

Minutes of the Meeting of Claife Parish Council held on Tuesday 2 February 2010 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: Mr and Mrs N Fieldhouse Mr J Moffat Ms C Pritchard and Mr G Schofield

Minutes of the Meeting of 27 October 2009 were approved and signed.

Matters arising from the Minutes

(a) *Cumbria Highways -Traffic and Highway Issues:*

(i)(A) *Extension of single yellow line to Wilfin Beck Near Sawrey:* work was in hand and, depending upon availability of funding, would be undertaken within the current financial year or shortly thereafter.

(B) *Double yellow lines Stones Lane Near Sawrey:* the request for double yellow lines was to go to local committee. In the meantime Councillor Salisbury was in the process of organizing a meeting with local landowners to determine availability of additional parking.

(ii) *Old Village Signs:* no progress had been made due to the weather. It was agreed to bring the matter forward to the next meeting.

(iii) *Collapsed Walls - B5285:* works instructions to have the retaining walls repaired and reinstated had been prepared and were currently sitting in "holding files" awaiting funding.

(iv) *Removal of Sign - Cuckoo Brow Lane:* Cumbria Highways was of the view that the sign should be left in place for the next six months in order to monitor traffic movements and behaviour. If the Council's view remained the same removal of the sign could be considered.

(b) ***Registering Claife Parish Council land:*** following approval of the relevant fee (see Minute below) the Clerk would obtain copies of the required registered titles.

(c) ***Housing Needs Committee update:*** a copy of the Lake District National Park Authority planner's view on the various potential sites for development was circulated. The Clerk said he would progress matters further with appropriate parties.

(d) ***Freedom of Information Act request - Hawkshead Parish Council:*** the Clerk said he was awaiting a copy of Beatrix Potter's will which Mr Mallett said he could provide.

(e) ***Ash Landing Car Park:*** cobbles were now in place and it only remained for some trees to be removed.

(f) **Local Area Partnership - High Furness:** the second meeting of High Furness Area Partnership would be held on Tuesday 9 February 2010 at John Ruskin School Coniston. It was clear from the initial meeting that road maintenance, highway stewards and allied issues were top of each Parish Council's priority list.

(g) **Speed Limits - Near and Far Sawrey and High Wray:**

(i) **Near and Far Sawrey:** a recent speed monitoring report supported a 30mph speed restriction along the whole length of the B5285 from entry into Near Sawrey to the exit from Far Sawrey and *vice versa*. However were it to be imposed de-restriction signs would be necessary on every road along the route where the limit did not apply and funding would be required. It was agreed to consult with residents as to whether such limit was wanted.

(ii) **High Wray:** It was considered that a speed limit was desirable. The Clerk was to speak to Councillor Salisbury about undertaking a similar monitoring exercise.

Finance

(a) **Accounts to pay:** It was agreed to pay Durham Land Registry the sum of £24-00 in respect of the provision of copies of three registered titles.

(b) The current account showed a balance of £3125-69.

Letters and Communications

(a) **Floods - Community Action Group:** the Clerk reported on a meeting he had attended with Hawkshead Parish Council and the Environment Agency following the recent flooding. The consensus was that the fish screen located in the beck at the southern end of Esthwaite Water and due to be removed in 2014 together with the fish nets, which the Council believed should have been removed as a condition of the grant of permission to erect the fish screen, had caused the extremely high water levels in Esthwaite Water and consequent flooding of the surrounding area. It was agreed to join with the Hawkshead Community Action Group to pursue the Environment Agency and the Lake District National Park Authority with a view to finding a solution.

(b) **Waste Collections:** concern was expressed that during the recent heavy snowfalls certain residents had received no waste collections for a number of weeks. The Clerk was asked to write to South Lakeland District Council making this point and to ascertain what contingency plans were in place during such emergencies.

(c) **Minute Books:** It was agreed to restore the Minute Books which had suffered water damage during the recent floods. The Clerk was asked to do what was necessary.

(d) **Great North Air Ambulance Service:** It was agreed to make a donation of £50-00 to the Great North Air Ambulance Service.

