

Claife Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Braithwaite Hall
At 7.30 pm on Tuesday 17th August 2021

Attendees: Parish Councillors A Brodie, S Hilton, P Lennon, J Whitworth & M Wyburn & Parish Clerk L Prescott.

121/2021 **Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from District Councillors H Troughton & I Wharton.

122/2021 **Requests for dispensations**

None received.

123/2021 **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

124/2021 **Minutes**

Resolved To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 6th July 2021.

125/2021 **Public Participation**

a) Reports were received as follows:

i) Police

20 reported crimes (June 2021) in Coniston area (includes Claife, Hawkshead, Coniston and Broughton): Anti-social behaviour 10, Other theft 4, Public order 3 & Violence and sexual offences 3. Police reported the following:

Ulverston Community Officers attended an emergency in Bouth. A male had collapsed and was struggling to breathe after being stung by wasps. He was then transferred to Ambulance and conveyed to Furness General for further treatment and observations.

The South Lakes Community Team recently took part in a multi-agency rescue exercise at Brown Howe Quarry near Coniston. The event involved Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service, Coniston Mountain Rescue and Cumbria Constabulary. The scenario involved a car at the bottom of a cliff face where rescue was only possible from the top.

Police continue to work with their partner agencies to address issues such as neighbour disputes, youth anti-social behaviour, illegal off-roading and scam/fraud awareness. High visibility patrols have been carried out across the area particularly focusing on anti-social behaviour. Engagement with schools has continued with officers being involved in some of the end of term activities.

ii) County Councillor

No report received.

iii) District Councillor

District Councillors provided a written report:

- 1) Business Grants: Grants are still available for local businesses to help them get back on the feet. If you want to see if your business is eligible, then please follow the below link for the SLDC web page <https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/business-and-trade/business-support-grants-coronavirus-covid-19/>
- 2) Local Government Reform: After Consultation and considering submitted options, the Government has decided to split Cumbria into two Unitary Authorities diagonally, called Cumbria West and East, each with a Mayor. Broughton and Coniston ward is now in Cumbria East and incorporates, Barrow, South Lakeland and Eden District Councils,

stretching from Barrow across to Alston. The role of the County Councillors and District Councillors will merge, with fewer Councillors. The time scale for this to happen will be April 2023 and these changes will have to be ratified by Parliament. Meanwhile, there will be a lot of work to define the roles of each area, who does what, what will be the priorities of the new Authority and how it will be administered. There will be elections in May 2022 to elect the new Council.

- 3) **Constituency Reform:** The Boundary Commission has undergone a boundary change Consultation, for the Parliamentary Constituencies in Cumbria, which ended on 2nd July. The proposal is to reduce the number of MPs in Cumbria from 6 to 5. It is proposed that Broughton and Coniston ward will come under Copeland constituency. So, it is possible that we will end up with an MP based in Whitehaven over an hour drive away.
- 4) **Visitor Management:** The National Park, working with various agencies, like the Police, SLDC, CCC and National Trust have formed a Tactical Visitor Management Group and developed specific area visitor management plans. These have included extra Ranger and Police patrols, signage, litter pickers and welcome hosts in Car Parks. To cope with the extra demand caused by Covid and the National Staycation, we have helped to implement Pop up Campsites and Car Parks. Pop up Car Park examples are at Monk Coniston and near Dodgson Wood, which has helped ease congestion on the East side of the Lake. There are still issues with a small minority of people behaving badly and we are encouraging people not to confront them, but unfortunately, we are still seeing a small minority exhibiting loutish behaviours and I have concern that people have approached some of these groups and as a result have been threatened. The advice is not to confront, but to call the Police. Call 101 or 101emails@cumbria.police.uk . Contact Ian on 077784 30926 or Heather 07837485699, if you have any queries/concerns or would like any more information.

iv) National Trust
See District Councillor's report.

b) Members of the Public
None.

126/2021 **Councillor Matters**

Councillor Hilton has been asked by a resident for a sign to be installed on Stones Lane, Near Sawrey as cyclists and others are taking the wrong route. This request will be included for consideration in the next Parish Council meeting's Agenda. Further information will be gathered prior to the meeting. Councillor Brodie will speak to a Hill Top representative, Councillor Hilton will visit the site to look at potential sign locations and Councillor Whitworth will research whether it is included in online routes for cyclists.

