

Claife Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Braithwaite Hall
At 7.30 pm on Tuesday 15th March 2022

Attendees: Parish Councillors A Brodie (Chair), S Hilton, K Keighley, P Lennon (Vice Chair), M Wyburn, Parish Clerk L Prescott, County Councillor M Brereton & 1 member of the public.

016/2022 **Apologies**

Resolved Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillor J Whitworth, District Councillor I Wharton and Mr J Moffatt of the National Trust.

017/2022 **Requests for dispensations**

None received.

018/2022 **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

019/2022 **Minutes**

Resolved To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 1st February 2022.

020/2022 **Public Participation**

a) Reports were received as follows:

i) Police

Noted the circulated report.

ii) County Councillor

Councillor Brereton reported that there will be community engagement next month in relation to the replacement Windermere ferry. He is trying to get a jet patcher to patch potholes. Do use the Cumbria Highways HIAMs system and advise him if there are multiple potholes or areas which require resurfacing. He has spoken to Jonathan Harris of Connecting Cumbria and the broadband installation situation is on hold but he hopes to receive an update within the next 2 weeks. He hopes to co-ordinate within his ward before August when Government funding is expected to be announced. He has a member's highways fund of up to £1,000 which can be used for road signs and other highways items. The County Council also has a Community Grant Fund available for a range of highways and other items.

iii) District Councillor

Councillor Wharton provided a written report which was read out by the Clerk: There will be Councillor elections in May for the new Westmorland and Furness Council. It will be a Shadow Council, running in parallel with SLDC and Cumbria County Council until April 2023, when it takes over. Broughton and Coniston ward will be split into two. Broughton, Kirkby, and ENMO and Pennington Parishes will become High Furness and the remainder will become Coniston and Hawkshead ward. There will be just one Councillor per ward. Grants are still available for business, particularly those in hospitality and retail that have been affected by the Omicron variant outbreak. They are currently investigating discharges into Coniston Water last year from the Waste Water Treatment plant last year and are currently discussing this with United Utilities. They have had several meetings various agencies and it is clear that the gap between District and County level and what happened in each area was too great. The response in each areas varied greatly and they need to create small resilience groups, coordinated between parishes, with central emergency hubs. Public meetings will be arranged in order to discuss the best way ahead. On March 6th, they held a joint Police operation to deter and educate motorists from illegal off-roading. PCSO Paul Harris led the operation and there were representatives from SLDC, Park Rangers, the Trail Riders Federation, the Green Lanes Alliance, local Councillors and residents. They will be looking at similar operations over the coming tourist season, including road safety and speeding. The first few months of this year have been extremely busy and the Tactical Visitor Management Group is beginning to put plans in action, in coordination with Safer Lakes. Unfortunately, the 56 day rule for pop up camping and car parking has not been extended this year, but the 28 day rule still applies. The Park will be helping to develop

these facilities to cope with the extra demand at peak times. Mike McKinley, LDNPA Chairman passed away earlier this month after a short illness.

iv) National Trust

Mr Moffat provided a written report in his absence which was read out by the Clerk: Post storms – storms over the weekend resulted in trees coming down in a variety of locations; this on top of still clearing up from storm Arwen. They had got to the point of all routes being accessible again, even if not fully cleared up – that is going to take many months yet, they're still working on exactly what they will be doing where, and what a replanting programme looks like (or not). He knows other local landowners are also still clearing up from that storm. They've still got one property on a generator as well. Rights of way should all be clear – if not as tidy as they'd always like – but if you know of any issues, please feed them in, for example today a tree has come down on the track between Wray Castle and Red Nab that they'll need to get to in the next day or two; and Tarn Hows has had a lot come down over the last 3 days. Work will be restarting on dealing with the disease affected trees – especially larch, so expect to see more work going on as well as more lorries moving the timber around. Mid season opening times will be in place at National Trust Properties from the start of April. They've got a couple of empty properties in the parish at the moment at Harrowslack, should be coming back on to the letting market very soon. The Maritime & Coastguard Agency are working on a plan to upgrade the mast on Claife Heights – he's asked that they get in touch with the PC as there may be opportunities to improve fibre connections into Colthouse as part of those works. He'd be really interested in the update on the car ferry if that could be shared – it is such a critical asset for them in all our work to get people to visit our places without a car, and they see the instant impact whenever it is not running, especially at the moment when not all the boat services are running.

b) Members of the Public

A resident enquired about the situation with regard to the new Windermere ferry as the County Council has issued a public statement in relation to the new ferry apparently without advising or consulting the Ferry Advisory Group (FAG). He also raised concerns that the appointed company are not experienced in this type of procurement, he advised that he has been unable to access the Minutes of the FAG and he also asked for details of the consultation.

