

DRAFT MINUTES

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Jane Coltman
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Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting

Held on 18th April 2023 at 6.30pm in The Gather, Ennerdale Bridge

Chair: Cllr R Outhwaite

Clerk: J Coltman

The meeting was attended by 24 people, plus the chair and clerk.

Meeting commenced at 18:36

Minute Number	Item	Action
08/PM/23	<p style="text-align: center;">To Approve the minutes of the meeting on 3rd May 2022</p> <p>Daniel Young asked that it be noted that he had made an error in his Chair's report in 2022 when he had stated that the footpath was complete, as there was still additional work required.</p> <p>Resolved without objection to accept the minutes of the previous meeting.</p>	
09/PM/23	<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Council Chairman's Report</p> <p>Copies were available for attendees and the report is also available on the Parish Council website. The Chair covered the following points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Chair welcomed the public and introduced himself.2. Mentions were given to councillors that had left and joined the Council during the course of the year, including parish, district and county councillors.3. There had been a successful jubilee celebration and a tree planting in Bridge Park thanks to volunteers and councillors.4. The Queen sadly passed away and a book of condolence was placed in the church.5. The Coronation is next month for the crowning of King Charles III.6. The Village Enhancement Group had guided the placing of benches and planters and thanks were due to residents and councillors.7. The off-road path from the village to the lake had been completed and was now known as the Jubilee way this now forms part of the designated Coast to Coast National Trail.8. Over a number of years, the Council's excess financial reserves had been used to subsidise the council tax. The reserves are now at an acceptable level so there is no longer a subsidy. With no significant plans for expenditure this year, the amount requested has been reduced.9. There are defibrillators at the Shepherd's Arms and the Gather. A third is planned for Croasdale with the help of funds raised in memory of the late David Vickers.10. The Council have commented on planning applications and planning policies and have worked with partners such as Wild Ennerdale.	

	<p>11. There are ongoing pieces of work that the Council need to respond to; internal policies, re-erection of the lectern, bus shelter, common land and to be alert to any consultations.</p> <p>12. Emerging tasks such as a review of the Community Led Plan. Wild Ennerdale had recently agreed in principle to the need for a visitor management and parking strategy for the wider parish. All of this needed residents' input.</p> <p>13. People's perception of the Parish Council had been affected by adverse publicity and the stories that caused it. It was regrettable, but a fact, and all needed to do better.</p> <p>14. He was pleased that 13 candidates had come forward to stand for the 8 seats and urged residents to vote. He reminded them that photo ID was required this year.</p>	
10/PM/23	<p style="text-align: center;">Public Forum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ellen Cloete stated that there was also a defibrillator at Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre. 2. Muir Lachlan asked if the Council had any plans to celebrate the Coronation. The Chair said that the Council had no plans. Paul Rowson said that there was still bunting left from the Jubilee. Daniel Young suggested public fundraising. Mr Lachlan suggested planting a tree. The Clerk confirmed that there was money in the budget for the Coronation but no events had been organised. She asked that details of the plans for the tree be emailed to her. Mr Lachlan asked if the Council would be happy to support a community led event in the field and the Chair confirmed that it would. Richard Taylor said that they would speak to others and Steve Parker said that they could put the plans in the Contact magazine. 3. Walter Cloete asked that complaints be responded to in a more timely manner. The Chair suggested that the procedure be reviewed. 4. Gill Greggain asked if there has been any progress on the dropping of the speed limit from Croasdale. There had been problems with machinery being driven out rather than transported on a low loader. This had damaged the verges. Daniel Young complained that the Council had not been invited to timber transport meetings. Mrs Greggain said that there was damage to her garden wall. General issues with forestry wagons were discussed. 5. Walter Cloete suggested councillors look at Bowness Knott over the bank holiday weekend as it's chaos. The Chair said that this is linked to visitor management and parking. People were in agreement that Bleach Green car park was very important for people with mobility issues, so that they could have access to the lake. 6. It was suggested that the new proposed communications mast was to link to proposed parking meters for Bowness Knott car park. The Chair said that it would be on the May agenda for discussion. Richard Maxwell asked if this was part of the Emergency Services Network and Daniel Young suggested that it was part of the Single Rural Network. The Chair said that it was unclear at this time. 	