127/2021 **Lengthsman Recruitment**

The Clerk reported that one application has been received from a Daniel Parkinson. Mr Parkinson has experience in this type of work and has his own equipment and Public Liability Insurance.

Resolved

To appoint Mr Parkinson on a 12 month contract from 1st September 2021 for 8 hours a month.

128/2021 **Land owned by the Parish Council**

Background

The first meeting of the Parish Council of the Township of Claife was held on 24th February 1894. The Parish Council at that time took over the ownership of the allotments and wastelands awarded

under the Enclosure Act of 1794 and the Award of 1798 from the Property and Landowners of Claife. Nine years later, in 1903, the property and landowners of Claife took action to take back the management of the various allotments and the collection of rent. In 1954 this position was reversed after the Landowners took legal advice which informed them that they had no authority to manage the lands but that the Parish Council did. From 1956 rents, backdated to December 1955, were paid to the Parish Council on land at Tarn Hill, Near Sawrey; garden at Chapel Cottage, Far Sawrey; garden on shore of Esthwaite Water for Esthwaite Cottage/Waterside.

a) Tarn Hill Playground, Car Parking area and verge, Near Sawrey

Councillor Brodie reported that in 1953, the Property and Landowners of Claife converted most of the land to a children's playground as a Coronation effort. Lancashire County Council continued to rent a section to store a snowplough and the Telephone Manager Lancaster paid a site rental for the telephone kiosk. The Tarn Hill Playing Field Trustees also paid a peppercorn rent. The last time the Trustees paid rent was in October 1995 to cover a 10 year period up until 2004. There is no record of payment thereafter or a change of agreement in the Council's minutes. This oversight may have been due to the extended period for which rent was paid and the several changes in Council membership and Clerks during that period. On the 7th September 1970, the Parish Council minutes record that correspondence from Lancashire County Council stated that it had provisionally recorded Tarn Hill as Common Land No 816 Village Green, Tarn Hill and a claim to ownership No 817, Village Green, Tarn Hill. No registration document has been discovered in the parish Council records. The Clerk reported that she had found no mention of this land on the online Commons Register of England, however Cumbria County Council have records of all Registered Commons Land and Village Greens in Cumbria that can be searched (for a fee) or examined in person at the office in Carlisle.

Resolved

- i) To commission a search of the Cumbria County Council's Common Land and Town or Village Green Registers for Tarn Hill.
- ii) To search the Land Registry for any land registration for Tarn Hill.
- iii) To clarify the charity status of The Tarn Hill Trust Committee.
- iv) To draft an agreement between the Parish Council and the Trustees of The Tarn Hill Trust Committee.
- v) To meet with the Trustees of The Tarn Hill Trust Committee.

b) Land at Chapel Cottage, Far Sawrey

Councillor Brodie reported that rent has been paid annually to the Parish Council between 1897 to 1903 and from 1955 until the present day. See background above. The land has not been registered with the Land Registry.

Resolved

- i) To write to the present tenants asking them to confirm in writing that they accept the land is owned by the Parish Council.
- ii) To register this land with the Land Registry.

c) Land at Ash Landing

Councillor Brodie reported that the National Trust had registered this land in error with the Land Registry and they have confirmed this in writing to the Parish Council.

Resolved

- i) To register this land with the Land Registry.

d) Land at Waterside (Land Registry CU 315570)

Councillor Brodie reported that this parcel of land is an asset held and owned by Claife Parish Council on behalf of parishioners. Despite reasonable reminders, rent has not been paid since February 2018 and is currently outstanding.

Resolved

- i) To issue a notice of continuing trespass to the trespassers occupying the land at Waterside that is registered to Claife Parish Council (Land Registry CU 315570) in accordance with advice from the Council's solicitors.
- ii) To send a notice of continuing trespass every 6 months, while the trespass continues, to avoid a claim of adverse possession.

129/2021 **Lower Ward Councillor Vacancy**
No applications have been received for this vacancy
Resolved
To continue to advertise this vacancy on the website.

