

Borrowdale Parish Council Minutes

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly meeting of the Borrowdale Parish Council held in the Borrowdale Institute at Rosthwaite on Wednesday 27th March 2013 at 7:30pm

Present: John Bennett (Chairman), Andrew Webb (Vice-Chairman), Trevor Dowson, David Hindmarch

In Attendance: Mr J R Hall (Grange Resident), Mr B Bland (Borrowdale Resident), Ron Munby C/cllr, Mr N Dowie (Rosthwaite Resident), Pete Barron (LDNPA), Becx Carter (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Sam Hicks, Gary Metcalfe, Penny Webb,

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Sam Hicks and Gary Metcalfe, and Penny Webb. Borrowdale Parish Council were also informed that B/Cllr Tim Heslop (Allerdale Borough Councilor) has resigned from his post. The seat will be in the election on 2nd May 2013

2. Request for Declarations

None received

3. Declarations of Interest

None

4. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on the 28th November 2012

All members had received a copy of the minutes to read.

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on the 30th January 2013 were confirmed as a true & accurate record, and as such were signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

Unless mentioned below all actions from previous minutes are deemed to have been completed.

5.i- Badminton Club- This action is currently stalled due to the condition of the floor in the village hall that will need to be repaired (holes patched, and surface re polished) before the badminton club could progress. C/llr Munby passed on the contact details for Richard Johnston, Partnership Manager for Active Cumbria 01228 221365, or Richard.johnston@cumbria.gov.uk who currently has funding available for sports clubs.

Action Point: DH to get a quote for the works to the floor as a matter of urgency, and pass the quote to BC

Action Point: JB to pass contact details for the contractor who has previously done works on the floor to DH

Action Point: BC to communicate with C/llr Munby on this matter, once the quote has been received.

5.ii- Borrowdale Toilets- To the best of the knowledge of the Borrowdale Parish Council all the toilets will be open for the 2013 season. This matter to continue to be included on the agenda and to be raised with C/cllr Heslop's replacement following the local elections in early May

Action Point: BC to include on the next agenda.

5.iii- Condition of Borrowdale Road- Jonathan Smith has confirmed that all the works that were due to take place have now been done. The Parish Councillors were unhappy with this information. They felt that Jonathan Smith had implied back in late 2012 that more work would be done, and as such only a small amount of patching has been done at the Seatoller/Rosthwaite end of the valley.

Resolved: Pressure to be put on Jonathan Smith for a schedule of works completed, and to further impressing the importance and potential economic effects of reparation works not being made to the road, with a view to the tour of Britain passing through the Borrowdale Parish in Autumn 2013

Action Point: BC to contact Jonathan Smith re the above.

Action Point: C/llr Munby to also mention these issues to Jonathan Smith

A Parish Councillor raised an issue during the January meeting of the drains near the Ashness Bridge road end, and the fact that the drains are blocked resulting in water on the road. The drains either need to be cleared, or potentially the road needs to be cambered to help the water drain (this would also reduce the maintenance costs on this stretch of road as having standing water on the road will lead to be damage), no response has been received from Jonathan Smith on this issue yet.

Action Point: BC to chase Jonathan Smith up on this issue

5.iv- Response to queries raised with the National Trust- Following the last (January) Borrowdale Parish Council meeting the parish councilors requested that Andrew Thompson be invited to the March meeting, unfortunately Andrew was unable to attend the March meeting

Resolved: That Andrew Thompson be invited to either the May, or July Borrowdale Parish Council meeting, to enable the above queries and a public question and answer session regarding National Trust housing policy etc to be held (30mins)

Action Point: BC to contact Andrew Thompson & invite him

Action Point: BC to contact Cumbria Rural Housing Trust & ABC to request information on the number of properties on the housing waiting lists etc

Action Point: BC to contact the National Trust to ask how many properties/what proportion of the housing stock do they own within the Borrowdale Parish Council area.

Action Point Outstanding from Jan Meeting: PW to report back at the March meeting on the progress with the sheep feeders on the footpaths

5.v- Response to Hunting issue- Following the January meeting the National Trust were contacted again for their response to this matter. The National Trust have responded stating that the issue of Trail Hunting isn't anything to do with them, and that Inspector Connolly, and PC Felton be contacted. The police have responded stating that the National Trust are organizing and managing meeting of all affected parties. The Borrowdale Parish Council felt that this matter needed further clarity as given that the National Trust issue the hunting licenses, the issue can't be totally outwith their remit.

