

Claife Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Braitnwaite Hall
At 7.30 pm on Tuesday 9th November 2021

Attendees: Parish Councillors A Brodie (Chair), S Hilton, P Lennon (Vice Chair), J Whitworth & M Wyburn, Parish Clerk L Prescott & Mr J Moffat (National Trust)

153/2021 **Apologies**

Resolved Apologies were received and accepted from County Councillor M Brereton.

154/2021 **Requests for dispensations**

None received.

155/2021 **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

156/2021 **Minutes**

Resolved To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 28th September 2021.

157/2021 **Public Participation**

a) Reports were received as follows:

i) Police

Crimes reported to the Police during September 2021 in the Coniston Area
Violence and sexual offences (5), Burglary (2), Other theft (2), Anti-social behaviour (1).
The theft of Quad bikes is increasing across the county with several farms being targeted.
More than one quad has been taken at a time along with ride-on mowers and other valuable tools. It is believed a vehicle is being used to move such large items.

ii) County Councillor

Report received & circulated following meeting.

iii) District Councillor

Report received & circulated following meeting.

iv) National Trust

Mr Moffat reported that following October half term the sites of Hill Top, Beatrix Potter Gallery at Hawkshead and Wray Castle were closed for the rest of the year. Campsites are also closed but outdoor spaces remain open including the grounds at Wray Castle and Tarn Hows. Base Camp remains closed. Hill Top received 55,000 visitors in 2021, down from 115,000 in 2019, due to reduced capacity. Rangers have been focussing on visitor management and also tree felling due to disease in larch, spruce, fir and ash on 25 sites, including 3 on Claife Heights. Two properties at Harrowslack are due to be advertised before Christmas. There are no changes in relation to farms or boat houses. Due to visitor numbers there were record levels of accommodation occupancy, although due to staff shortages the usual local facilities, including pubs serving food, were reduced.

In 2022 Hill Top will re-open at February half term and Wray Castle, the Gallery and the Gondola will re-open the week before the Easter holidays. The advanced booking system and no coach policy for Hill Top and the Gallery will be used again in 2022, but it is hoped that Mountain Goat and shuttle bus services will run. Wray Castle will be open on the ground and first floors in 2022. They expect visitor numbers to increase in 2022, but not to previous levels.

Overgrown hedges reported by the Parish Council have mainly been cut back and the rest will be cut back. The National Park has reduced its work on footpath maintenance so the National Trust has increased work in this area. The National Trust would permit a beacon

for the Queen's Jubilee on Latterbarrow, but would be unable to provide practical support. Interested parties should contact Paul Farrington and the tenant Gary Dixon. The cycleway map distributed from Hill Top is going to be revised for 2022. He agreed to enquire and report back to the Council regarding the phone box at Low Wray owned by the National Trust in relation to a potential defibrillator site. He confirmed that no licences have been issued for hound trail/ drag hunts on National Trust Land and any incidents of these activities should be reported to him. He confirmed that parking at Ash Landing would continue. He will enquire regarding the sign erected at the Claife Station café. The National Trust is currently operating the Claife toilets (owned by the Freshwater Biological Association and tenanted by the National Park) at a cost of thousands of pounds per year and any support from the Parish Council would be appreciated. The main users of the toilets are ferry staff and passengers.

- b) Members of the Public
None.

158/2021 **Councillor Matters**
None.

159/2021 **Updates on Ongoing Issues and Actions**

- a) Broadband provision in the parish
Councillor Hilton reported that the Government has temporarily withdrawn the voucher scheme. The local group has emailed the interested parties. The next stage is not yet clear and a decision is expected in August 2022.
- b) Refurbishment of Near & Far Sawrey Noticeboards
Councillor Hilton reported that this has been delayed due to inclement weather. He needs some flashing to cover the top of the Far Sawrey noticeboard to stop water damage and Councillors have agreed to see if they can supply.
- c) Lower Ward Councillor Vacancy
Councillor Brodie reported that she has spoken to a resident who may be interested and will speak to them further next week.
- d) Website review
The Clerk reported that she has added the adopted Councillor Code of Conduct and an explanation of Parish Council role in planning applications. Photos are still required of the Councillors and Braithwaite Hall.
- e) Windermere Ferry
Councillor Brodie reported that she has not received a response from the County Councillor regarding the consultation, financing, ticketing app or electronic sign. Councillor Hilton reported that the ferry is not operating as timetabled, sometimes leaving before the stated time stranding passengers.
Resolved Councillor Brodie will notify Mr Melville regarding the ferry not operating as timetabled.
- f) Land owned by the Parish Council
- i) Tarn Hill
The Clerk outlined a draft agreement between the Parish Council and the Tarn Hill Trust Committee in relation to their occupation and use of Tarn Hill Playground.
Resolved
To add a release clause. Councillor Hilton to contact the Committee to discuss the specific details in terms of the length of the lease and length of release clause.
- ii) Land at Chapel Cottage
The Clerk reported that due to the requirement for document certification a solicitor will be required to register the land however she has prepared a list of relevant documents to be collated prior to a solicitor being contacted. Councillor Brodie reported that she has some of the relevant documentation.
Resolved The Clerk and Councillor Brodie to liaise in collating the documentation.

