

Lamplugh Parish Council

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

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting (No 320) of Lamplugh Parish Council held on

Wednesday 15th November 2017 at 7:00 pm in Lamplugh Village Hall

Parish Councillors required to attend ;

Sandy Roberts (Chair), Roger Braithwaite (vice chair), Richard Wilson, David Lawrence, Michael Watts, Richard Hodgson, John Sloan (Clerk).

Also Invited: John Dirom (Borough Councillor), Arthur Lamb (County Councillor).

Present; Sandy Roberts (Chair), Roger Braithwaite (vice chair), Richard Wilson, David Lawrence, Michael Watts, Richard Hodgson, Arthur Lamb (County Councillor), John Sloan (Clerk).

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1. No apologies for absence had been received. Philip Wilson had notified the clerk that he wished to resign from his position as a councillor. The resignation was accepted and the Chair voiced thanks for Philips contribution to the parish council. The clerk had notified Copeland BC about the resignation and requested a notification form to begin the cooption process...no response to date. The clerk also noted that there were now 5 vacancies for councillors and that a concerted recruitment effort was needed. There was no declaration of conflict of interest.
2. Minutes of the last parish council meeting (319) held on 20th September were reviewed and accepted as true and signed by the Vice-Chair (as the Chair was absent from the previous meeting). The meeting then moved on to the talk by United Utilities on the status of the progress of the pipeline bringing water from Thirlmere (part of Item 6). After the talk finished the meeting reconvened at Item 9 the major planning application for the Millfields development. Councillors then worked their way through the remaining agenda items in order.
3. Tasks arising from the Council meeting (319) held on 20th September were reviewed at this meeting.
4. The main items of correspondence to 15th November 2017 were reviewed and any of significance had been added to this agenda.
5. Finance Matters:
 - a. The balance held in the bank as of 15/11/2017;

	20 th September 2017	15 th November 2017
Current A/C	£17,324.37	£17,095.12

Values were confirmed with a copy of the online statement. The account figures were formally accepted and agreed by the councillors.

Income and expenditure details (on spreadsheets) covering the period up to the 15th November were reviewed and data agreed by the councillors.

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The clerk projected that the parish council would end the financial year with around £12.5k in the bank (including rough costs for any drainage work). There was £12.2k in the bank at the beginning of the financial year.

- b. Cheques (8) totalling some £2,191 were presented for approval and signature. The cheques were for; Copeland BC landscaping, 217 Bus group subsidy, internet domain name fees, ICO office data protection fees, CALC training course, clerks salary, remembrance wreath, internal audit honorarium. One payment had been received between meetings totalling £40.00 for a newsletter advert. In addition a cheque was written to transfer £10k from the Nat West account to the new Cumberland BS account. The summary table for the schedule of payments and receipts was reviewed and duly signed by the Chair.
 - c. The quarterly audit for second quarter was reviewed and duly signed by the Chair, minor errors having been corrected by the Clerk. The third quarter audit will be arranged by the Clerk.
 - d. Current status of banking; the clerk/RFO and additional signatories (Sandy Roberts, Roger Braithwaite and David Lawrence) have completed the necessary documentation to open the account with the Cumberland BS. The clerk had obtained a cheque book and paying in book for the new CBS account and will transfer £10k into the account between meetings.
 - e. Budget review for 2018-19; the clerk/RFO presented a draft budget plan based on previous years expenditure and projected end of year funds which would lead to an overspend of £700. Councillors suggested that additional funding may be required in coming years to assist with funding for the new village hall and the development of a new neighbourhood plan. It was noted that the precept had not been increased for over 6 years. With this in mind the councillors proposed, and agreed, that the parish council ask for an increase of 5% in the precept for 2018-19. For properties that currently pay around £30 for the parish precept portion of their council tax this would mean an increase of £1.50 in 2018.
6. Public Participation Slot; Four representatives from United Utilities were present to provide an update on the new pipeline delivering water from Thirlmere to West Cumbria via Lamplugh. They were Sean Mooney (Principal Project manager), David Baines (Senior Project manager), Sean Greenwood (Senior project engineering manager) and Charles Higgins (Site agent). The amount of pipe laid to date was ahead of schedule but they had encountered some problems with the poor weather in the Keswick area. Heavy rain had led them to stop work to reduce the amount of silted run off water being generated by the heavy plant equipment. Some work was going on in the Lamplugh area but the main thrust would not begin until 2018. The A5086 will not be closed to traffic but side roads will experience closures for a few days at a time. They will endeavour not to close two side roads which would mean larger detours for residents. Major works on the High Leys reservoir will begin in March 2018. United Utilities have put in place a legacy fund for those areas disrupted by the pipeline installation. This will be administered by the Cumbria Community Foundation and application information will be issued in the next couple of weeks i.e. by early December. The size of the funds was not provided at this time. The speakers were asked about any progress with the repairs to the dam wall at Cogra Moss but understandably they were not aware of the previous discussions. They agreed to follow it up at HQ and get back to the parish clerk with an update.