Action Point: BC to contact National Trust regarding this matter again

5.vi- Bus Shelter Repairs. No further quotes for this work have been received. Three written quotes are required before work can commence.

Mr B Bland offered to help/provide guidance on the work if the Parish Council paid for the materials.

Resolved: Borrowdale Parish Council to pay for materials, and Mr B Bland, TD & DH to coordinate on a series of mutually convenient dates to undertake the work, prior to the next Borrowdale Parish Council Meeting.

Action Point: DH to drop the written quote he has through BC's letterbox for file

Action Point: TD & DH to co-ordinate the works with Mr B Bland

6. Public Participation

Honister Zip Wire Questionnaire

The questionnaire that Mr J Weir & Mr N Baxter discussed at the last Borrowdale Parish Council meeting has now been circulated, however no report on the findings of this questionnaire have been presented to the Borrowdale Parish Council.

Mr N Dowie attended the meeting to discuss this matter, and requested it be recorded that he and his business partner are fully in support of the Honister Zip Wire application and that they were surprised by the decision of the Borrowdale Parish Council to object to the most recent planning application. Mr N Dowie stated that he felt that he thought a Parish Council was in place to reconcile differences in an area and to support not only local residents but also local businesses, and that he felt that if people were wanting to expand their businesses then the Parish Council should consider supporting them.

Mr B Bland responded and stated that as a parishioner he felt that Borrowdale Parish Council was representative of parishioner's feelings.

Mr N Dowie queried if the Borrowdale Parish Council rather than Honister Mines should have sent the questionnaire that had recently been distributed. AW responded clarifying the fact that the Borrowdale Parish Council had expressly requested to be excluded from anything to do with the questionnaire.

It was clarified that one of the reasons that the Borrowdale Parish Council objected to this application was because it was contrary one of the main objectives of the Lake District National Park which is to preserve and conserve the landscape, and that the Borrowdale Parish Council felt that if this development was approved it would set a precedent for other similar developments.

A comment was passed from one Parish Councilor that for him it was a hard decision to make and he was very torn, (all of his family were in support).

The Chair in bringing the discussion to a close stated that Mr J Weir could have attended the November Borrowdale Parish Council meeting to make representation regarding the planning application but that he hadn't chosen to do so, and the Chair further suggested that Mr N Dowie read the Lake District National Park Authorities judgment on the planning application, which lays out all the reasons for objection.

Police Matters

An update was received from PCSO Peter Moon on any relevant police matters (1 of theft, and 2 mountain rescues)

Pete Barron- informed the parish council that there has recently been damage in many of the Borrowdale Valley Car parks caused by a 4 * 4 driving on the verges etc.

Councillor R Munby

Many of the items raised by C/llr Munby were covered in matters arising (see above)

Councillor Munby at this point in the meeting in anticipation of the local elections, thanked the Borrowdale Parish Council for their hospitality over the past few years.

Grange Street Lighting Project- The Borrowdale Parish Council were informed that a further £2000 had been granted to Borrowdale Parish Council from the Local Committee towards this project.

C/llr Munby confirmed that County Councillors were now in a period of Purdah prior to the local elections during which no publication/press coverage can be done about County Councillors without complying with the Purdah guidelines. Any press coverage that is done between now and the 2nd May, should refer to the funding having been received by Allerdale Local Committee.

Action Point: All press releases to be passed to C/llr Munby and Lynn Singleton prior to release to ensure Purdah compliance

7. Future of Borrowdale Parish Council

Chair/Vice Chairman- The next meeting of the Parish Council is the AGM & Annual Meeting of Electors, one of the key parts of this meeting it to elect the Chairman & Vice Chairman for the Borrowdale Parish Council for the coming year. JB has confirmed that he does not wish to stand as Chairman again, as such a new Chair will need to be elected.

Parish Councillors- JB to speak to SH to ensure that he still wishes to continue in his role as Parish Councillor (As he has missed two meeting), it was confirmed that GM does wish to remain on the council (again having missed two meetings). There are currently two vacancies on the Borrowdale Parish Council (8 is the number of Parish Councilors the Council should have).

