

Lamplugh Parish Council

Parish Clerk; John Sloan, High Mill Barn, High Lorton, Cockermouth. CA13 9UB (0190085833)

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting (No 338) of Lamplugh Parish Council held on Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 7:00 via online video link

Parish Councillors required to attend;

Roger Braithwaite (Chair), Richard Wilson (Vice Chair), Michael Watts, Sandy Roberts, Robert Daghish, Ed Surman and John Sloan (Clerk).

Also Invited: Arthur Lamb (County Councillor), Gwyneth Everett (Borough Councillor), Steve Morgan (Borough Councillor).

Present; Roger Braithwaite, Richard Wilson, Michael Watts, Robert Daghish, Ed Surman, Arthur Lamb, Steve Morgan and John Sloan (Clerk).

Parish Council Meeting Minutes (338) 18th November 2020

1. Sandy Roberts and Gwyneth Everett had sent apologies. No declarations of interest recorded.
2. The minutes of the previous virtual meeting (No 337) held on 16th September 2020, had previously been reviewed by the Chair and the Clerk will arrange for signatures.
3. Tasks arising from the Council meeting (337) held on 16th September were reviewed.
4. The main items of correspondence to 18th November 2020 were reviewed and any of significance had been added to this agenda. Again the vast majority of any communications had related to the Covid pandemic. Due to recent increased incidence of reported cases of Covid the parish council decided to continue holding virtual parish council meetings for the foreseeable future. A letter had been received from the Great North air ambulance asking if the parish council were able to make a donation. This was considered after the finances and precept setting for the next financial year were discussed.
5. Finance Matters:
 - a. The balance held in the bank/building society as of 31/10/2020 (using most recent bank statement to reduce social interactions);

	31st August 2020	31st October 2020
Cumberland BS	£18,793.68	£18,357.38

Values were confirmed with a copy of the scanned statements for September and October. The account figures were formally accepted and agreed by the councillors. Income and expenditure details (on spreadsheets) covering the period up to the 31st October 2020 were reviewed and data agreed by the councillors. The Clerk noted that planned spend until the end of the financial year would leave an estimated £14.25k in the reserves. Part of the reserves may be required as a contingency

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plan to cover any legal fees associated with the transfer of the Village hall and its land to the Village hall committee. Roger Braithwaite (Chair) will discuss this with the Village hall committee to estimate any likely costs that may be incurred by the parish council. The Clerk had still not received an invoice for any of the three grass cuts carried out by the landscaper, Harvey Davidson/Big Foot. The Clerk noted that there were only three signatories for the cheques and proposed that the other three members of the parish council (Ed Surman, Richard Wilson and Robert Daghish) were added to the signatory list.

- b. Cheques totalling ~£4,900 had been signed between meetings to reduce unnecessary travel during the current Covid lockdown phase. The cheques covered the poppy wreath, the Information Commissioner's Office annual fees, Clerks salary (3rd Q), a new notice board for Winder and the cost to repair the phone box at Winder and install the new notice board (awaiting delivery of the notice board). Payment of £3,173 had been received from the parish council insurance company for the repairs to the Winder phone box and notice board. The Clerk noted that this payment did not include any VAT element. The VAT has to be reclaimed from the invoices for the work carried out by the contractor. The summary table for the schedule of payments and receipts was reviewed and will be signed by the Chair in due course.
- c. The second quarter audit had been arranged by the Clerk, this was carried out remotely by email and by scanning documents. The report had been sent to the Chair. The third quarter report (up to the end of December) will be arranged by the Clerk, following the same procedure.
 - d. The Clerk/RFO had sent out a copy of the spend for the current year and the proposed spend for the forthcoming year (2021/22). This document will be attached to the meeting minutes. The parish council is projected to have significantly more than a year's precept in reserve at the end of the financial year. The PC may however have to meet the cost or part cost of the legal fees for transfer of the Village hall ownership to the Village hall committee. Fewer funds had been spent this year due to the Covid which had led to fewer parish grants being requested/awarded. It was hoped that next year would be 'normal'. The councillors agreed to make a one off award of £250 to the Great North Air Ambulance fund in lieu of the grant usually made to the First Responders who were unable to operate this year. The Clerk /RFO proposed that there should be no increase in the precept for the forthcoming financial year and this was unanimously agreed by the councillors. The Clerk will notify Copeland BC when requested.
6. Public Participation Slot; Steve Morgan (Borough councillor) spoke about the proposed new single unity County structure. The final decision will be made by the Government but local councils had made their own suggestions. Copeland proposed a binary format where Copeland, Allerdale and Carlisle were combined (Eden?). Another proposal was for Barrow, South Lakes and Lancaster City to join as one unit. Copeland would effectively be abolished but they are suggesting that a 'Mayor of Cumbria' is responsible for the overall control of the new unit. CBC is open to comments from residents/parish councils until the end of the month. Steve again mentioned the existence of the 'local plan' proposed by Copeland which covers, amongst other things, local housing needs into the future. Comments are required by mid-November. There was currently a long wait at the Frizington waste disposal site due to