021/2022 **Councillor Matters**

- a) Parish Councillors raised concerns in relation to the planned closures by the National Trust in order to undertake tree works and that there should be clear information placed at Harrowslack Car Park on the National Trust and Cumbria Tourism websites as well as notifying the Ferry operators and the Friends of the Lake District. In addition extraction routes should be clearly defined to the contractors, in particular relating to exiting the road from Red Nab at High Wray, the need to turn left towards Colthouse, before turning round at Base camp track in order to travel towards Wray Castle and Ambleside. It is not possible for large vehicles to pass through Colthouse.
- b) Councillor Hilton asked for the Market Hall, Hawkshead to be included in the next Agenda. He also reported that tonight's Hawkshead Parish Council would be discussing alternative emergency centres for the installation of a generator.

022/2022 **Updates on Ongoing Issues and Actions**

a) Windermere Ferry

Councillor Brodie reported that there would be a public engagement on the ferry design proposals after Easter, but the full details of the consultation have not yet been advised. She has requested copies of the September 2021 Minutes but has been advised they were not available. The minutes of the March 2022 meeting will be published on the CCC website after they have been approved at the Local Committee meeting in May. She also reported that confidential matters were discussed at the recent meeting which could not be disclosed to the public. It is unclear what the role of the FAG will be and how the project will be taken forward once the new Unitary authority is in place. The County Council contacts for specific information

on this matter are Keith Little and County Councillor Matt Brereton. There will be a review of the ferry fares at the next FAG meeting in September.

- b) Refurbishment of Near & Far Sawrey Noticeboards
Councillor Hilton reported that he has taken the Far Sawrey noticeboard down and found it was attached to the original noticeboard and there is considerable rot affecting the backing and base.
- c) Cumbria Highways meeting update
The Clerk reported that Helen Karasslan has forwarded the proposed double yellow lining proposals to County Councillor M Brereton and the replacement directional sign requested on the B5285 has been ordered.

023/2022 Council Land

- a) Land Registration
Councillor Brodie and the Clerk are collecting relevant documentation and will arrange to meet to collate the documents.
- b) Draft agreement – Tarn Hill Playground
The Councillors considered the revised Draft Agreement. Councillor Hilton reported that the Tarn Hill Trustees are in agreement with the proposed draft agreement.
Resolved To proceed with the Agreement between the Parish Council and Tarn Hill Trustees in relation to Tarn Hill Playground. The Clerk will draw up a final copy.

024/2022 New Agenda items

- a) Nature Recovery Strategy
Councillor Keighley reported that she had spoken to Paul Evans of the Cumbria Wildlife Trust about the Nature Recovery strategy. The aim is to provide nature corridors for wildlife. A pilot has been rolled out and the County Council will consult Parish Councils prior to a Nature Recovery Strategy being published later this year. There is a refocus on County Wildlife Sites and there are funds available from Natural England for tree planting in addition to Cumbria County Council's Environment Fund to assist with planting trees and undertaking survey works. Councillors suggested some of the pieces of land owned by the Parish Council (including at Esthwaite, Ash Landing and Tarn Hill Playground) may be suitable to enhancement through these schemes in addition to other sites within the parish eg at Braithwaite Hall.
- b) Tree safety monitoring procedures
Councillor Brodie reported that she has seen the National Trust document in relation to tree management. A survey was undertaken by the Parish Council 2 years ago followed by identified works and currently no critical works have been identified. Councillor Hilton reported that one of the memorial trees is leaning slightly.
- c) Council training requirements
The Clerk reported that whilst CALC are currently delivering online training they are now asking Parish Councils whether they would like to receive face to face training.
Resolved To reconsider training requirements in the autumn.
- c) Consultation on Green Lanes
Resolved To not submit a response.
- d) Boundary Commission Consultation on Parliamentary Constituencies
The proposal for Claife Parish it to be included in a Constituency which covers Millom to Whitehaven and Keswick.
Resolved To object to the proposed Parliamentary Constituency for the following reasons:
 - i) Geographical (distance and access difficulties)
 - ii) Local Government Boundaries (current and planned)
 - iii) Local Links (to Lancashire and South Lakeland)
 - iv) Health Services (North Cumbria & Morecambe Bay Health Trusts)