- (e) **Planning - Lake District National Park Authority:** the area Lake District National Park Authority planner, Mairi Lock, was to be invited to attend the next meeting to be held at Braithwaite Hall so that the Council could obtain a full understanding of the planning process and how it operated in practice.
- (f) **Parish Council Land - Tarn Hill Playground:** following discussion about the state of repair of Council land opposite Tarn Hill playground, Near Sawrey it was agreed:
 - (i) to obtain a quote from Richard Walker for making good; and
 - (ii) to ask Pandora Signs to provide a sign making it clear that all cars parked there were at the owner's risk and that the Council could accept no liability for any damage howsoever caused.
 Finally the clerk was asked to write to the Tarn Hill Trust reminding it to remove the sign indicating that payment was to be made for the right to park on Council land.
- (g) **Brant Howe, Far Sawrey:** The owners of Brant Howe were to be asked to instruct their contractor to clean up the adjoining road following excavation work at the property.
- (h) **Seat at Pigling Bland, Near Sawrey:** It was agreed to bring forward to the next meeting the question of a contribution by the Council to repairs to the seat and protection of the tree at Pigling Bland, Near Sawrey.

Committee Reports

- (a) **Windermere Ferry Committee:** Mrs Brodie reported that as a result of potential revenue shortfalls single fares were to increase, for cars to £4-00 (£3-50) and for eligible goods vehicles and minibuses to £7-00 (£6-50). The price of annual and quarterly contracts and pedestrian and cyclist fares would remain the same. The Council was asked to publicize this fact.
It was agreed that the Council would place an article in Esthwaite Link to this effect at the same time inviting parishioners to provide feedback on demand for books of tickets, service failures and poor timekeeping.

Planning Matters

- (a) **Wray Castle, Low Wray, Ambleside LA22 0JB**
Proposal: Change of use from training centre to hotel, including " Wray boathouse" which is proposed to become a serviced suite (no kitchen included). Construction of extension to create spa area for hotel, including demolition of external stores and part demolition of modern extension. Changes to car parking and immediate landscaping. Alterations to existing residential cottage use. Removal of existing portacabins, and replacement with timber log cabin style temporary buildings for hotel staff accommodation use: whilst acknowledging that Wray Castle needed to be occupied and used the Council was concerned as a result of

what was proposed as to the adequacy of the local infrastructure, the potential displacement of parishioners, whether use as a hotel was viable and whether there was sufficient demand in the light of all the other hotel and leisure developments currently being undertaken in the vicinity .

National Trust Update

(a) **Wray Castle:** an open meeting was to be held at Wray Castle on Wednesday 10 February 2010 from 1800 hours to 2000 hours when representatives of the National Trust and Wray Castle Hotels Ltd would provide an update on progress of and answer any questions relating to the proposed development of Wray Castle.

County Council Matters

- (a) **Larch Cottage, Near Sawrey:** Cumbria Highways had advised the Clerk that water was being unlawfully discharged from the Larch Cottage property onto the B5285 road and that the matter was now in the hands of Cumbria County Council's legal department.
- (b) **B5285 Town End to Pool Bridge:** the Clerk was asked to write to Cumbria Highways expressing the Council's grave concern at the state of the hedges and ditches either side of the B5285 between Town End and Pool Bridge. It believed there was a danger that the road could collapse if no action was taken.
- (c) **Availability of grit/salt:** the Clerk reported that a load of grit/salt which had been promised for a number of weeks was to be delivered during the next couple of days to three locations, opposite the playground, Near Sawrey, opposite Braithwaite Hall, Far Sawrey and by the track to Base Camp, High Wray.
- (d) **Defective drains - Near Sawrey:** Cumbria Highways was making arrangements with its drainage contractor to clear and jet out the road gullies including the drain adjoining Beechmount Guest House the next time the contractor was due in the area. It was confirmed that work was in hand to unblock the culvert in the play area opposite Beechmount to prevent surface water run off onto the B5285.

Police Matters

Updated information on all police issues could be viewed on the Cumbria Police website www.cumbria.police.uk

Date and time of next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on 16 March 2010 at High Wray Village Hall at 7.30pm.

