

**Minutes of the Meeting of Claife Parish Council held on Tuesday 16 August 2011 at 7.30pm at Braithwaite Hall Far Sawrey**

Present

**Councillors:** Dr C Lane (Chairman) Mr R Shuttleworth Mrs A Brodie Mr R Brown Mr J Mallett and Ms Y Pavelyn and **Clerk** Mr VM Phillips

**Members of the Public:** Dr J Burgoyne Mr V Chapman Mr G Dent Mrs E Mallett Mr J Moffat Mr G Schofield Ms T Wakeman and Professor P Wrobel

**Minutes of the Meeting of 12 July 2011** were approved and signed.

### **Finance**

- (a) **Completion of Annual Audit 2010/11:** The Council noted a successful audit by BDO LLP. Thanks were due to Gary Schofield for undertaking the internal audit.
- (b) **Accounts to pay:** It was agreed to pay BDO LLP the sum of £60-00 in respect of the annual audit fee.
- (c) The current account showed a balance of £5477-01.

### **Planning Matters**

- (a) **Beechmount Near Sawrey-erection of 3x3 bedroom houses to meet local needs:** Mr Mallett related his attendance at the Planning Committee meeting of the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) at which this application had been approved by eight votes to five. He felt that any decision of the Committee could be swayed by the quality of argument of any speaker booking a five minute slot to address the Committee.
- (b) **Light Pollution:** The Chairman reported that 14 lights were in operation on the Langrigg property Low Wray until 0400 hours to the great annoyance to surrounding property owners. The Council agreed to support any complainant of statutory nuisance.

### **National Trust**

- (a) **Toilets Ferry House:** It was hoped to have these toilets in operation in time for the August bank holiday weekend. Thereafter the National Trust would formalize an arrangement with LDNPA in conjunction with other interested parties/contributors.
- (b) **Low Wray Church:** It was reported that the church had now been declared redundant by the local Diocesan Synod. As a result the National Trust was considering acquiring it as part of the Wray Castle estate. If it did it could then be used for events such as concerts, Christmas carol services, organ recitals etc and subject

to observation of strict rules the solemnization of the occasional marriage.

- (c) **Interpretation of Beatrix Potter's will:** The Council's solicitor had advised that in his opinion the wording of Beatrix Potter's will was so vague as to make a case that Hawkshead Parish Council's operation of the Old Police Station Car Park was contrary to its terms difficult. He did however say that any monies paid by persons to Hawkshead Parish Council during the currency of the 2000 lease were recoverable.

### County Council Matters

- (a) **Application by Cumbria Highways for a stopping up order the Coach House Lake Bank Near Sawrey:** The Council had no objection to what was proposed.
- (b) **Stones Lane Near Sawrey:** Cumbria Highways had no knowledge of any revised plans and the Clerk agreed to ascertain the precise position.
- (c) **Removal of Signs Cuckoo Brow Lane Far Sawrey:** Cumbria Highways was denying any knowledge of a request for removal of these signs and the Clerk was to write to Victoria Lepper again requesting their removal.

### Claife Parish Council - Land and Other Issues

- (a) **Tarn Hill Playground:**
- (i) **Tidying up of hedge:** Mr Brown agreed to obtain a quote from Tim Brownlow for tidying up the hedge.
  - (ii) **Drainage issues:** John Atkinson of the National Trust was to make contact with the Clerk in early September with a view to resolving the issue. The National Trust was prepared to undertake the work if other interested parties provided the materials.
  - (iii) **Car parking:** Mrs Brodie reported that she had done much research in an effort to find a solution to the lack of availability of car parking spaces in Near Sawrey a situation which would be further exacerbated by the development at Beechmount. Her conclusion was that production of a Parish Plan would greatly assist in finding solutions. To this end she was proposing to invite Julia Wilson from Cumbria Action to speak at the next meeting. Julia is the Development Officer for South Lakeland and an expert in community led planning. Councillors were encouraged to visit the website:- [cumbriaaction.org.uk](http://cumbriaaction.org.uk).
- (b) **Ash Landing:** Ash Landing was shown conclusively to be in the ownership of the Council. The Clerk agreed to have the register rectified at HM Land Registry.
- (c) **Lakeside Track Red Nab to Strawberry Gardens:** The Council's solicitor had advised that this remained a public highway as originally described in the Enclosure Act 1794 and based on the

maxim “once a highway always a highway”. The Clerk agreed to look at the County Council definitive map and formally write to the National Trust, LDNPA and HM Land Registry.

- (d) ***Formation of a Partnership with Hawkshead Parish Council and other relevant Agencies to monitor water quality and other environmental issues with regard to Esthwaite Water and watercourses in the valley:*** Mr Shuttleworth reported that he had made contact with Hawkshead Parish Council and the Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership with a view to establishing a similar partnership to the latter in respect of the Esthwaite Valley.

#### **Items for the next Agenda**

- (a) Production of a Parish Plan;
- (b) The Old Police Station Car Park Hawkshead; and
- (c) Request by the Braithwaite Hall Committee for financial assistance with improvements to the building.

#### **Date and time of next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 4 October 2011 at High Wray Village Hall at 7-30pm.