- iii) Registered Land
The Clerk reported that the land currently registered requires the addresses and contacts to be updated. She recommends that 2 addresses are used, that of the Clerk and of the Solicitors.
Resolved To update the Land Register with the Clerk's and Solicitors addresses.
- iv) Registered Land Alerts
Councillor Brodie reported that landowners can arrange for 2 types of alert with the Land Registry in case there are any submissions to change the records. The Property Alert (free) will notify of any activity in relation to a property and the Property Restriction (£40) will prevent any amendments being made.
Resolved To arrange Property Alerts for all registered land.
- g) Planting tree in Playground for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee
This has been agreed and is progressing.
- h) Queen's Platinum Jubilee
Councillor Lennon reported that Hawkshead Parish Council are in favour of a beacon being lit on Latterbarrow, but are to consider further at their next meeting.
Resolved
 - i) To provide information and contacts already received from the National Trust to Hawkshead Parish Council and others who have expressed interest.
 - ii) To make no plans as a Parish Council at present, but to support arranged events.

160/2021 **New Agenda Items**

- a) SLDC and CCC funds/works available from District and County Councillor allocations
Resolved To defer to a future meeting.
- b) Parking restrictions at Near Sawrey
Resolved To request a site meeting and review of the parking restrictions at Near Sawrey by Cumbria Highways, in particular around Stones Lane (where timber lorries require access) and on the road between Stones Lane and the Playground.
- c) Snow plough/gritting arrangements
The snow ploughing/gritting on the minor roads is arranged by Hawkshead Parish Council and Claife Parish Council make a contribution towards the cost.
Resolved The Clerk will speak to the Hawkshead Parish Clerk in relation to this arrangement.

161/2021 **Planning Applications**

- a) The following planning applications were considered and responses formulated to the planning authority:
 - i) 7/2021/5797. High Wray Farm, High Wray, Ambleside, LA22 0JE. Roofing over existing agricultural structures in farm yard. This is to minimise water pollution in catchment sensitive areas as part of a Natural England pollution control project.
Resolved To fully support the application as it will have a positive impact on the environment.
 - ii) 7/2021/5881 Fellborough, Cunsey, Ambleside, LA22 0LT. Replacement of existing jetty with new jetty.
Resolved No objections.
 - iii) 7/2021/5886. Waterbarrow, Cunsey, Ambleside, LA22 0LT. Internal reconfiguration, external renovation with a rear first floor roof extension.
Resolved To comment that there is a potential of light pollution from the bespoke window/rooflight on the south west elevation and would recommend installation of blinds or some other appropriate covering to mitigate the light pollution.
 - iv) 7/2021/5592. Land and buildings at, North Side, Cunsey Beck, Cunsey, Ambleside. Replacement of caravan occupied as ancillary accommodation to boathouse with similar ancillary facilities on mezzanine deck within existing storage building housing the caravan.
Resolved To submit an addendum to the earlier response that local residents who have lived nearby for over 21 years dispute the statement in the Heritage Design and Access Statement that the caravan has been in constant use.

- b) The following Planning Decisions were noted:
- i) 7/2021/5580. Whinfell, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LF. Side extension to form fully accessible ground floor layout with integrated car port and garden room. Granted with conditions relating to plans.
 - ii) T/2021/0163. (Tree Work in Conservation Area). Buckle Yeat, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LF. No objection.
 - iii) T/2021/0162 (Tree Work in Conservation Area). Coach House, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LB. Yew tree - (marked as Yew tree in notification) - Reduce and reshape by up to 2 m to previous points. Crown raise by up to 2.5 m above ground level. No objection.

162/2021 **Financial Matters**

- a) Noted that bank balance at 30 September 2021 was £12,734.89
- b) Report on the council's finances
Resolved To accept the Quarterly Financial Report.
- c) **Resolved** The following payment were authorised:

Lengthsman (D Parkinson) (September 2021)	£128.00
McAFee (2021/22 Anti Virus protection)	£49.99
Noticeboard repair materials (Pinboard & Woodstain)	£108.83
- d) Parish Online subscription 2021/2
Resolved to renew the Parish Online subscription (£36.00)
- e) Grant request from the Great North Air Ambulance
Resolved To grant the sum of £60.00.

163/2021 **Highways**

- a) Highways items to be reported
Councillor Lennon reported that United Utilities closed the road at Wayside Cottage for 72 hours and the long diversions caused major disruption.
Resolved To contact United Utilities about this disruption.

b) Highways items reported

Reference	Details	Response
W2181047311	Grit Bin for High Wray	Completed
EI/4765	Road sign damaged on B5285 Far Sawrey	Assigned to Highways Team
EI/21611	Drain next to Grit Box on B5285 at bottom of Cuckoo Brow Lane	Assigned to Highways Team
EI/21616	Lane eroded by water at bottom of Cuckoo Brow Lane	Assigned to Highways Team
EI/23846	Road junction markings faded / washed out . Junction of Stones Lane, Near Sawrey with B5285	Assigned to Highways Team
EI/23783	Road surface deteriorating with multiple pot holes developing. B5285 near Sawrey House Hotel	Assigned to Highways Team
EI/23796	Road surface from Belle Green to the entrance to the last house on the left of the lane.	Assigned to Highways Team
EI/23823	Passing place sign broken off post and other one unreadable, B5285 between Near and Far Sawrey	Assigned to Highways Team

164/2021 **Correspondence (for information only)**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) **Cumbria County Council**
Covid updates. County Council legal challenge to Unitary councils.
- b) **South Lakeland District Council**
Covid updates. New Truth Poverty Commission funding.
- c) **Cumbria Association of Local Councils**
Newsletter. Training. Police Ethics and Integrity Panel Vacancies. Updates on Local Government Reorganisation. Covid updates.
- d) **Other**
Grizedale Rally

165/2021 Date of Next Meeting

Noted that the next Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 14th December 2021 at High Wray Village Hall.

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

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Date

Initialed Date