpath

ACTION: All Councillors to have a look at the website before the next meeting.

68.07.15: Date of next meeting:

7.00pm on Wednesday 9th September 2015 in St. Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Chair

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