7. Walter Cloete said that they didn't feel that enough information was shared with the public. He thought that Wild Ennerdale was telling residents what to do. The Chair said that the Council could only ask them to consult with it, it couldn't make them, but the Council would not allow Wild Ennerdale to tell it what to do.
8. The meeting was interrupted by a member of the public and the Chair asked them to remain quiet.
9. Richard Taylor said that he thought that people from outside of the parish should be allowed to speak. The Chair stated that people always had the opportunity to speak at Parish Council Meetings. They could also email comments which would be circulated. The Annual Parish Meeting was a meeting for electors of the parish. If the meeting continued to be disrupted, he would stop the meeting. Richard Taylor asked that it be reviewed for next year and the Chair said that he could not review legislation.
10. Walter Cloete said that people were not aware that there was common land with wood that belonged to the parish. He said that the Forestry Commission were selling the wood and he'd offered money for it which would come back into the parish. He said that the residents should get the choice and we could get a grant for planting trees on the common land. He asked if this was a failure of the Council. The Chair said that it was not a failure of the Council as agendas had been published with the items for discussion listed, but a lot of opinions had been offered with hindsight, after decisions had been made. The issue of common land needed to be addressed. It is an asset that appears on the Council's asset register, but there are also associated liabilities.
11. Beth Wright asked who maintained the road down to Bleach Green. The Chair confirmed that United Utilities owned this land. The potholes have been reported. The Chair also confirmed that United Utilities have paid for damaged tyres and accepted liability. If the car park was to be retained, the road would need to be maintained.
12. Paul Rowson asked if an assessment of value had been made for the timber. The Clerk said that it was not the Council's timber. Mr Rowson said that it was on the Council's land and the Chair stated that was a separate issue. Mr Rowson asked if the Council got a legal judgement on whether it was the Council's timber or not and the Chair said that it did not. He asked if the Council got a valuation of the timber and the Chair said that it did not.
13. Gill Greggain said that if Forestry England would not give the parish money for the timber the Council should not give in to them. The Chair said that he did not believe that the Council was doing that.
14. Mrs Greggain said that the Field Centre was under threat because the Council was not acting quickly enough to try to save it; it might be turned into a visitor centre. The Chair said that a whole valley plan was needed. Mrs Greggain said that Forestry had plans to use electric buses to take people to the

	<p>visitor centre. The Chair said that the Council had no knowledge of those plans. Mr Cloete said that he had brought information to the Council for twelve months and nothing had happened. The Chair said that he had raised a number of matters with Wild Ennerdale. Mrs Greggain said that Wild Ennerdale were not transparent, nor were Forestry England. She said that parish councillors attended with good intentions but were railroaded. She asked that the Parish Council try to get something back for the residents. Paul Rowson said that they would have a five-year and ten-year plan. The Chair agreed that the organisations left something to be desired and something needed to be done, but repeating the same thing at this meeting would achieve nothing. Mr Cloete said the councillors needed to listen to the residents. Kevin Park said that Mr Cloete should have stood as a candidate. Mr Cloete said that he would have, but he was told to keep it quiet and not be involved with the community. Mr Park asked who had told him that but Mr Cloete refused to say for legal reasons.</p> <p>15. Richard Taylor said that a certificate was signed giving authorisation for the timber to be extracted with no authorisation from the Council. The Chair told Mr Taylor that he was overstepping the mark again. Mr Taylor said that he would put it into a formal complaint.</p> <p>16. The Chair said that the purpose of the meeting was to look at what the Council needed to be doing, not to rake over old matters. There are a number of issues that are recognised that the Council need to do something about. Mr Taylor said that we couldn't just cover this over and he made an allegation of fraud.</p> <p>17. Jill Trainor raised the issue of dog waste on the Jubilee Trail. She asked if we could ask for signs to "stick and flick" if the people weren't prepared to bag it. The Chair said that we could look into that.</p> <p>18. Paul Rowson said that the Village Enhancement initiative had been successful and asked if Croasdale could be included in the next round of improvements. The Chair said that a lot of residents had pitched in and we could work together.</p> <p>19. Mr Cloete reminded people to come and look at Bowness Knott to see the problems over the long weekend. Wild camping, parties etc.</p> <p>20. Julian Thursz said that the Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre defibrillator should be registered with the Circuit. [The National Defibrillator Network]</p>	
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Meeting closed at 20:12

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....

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