Resolved- That to ensure the future sustainability of the Borrowdale Parish Council the vacancies be advertised in the Keswick Reminder & the Benefice news to encourage two new Parish Councillors to come forward

Action Point: BC to organize

Relationship with the press- The Clerk raised the issue that the Parish Council doesn't currently report back to the press, and that all other local parish councils do.

Resolved- That to support the future sustainability and transparency of the Borrowdale Parish Council that a press release be written after each meeting on any key items/discussion points and be sent to the Keswick Reminder & the Benefice News.

Action Point: BC to draft a press release and send to JB for approval

Neighbourhood Planning- This is a growing area particularly following the successful referendum in Upper Eden in March, it is likely to be an area that the Borrowdale Parish Council may wish to be involved with in the future.

Resolved- That the clerk continue to monitor this area and report back to the Borrowdale Parish Council on any developments/actions required

Action Point: BC to continue to monitor the issue of neighbourhood planning and report back to the Parish Council as and when required

8. Correspondence received

Unless mentioned below the Borrowdale Parish Council did not wish to respond to any of the items of correspondence.

- CALC Training schedule-

Action Point: BC to circulate to all Parish Councillors

Action Point: All to read and let the clerk know if they wish to attend/book on any training courses.

9. Finance

Items for payment:

Grange Street Lights Project- Materials	£4,813.76
Grange Street Lights- Electricity Board	£2,222.40

PAYE Registration

Resolved- BC to contact CALC and organize to contract with a payroll services company to undertake this work on behalf of the Borrowdale Parish Council

Action Point: BC to action & organize

10. Planning Matters & Consultations to Respond to:

Catbells Car Park Letter of Support- The majority of Borrowdale Parish Councillors wished to send a letter of support for the Catbells Carpark planning appeal. The clerk informed the meeting that as yet an appeal hasn't been filed therefore there is no need for the letter of support at this stage. The LDNPA have confirmed that if an appeal were submitted all parties who responded to the initial planning application would be contacted.

Action Point: BC to monitor and re circulate if an appeal is submitted.

Resolved: Parish council wished to support this application on the grounds of helping a local farmer and helping the sustainability of local communities.

Action Point: BC to send the letter of support to LNDPA

Consultations

Unless detailed below Borrowdale Parish Council had no comment:

11. Matters for information

Unless mentioned below no actions/resolutions were made or required with regard to the matters for information.

Grange Lampposts- Partly covered above, the materials have been ordered & the invoice received, as has the Electricity Northwest Invoice. JH & BC are in contact with Dave Bryden pushing for an installation date for the new lamps, two of the feeder pillars are now in the ground, waiting for ENW to transfer the services from the old to the new. An additional £2k has been received from the Local Committee towards this project, JH is still researching other funding options.

Borrowdale Whole Valley Planning- The Borrowdale Whole Valley Planning group have verbally approached the Borrowdale Parish Council (and a written proposal will follow) that they would like a closer working relationship with the Parish Council, including potentially utilizing the Parish Council as the overhead body to enable the bank account & constitution to be used for grant applications.

Resolved: The Borrowdale Parish Council would like to strengthen the working relationship with the Whole Valley Planning group as a way of potentially increasing the membership of both the parish council & the whole valley planning group, it would be beneficial to both groups to have more people around the table, to help both groups move forward.

Action Point: BC to continue to work with PB & Terry McCormick on this

SSSI Lodore & Troutdale Woods- Correspondence has been received from Natural England regarding an area of the SSSI at Lodore & Troutdale Woods that Borrowdale Parish Council is responsible for. BC queried this with Natural England, who clarified that any common land which has no registered owner (of which there is an area within this SSSI) under S.9 of the Commons Registration Act 1965 is subject to protection from CCC, ABC, and the Local Parish Council are responsible for overseeing the land....

Action Point: BC to further liase with Natural England on the implications of S.9 Commons Registration Act in terms of responsibilities/liabilities etc

Action Point: BC to query the ownership of the land, the meeting felt that the land maybe under the ownership of High Lodore

Action Point: BC to circulate the map of the area to all councillors

12. Any Other Business

None raised

13. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 22nd May 2013- Note this is one week earlier than normal and is the AGM & Annual Meeting of Electors as well.