

St Cuthbert Without Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 25 March 2021 at 1930 in a Virtual Meeting Room.

Present: Cllrs D Pearson (Chairman), R Taylor (Vice Chairman), S Bird, B Dodd, T Gear, J Hayton, S Reed, I Stewart, C Stringfellow, E Wallace, and J Westmorland

Also Present: H Broatch (Clerk/RFO), City Cllr A McKerrell, City and County Cllr T Allison, County Cllrs D Earl, and N Marriner and four Members of the Public.

The Chairman reminded everyone that by joining the meeting they were agreeing to the following rules:

- a) Meetings may be recorded for the purpose of minute taking/ any recording will be disposed of within 24hrs.
- b) All microphones to be on mute.
- c) The Chairman will ask at the start of an agenda item and/or at the end if those Councillors using “audio only” have any comments they wish to make.
- d) If using video Councillors are asked to put up their hands if they wish to speak.
- e) Councillors will only unmute when they have been invited to speak by the Chairman.
- f) Respond to the Chairman when your name is called. Councillors and Members of Public will introduce themselves to the meeting when raising a point.
- g) Adhere to the Councils Code of Conduct, General Standing Orders and Supplementary Standing Orders
- h) Speak clearly and look into the camera.
- i) Be aware of time lags and allow time for participants to respond.
- j) The Chairman will invite members of the public and County/City Cllrs (who have registered with the Clerk that they wish to speak under Agenda Item on Public Participation) to unmute and speak to the meeting.
- k) The Chairman will mute your microphone after you have spoken.
- l) Turn phones to silent and reduce background noises as far as possible.
- m) The Chairman will ask those Councillors who are **not** supportive of a resolution to put their hands up. He will then ask those on “audio only” if they are supportive or not. The Clerk will do the count for the voting.

The meeting started at 7.34pm due to technical difficulties with connections.

115. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received apologies for absence from Cllr A Smith and **approved** reason for absence and welcomed members of the public.

Received apologies from City Cllr J Collier.

116. MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2021

Authorised the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting on 25 February 2021.

117. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Noted that Cllr T Gear had registered an interest as a resident of Speckled Wood in Agenda Item 124.

118. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS BY MEMBERS

Resolved that Cllr T Gear’s request for a dispensation so he could speak at Agenda Item 124 be agreed.

119. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, that members of the public (including the press) should be excluded from the meeting during discussion of business (Agenda Item 132) on tree maintenance contract failure because it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paras 1 & 2 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

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120 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Noted the concerns raised by Members of the Public attending the meeting and the petition received (with 31 signatories) all were raising concerns about the Planning Application Ref 21/0174 and asking the Parish Council to object to the application.

Noted reports from County and City Councillors.

Cllr T Allison offered to speak at the Planning Meeting about 21/0174.

Cllr D Earl reported on progress with issues raised at last meeting and reported speeding gun to be deployed at Garlands Road.

Cllr N Marriner reported that grant application for contribution to cost of purchasing and installing notice board at The Ridings had been successful.

Cllr A McKerrell advised she had written to Planning Dept. about the concerns raised regarding Planning Application 21/0174 having received a copy of the petition.

121. CARLISLE SOUTH LINK ROAD

Noted and **resolved** not to respond to the answers from Cumbria County Council to the questions raised at the January 2021 meeting.

122. ST CUTHBERT'S GARDEN VILLAGE

(1) **Noted** the minutes of the MAG Meeting in January 21.

(2) **Noted** feedback from Parish Cllr S Reed from MAG Meetings.

(3) **Noted** that City Council will report to the next Parish Council Meeting on the outcomes of the consultation exercise.

123. PLANNING

(1) **Resolved** to submit objection to the following application:

21/0174	L/A The Green, Wrey CA4 0RL	Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Documents) of Previously Approved Permission 19/0066 (Erection of 2No Detached Dwellings (Revised Application)) To Amend Plans to Include 1 No Dwelling with Revised Design
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Resolved to submit no observations on the following application:

21/0215	Beech House, Brisco CA4 0QZ	Erection of Single Storey Rear Extension to Provide Sunroom/Lounge
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(2) **Noted** the following applications were granted approval by the Planning Authority;

21/0021	21 Newbiggin Road Durdar CA2 4UJ	Replacement Fence and Gates (max height 1.85m) Comprising Timber Panels, Concrete Posts, and Gravel Boards With Matching Brick Piers and Low Wall (Revised Application)
20/0844 (Outline or Revised Application)	L/A Carwinley, Durdar Road CA2 4SB	Erection of 2No Detached Dwelling
20/0851	Brisco Hill Brisco CA4 0QZ	Demolition of Existing Piggery; Erection of Storage Barn

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21/0054	Bridge Brae, Garlands Road, CA1 3SU	Conversion and Extension To Detached Garage to Provide Additional Accommodation
21/0062	445 Durdar Rd, CA2 4TT	Erection of Single Storey Side and Rear Extension To Provide Utility, Kitchen and Sitting Room

Resolved that the Clerk bring a report to the next meeting on the implications of Neighbourhood Planning and Parish Plans for planning matters.

124. DEVELOPMENT AT SPECKLED WOOD

To note that the Clerk has been made aware of concerns about the development at Speckled Wood. Parishioners are concerned about the visual state of the site and the lack of action to complete the estate in accordance with the approved planning application. The local Parish Councillor has also advised the Clerk that he has raised these concerns (as a resident) directly with the Developer and the Planning Authority (Carlisle City Council). Cllr T Gear detailed the number of serious concerns about the state of the development at Speckled Wood.