025/2022 Planning Applications

- a) The following planning applications were considered:
 - i) T/2022/0021. The Barn South, Cunsey, Ambleside, LA22 0LT. Fell 1 oak (T1), 8 birch (T2-T9).
Resolved No objections but question the removal of the mature oak tree.

- ii) 7/2022/5107/8. Telecomms Mast Wray Castle, Low Wray, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 0JA. Proposed upgrade of an existing base station comprising the removal of 2 no existing Omni Antennas and the installation of replacement with 1 No Leda Pole on the rooftop together with the addition of ancillary equipment thereto.

Resolved No objections.

- iii) 7/2022/5138. Satter Knotts, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LW. Construction of boat house to provide wet dock, storage and ancillary accommodation, all in connection with using lake for recreation and water-based transport.

Resolved To object to the application for the following reasons:

- a) The proposed access during construction from the site allocated for construction materials storage at Satter Knotts is very narrow and there is a severe acute bend at the junction of the road between Far Sawrey and Cunsey and the alleged private access road which is unsuitable for large vehicles. A more suitable access would be provided from the water.
- b) The rear of the site backs onto a steep hill hence the considerable runoff of rainwater would directly affect the site and needs to be properly managed in relation to the parking arrangements.
- c) The proposed sewage treatment plant is located only 10 metres from the shoreline so any failures in this would result in untreated sewage being deposited in Lake Windermere.
- d) The electricity supply will be provided by solar panels however the site is also stated to be shaded by trees throughout the day, which would impair electricity generation.

b) The following Planning Decisions were noted:

- i) 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. Refused.
- ii) 7/2021/6047. Fellborough, Cunsey, Ambleside, LA22 0LT. Replacement of existing jetty with new jetty and localised dredging. Approved with conditions relating to plans.
- iii) 7/2021/5923. Satter Knotts, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LW. Replacement dwelling and garage and construction of covered swimming pool. Withdrawn.

c) LDNPA planning application notification process
Noted.

026/2022 **Financial Matters**

a) Noted that bank balance at 28 February 2022 was £10,005.18

b) **Resolved** To authorise payment of the following accounts:

D Parkinson (Lengthsman) (January & February 2022)	£256.00
Ream of A4 paper & 12 second class postage stamps	£13.17

027/2022 **Highways**

a) Highways items to be reported
None.

b) Highways items reported

EI/4765	Road sign damaged on B5285 Far Sawrey	Completed?
EI/19340	Pothole between B5286 and Low Wray	Completed?
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	Completed
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
EI/23831	White lines at road junctions on B5285 in Near and Far Sawrey are faded / washed away and need replacing.	Completed
EI/39463	Sunken grid and pothole obscured by water accumulation	Assigned to Highways Team
EI/41426	Rubber Road side bollard marker damaged B5285 between Black Beck Bridge and Near Sawrey.	Assigned to Highways Team
EI/41418	Re-report of item EI/21611 claimed completed	Closed

028/2022 **Correspondence (for information only)**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) Cumbria County Council
Covid updates. HIAMS reporting changes.
- b) South Lakeland District Council
Covid updates. Additional Restrictions Grants.
- c) Cumbria Association of Local Councils
Newsletter. Training. Updates on Local Government Reorganisation. Covid updates.
- d) Cumbria Action for Sustainability
Free Online courses.
- e) South Cumbria Rivers Trust
Presentation on pollution in rivers and lakes.

029/2022 **Date of Next Meeting**

Noted that the Annual Parish Meeting of electors will take place at 7.00pm on Tuesday 3rd of May 2022 followed by the Annual Meeting (AGM) of the Council at 7.30pm after which a regular Parish Council meeting will be held.

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

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Date