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Covid restrictions which allows only two cars at a time into the site. It was estimated that there may be a 2 hr wait to get rid of rubbish which in turn may be leading to increased fly tipping. Steve also let the councillors know that there was a project to adopt a road and some land (from the removal of the water treatment plant) on the way to Ennerdale lake with a view to improving the road surface, provide better parking and perhaps include the provision for overnight campers--the latter as a possible revenue source. Arthur Lamb (CCC Councillor) reiterated that the unitary council would lead to the abolition of all borough councils and would effectively be starting from scratch. Cumbria county council would prefer a single unit for the whole of Cumbria. The Government will launch their consultation early in 2021. Arthur felt that an Eskett quarry liaison meeting (virtual or otherwise) was overdue and would get in touch with the current owners. Arthur also mentioned the problem with the road breaking away at Fitz Bridge due to erosion by the beck. A three way set of traffic lights was in place and likely to be there for some time whilst the problem is surveyed. The Clerk asked that Highways look at installing a 4th set of lights on the road from Fell Dyke which had no controls on it so that joining traffic had to take a chance on whether traffic was coming or not. Ian Parker (vicar) asked if work on the footpath around Cogra Moss would be finished. The Clerk said he would contact the LDNPA.

During Item 6 the Clerk and Michael Watts experienced problem with their computer connections. The Clerk managed to re-join for the second part of the Webex meeting (limited time allowed so meeting held in two parts) but Michael Watts did not. The meeting was still quorate and the councillors have clarified any points that the Clerk may have missed whilst absent. The parish council may have to pay for a defined meeting time for future virtual meetings.

7. Landscaping; the contractor has cut the hedge beside the A5086 between the beck and the village hall. The contractor had not sent in any invoice for the work carried out so far (three cuts) a fourth cut has been requested. The dog waste bin from the grass area in front of the Millfields development has gone missing. It was moved (presumably by the site developer) across the road whilst the area was dug up and reseeded but now it has disappeared altogether. Councillors asked the Clerk to write to the developer to ask about its whereabouts and for them to supply a new bin if they were unable to find the old bin.
8. Planning matters; Millfields development—s106 proposals; Copeland BC has held a review into the proposed change to the s106 and has gone back to the developer for more information.
Roger Braithwaite had noticed that a video by Copeland BC about the local plan had Lamplugh down as a 'Rural Village' whereas in previous communications it was classed as 'Open Country' due not having a built up centre. The terminology is very important as it determines how the Borough Council approaches planning matters such as new housing developments. Roger agreed to go back to Copeland BC to clarify the problem.
9. National park boundary extension plans; no news.
10. Underground Nuclear Repository site in Copeland---GDF(Geological Disposal Facility);

Taken from a Copeland press release;

A Working Group has been formed to start local engagement on whether Copeland could be a suitable location for a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) for UK higher activity radioactive waste.

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This is the first stage of the search for a suitable site and to understand the views of people across Copeland regarding the possible hosting of a GDF. The Working Group, which will include Copeland Borough Council and Radioactive Waste Management (RWM), will begin to engage with people in Copeland to canvass and listen to their views. It will not be making any commitments on the siting of a GDF.

Establishing a Working Group is just the starting point for engaging with the community in a process that will take several years. It does not presuppose support for any potential site; it's about starting work to see if there are any areas that would be worth investigating further. If there are, any decisions made will be subject to community support.

The geographical area to be discussed will initially cover the whole of Copeland borough, but would exclude the Lake District National Park at the request of Copeland Borough Council and the three interested parties. The potential for underground facilities off the coast, accessed from land, will also be considered.

Councillors decided to include this item in the next PC meeting agenda for discussion/debate.

11. Village hall; land transfer is still pending and there is still a funding shortfall. At some point shortly the parish council will need to transfer ownership off the village hall and associated land to the Village hall committee. The legal fees for this transfer is as yet an unknown, Roger Braithwaite will speak with the Village hall committee to clarify the matter.
12. Highways; the replacement red telephone box at Winder has been replaced and from the picture looks very good. The replacement notice board is on order and will be fitted on arrival.
13. Parish website; The Clerk has updated the website with recent Agendas and meeting minutes.
14. School status; Arthur Lamb; the school is likely to become a member of the Good Shepherd Academy Trust in the New Year. Building improvements are planned and better use to be made of the basement area.
15. Sherwen charity; The meeting in October was cancelled. Sandy remains as the Lamplugh parish council nominee/point of contact.
16. Dickinson family charities; Chris Spencer wishes to step back from involvement with the two charities run by the Dickinson family. One is for oversight of the two alms cottages on the Loweswater road (Hooge and Le Plantin...named after 1st World War battlefields where the family lost members) and the other is to provide small further education related grants to parishioners children (The Florence Trust). Ed Surman asked for further information on the two charities before he can commit to becoming the parish council representative. The Clerk will put him in contact with Chris Spencer to provide Ed with more information.
17. Newsletter; Clerk to provide draft minutes to Michael Watts for inclusion into the next issue of the Contact mag, by the 23rd November.
18. Upcoming Meetings/Meetings attended; the majority of face to face meetings are postponed at the present time.
19. Items for next agenda; a virtual meeting or meetings will be held.

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The next meeting will be a Parish Council Meeting held on the 20th January 2021 in the Lamplugh Village Hall or by video conference (parishioners should contact the Clerk in advance of the meeting if they wish to watch or take part).

Closure of Council Meeting at 8:50pm.

Dates for Wednesday night Council meetings in 2021;

Parish Council Meeting
Parish Council Meeting

20th January 2021
17th March 2021