Resolved that the Parish Council would also raise these concerns on behalf of residents with the Developer and the Planning Authority (Carlisle City Council) and copy into local City Councillors.

125. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

Noted the proposals would see the current two-tier system of local government (Cumbria County Council and the six District Councils (which includes Carlisle City Council) replaced with Unitary Council/s.

For the area which covers the Parish Council there are three options for creating two Unitary Authorities. Locally the proposals are that Carlisle City Council is put together with:
Option 1 - Allerdale and Copeland into a Unitary called West Cumbria;
Option 2 - Allerdale, Copeland and Eden into a Unitary called North Cumbria; or
Option 3 - Allerdale and Eden into a Unitary called North Cumbria.

The fourth option is to create one Unitary - Cumbria County (covering the areas currently governed by Cumbria County Council, Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle, Copeland, Eden, and South Lakeland District Councils).

Noted that the different options do not change the Parish Council's boundaries; their powers and duties; and will not impact on their assets. However, it was noted that the proposals risked making decision making less sensitive to local knowledge and feelings and that this could in turn mean an increase in the role of the Parish Council.

Resolved to respond to the consultation. Members to feedback to the Clerk their views and Clerk to draw up and submit a response by deadline (19 April 2021).

126. CARBON CALCULATOR FOR PARISH COUNCILS

Resolved that the Clerk bring the details to the next meeting on the implications of adopting the Carbon Calculator.

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127. REVISED ASSET REGISTER

Resolved to adopt revised asset register subject to adding Wreay Village Green back in but with a note to the effect that ownership is unknown. The Clerk to bring a report updating on ownership to the next meeting and the implications for grounds and tree maintenance.

128. FINANCE

1. **Noted** the Annual Premium 1/4/21- 31/3/22 for the Insurance Policy (which is on a long-term agreement that terminates 31 May 2023) is due for payment and included on Schedule of Payments.

2. **Authorised** payment of the accounts listed VN 67 – 77 below totalling £2715.38:

VN	Inv. Date	PAYEE	CHQ. NO.	Purpose of Expenditure	GROSS AMOUNT £	VAT INCLUDED £
67	3/3/21	EON	D/D	Electrical Supply	59.50	2.83
68	10/3/21	Kompan Scotland Ltd	201083	Rope for Basket Swing	240.00	40.00
69	1/3/21	John Kelly	201084	Website and Domain Renewal	128.73	13.96
70	3/2/21	Mike Turnbull	201085	Repairs to Play Area	110.00	
71	4/3/21	B&C Energy Solutions Ltd	201086	Repair to Bus Shelter	360.00	60.00
72	5/3/21	Ian Rumney	S/0	Bus Stop Cleaning	100.00	
73	5/3/21	Ian Rumney	201087	VT on Invoice (VN72)	20.00	20.00
74	16/3/21	H Broatch	201088	Expenses and Disbursements	101.48	
75	28/3/21	H Broatch	S/O	Salary March 21	596.60	
76	25/3/21	HMRC	201089	PAYE March 21	151.10	
77	16/2/21	Came & Company	201090	Annual Insurance 1/4/21- 31/3/22	847.97	

3. **Monthly Bank Reconciliation (February 2021) – Noted** the reconciliation and balance for February 2021 (internally audited by Cllr A Smith)

4. **Noted** that the Cllr A Smith, Cllr C Stringfellow and Clerk/RFO held a joint training session in virtual meeting room on bank reconciliations. Cllr A Smith has kindly offered to stand-by to help Cllr C Stringfellow with any questions he may have on his first reconciliation which will be for March 2021.

5. **Noted** year end paperwork including Internal Audit for 2020/21 will be reported to the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 29 April 21. This is earlier than usual so the Clerk/RFO has made arrangements with the Internal Auditor to do the audit earlier.

129. RISK MANAGEMENT AND LIABILITIES

1. **Noted** the verbal reports from the Chairman and the Clerk.

2. **Resolved** to approve the recommendations in the report from the Clerk on arrangements for visual fortnightly inspections and for three operational inspections to be done by Solway Garden & Landscapes. This would start from 1 April 2021. The Parish Council would also arrange and pay for training as soon as courses were running again following relaxation of Lockdown Rules.

130. CLERK'S REPORT

Noted the Clerk's Report.

Noted that the By Election in St Cuthbert Without Ward will take place on 6 May 2021.

131. AREAS OF CONCERN

Noted no decisions can be taken at the meeting but the Clerk can be asked to investigate and report back to a future meeting or, if appropriate, to report to the relevant authority.

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Cllr C Sringfellow raised several Highway concerns, and it was agreed he would have a site meeting with County Cllr D Earl to discuss further. He also advised about damage to wall at commercial estate near the Dhaka Restaurant. Cllr B Dodd will investigate this.

Cllr E Wallace advised road signs at Wreay still in need for repair/replacement.

Members of the Public left the virtual meeting room.

132. TREE MAINTENANCE: CONTRACT FAILURE

Confidential Report (commercial sensitivities) from Clerk sent to Members Only.

Resolved to give the Tree Maintenance Contractor one last opportunity to complete the Contract. If this did not happen by the proposed deadline the Clerk was authorised to start debt recovery action.

133. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Noted the next meeting is the Annual Parish Council Meeting. It shall be held on Thursday 29 April 2021 at 1930 and agenda items should be with the Clerk by 1200 on Tuesday 20 April 2021. The meeting will be held in the virtual meeting room.

The Meeting closed at 9.13pm.