130/2021 **Update on Ongoing Issues and Actions from Last Meeting**

- a) Broadband provision in the parish
Councillor Hilton reported that the B4RN project is progressing with landowners being identified and contacted about wayleaves. There is a deadline of 24th September 2021 for residents and businesses to register with B4RN to receive the Government grants towards this work.
- b) Refurbishment of Near & Far Sawrey Noticeboards
Councillor Hilton reported that he is sourcing the materials for the refurbishment.
- c) Website review
The Clerk reported that she has started making amendments to the website however additional photographs are required including a view within the parish, Braithwaite Hall, High Wray Village Hall and the Councillors and Clerk.
Resolved
Councillors will provide photographs to the Clerk of a view and the halls and a Councillors and Clerk photograph will be taken at a later date.
- d) Defibrillators
The Clerk reported that she has been advised by Neil Morris that he has replaced the battery in the Near Sawrey defibrillator as it was getting low. The cost of the replacement battery was £20 but this is covered by the Parish Council Annual Service Plan.

131/2021 **New Agenda Items**

- a) Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacon event (2022)
Resolved Councillor Brodie to contact John Moffat at the National Trust in relation to a potential beacon to mark this event.
- b) Windermere Ferry
Councillor Brodie reported that the ferry had been out of action for several days recently when the cable failed and had to be replaced. Councillor Hilton advised that previously a spare cable was retained at the Lake, but this is no longer the case. Councillor Brodie advised that she received an email from Karl Melville of Cumbria County Council advising that a technical advisor had been appointed and there would be a public consultation about a new ferry, which has not yet taken place. Councillor Lennon suggested that the new ferry should have larger cables so that they do not fail so frequently.
Resolved Councillor Brodie to raise these issues at the next Ferry Advisory Group Meeting.

132/2021 **Planning Applications**

- a) The following planning applications were considered and responses formulated to the planning authority:
 - i) 7/2021/5592 at 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 No objection to the application. To comment that the application is for a Change of Use of a storage building rather than replacement accommodation.
 - ii) T/2021/0121 at Ees Wyke Country House, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0JZ. Reduce 2 yews by 1-2m.
Resolved No objections.
- b) The following Planning Decisions were noted:
 - i) 7/2021/5332 at West Vale Country House, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LQ. Installation of Window, French Doors and Juliette Balconies and new metal flue. Granted.
 - ii) 7/2021/5489. Castle Wood, Bryerswood Estate, Far Sawrey. Improvement of existing woodland track, construction new culvert at historic timber extraction crossing point at Wilfin

Initialed Date

Beck, widen existing gate into B528. Granted with condition relating to requirement of banksman overseeing vehicles at road junction.

- iii) 7/2021/5511. St Margaret's Church, Low Wray, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 0JA
Re-configuring of interior of church to enable use a place for Christian retreat – creating two guest units. Withdrawn.

133/2021 **Financial Matters**

- a) Noted the bank balance at 31 July 2021 was £12,988.85.
b) **Resolved** The following payments were authorised
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| CALC Finance for Councillors course | £30.00 |
| Insurance (BHIB 2021/22) | £223.96 |

134/2021 **Training**

- a) Training undertaken by Councillors since the last meeting:
i) Finance for Councillors – Councillor Lennon
Councillor Lennon reported that whilst it was interesting she was already aware of most of the information. Some Councillors attending reported problems with fraud in their Councils.
b) Future training
Additional training to be considered later in the year.

135/2021 **Highways**

- a) Highways items to be reported
Councillor Hilton has reported a pothole at Near Sawrey and will forward to information to the Clerk.
b) Highways items reported

Reference	Details	Response
W2181047311	Grit Bin for High Wray	On to do list (2/8/21)
EI/1986	Pothole on B5285, Ferry Hill, Far Sawrey	Completed
EI/2048	Pothole on Cuckoo Brow Lane, Far Sawrey, LA22 0LQ	Completed
EI/2081	Depression in road, B5285, Ferry Hill, Far Sawrey	Completed
EI/4765	Road sign damaged on B5285 Far Sawrey	Assigned to Highways Team

136/2021 **Correspondence (for information only)**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) CALC/NALC
Newsletter. Local Government Reorganisation. Lengthsmen. Training. Land Registry Parish Survey.
b) Lake District National Park Authority
Planning Applications and Decisions.
c) South Lakeland District Council
Covid updates. Greening Campaign. Appleby Horse Fair. Blue green algae.
d) PKF Littlejohn LLP
Notification of receipt of logging of exempt status for 2020/21 Audit.

137/2021 Date of Next Meeting

Noted that the next Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 28th September 2021 at High Wray Village Hall.

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

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Date

Initialed Date