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Local County councillor Arthur Lamb was welcomed to the meeting and each councillor introduced themselves. Arthur apologised for not attending the previous two meetings but would endeavour to make as many meetings as possible. His recent work in the parish had been in relation to the low numbers of pupils in the local school, now down to three in the main classes and twelve in the nursery. Several pupils had not re-joined the school after the summer break resulting in the low numbers. In addition some had moved to other local schools resulting in high numbers at these schools eg Ennerdale. The county council were monitoring the situation. The chair agreed to speak with representatives from the school and had looked into volunteering as a school governor. Regular attendee Ian Parker (Parish Minister) was also present and noted that Copeland BC were consulting on their future budget spend. One item proposed by CBC was to spend £500k on IT infrastructure and if this included updating the **planning access** then this was considered to be worthwhile. Councillors were encouraged to respond to the budget proposals.

7. Lengthman scheme; The clerk will again request an invoice for work done so far this year and to check on the cost of running the service for the coming year to allow appropriate budget planning. The clerk will copy in the chair as this topic is discussed as the RNEC meetings.
8. Update on 217 bus service; David Lawrence is still awaiting contact to be a signatory for the 217 team. The clerk had received a request for the parish council to pay its contribution to the 217 bus group for the current year (2017-18). The cheque for £600 was duly signed at the meeting.
9. Planning matters; the parish council had received planning amendments to the Millfields housing development (for 27 houses on land close to Fitz Bridge). The 'amendment' documents totalled some 200 pages; 11page solicitors letter, various building/elevation drawings and settlement plan (8pages), a Design Review commissioned by CBC (40 pages) and a Landscape Appraisal commissioned by the applicant (139pages). Due to the scale of the amendment the parish council requested additional time to properly review and comment on these documents. Eventually the planning department at CBC granted an extension until the 24th November and intend taking the application to a planning panel on the 13th December. Roger Braithwaite, Sandy Roberts and others will attend this meeting and Roger will speak on behalf of the parish council. Members of the Lamplugh PC planning subcommittee had spent many hours reviewing these additional documents prior to the PC meeting and produced a draft response of some 6000 words. The response was read out in some detail by David Lawrence and the issue discussed further by the councillors. There were many new errors/issues with the amendments that had been commented on; traffic issues on the narrow roads, the timelines for previous development in Lamplugh (being essentially linear rather than circular in nature), information that the Village hall committee had received funding to allow progression of a new facility, flooding problems downstream and the repeated fact that the application goes against all existing local and national planning guidelines. The amendments had not altered the parish councils view to strongly oppose this application, in fact it had strengthened the resolve to fight against the application. Councillors voted to agree with the response (with minor changes) and that the Clerk should send the final copy to CBC planning department. As the response document was necessarily quite large it was felt that a shorted document summarising the salient points would be of benefit and David Lawrence had drafted just such a document. Again this was reviewed and agreed by all to be sent out to the local MP Trudy Harrison, the Mayor of Whitehaven Mike

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Starkie, the Whitehaven news (to be sent by DL), Contact magazine and Cumbria Crack (internet news site). After some discussion it was also agreed to send a copy of this summary document to all of the members of the Copeland BC planning panel. If the application is not rejected then the parish council may consider a judicial review as a last resort. Nothing had been heard regarding the 'calling in' of the application to the Secretary of State and this may be reactivated once the decision is made by Copeland BC.

10. Cross gates allotment drains; the Clerk had been in contact with residents who had suffered from flooding at the row of houses at Cross Gates. The clerk had been to inspect the allotment drain with a local drainage firm. The drain is a type of 'French drain' that is meant to drain ground water from within in the allotment land. It is not a surface drain meant to drain surface water from the adjoining field. The clerk noticed that the drain had been broken into from above ground, presumably to allow surface water to flow away via the drain. This looked like it had been done some time ago but the bits of broken drain may now be obstructing any flow. The clerks had received a quote of £150+vat to jet and camera the drain, councillors agreed to this initial spend. The clerk will then get any resultant costs to remedy the break ins. Councillor Richard Hodgson agreed to assist the clerk in sorting out the drain and overseeing the work. The clerk had agreed access over the allotments with two of the allotment owners and was trying to contact the other.
11. Highways; the clerk had contacted the Highways department regarding Traffic calming on A5086 in the region of the Village hall and the Beck. The response was somewhat disappointing and highlighted that a review of the speed of traffic in the area in 2015 had shown "Average speeds were recorded in the mid-30's at both locations, and the 85th percentile average speeds were recorded as approximately 39mph and 45mph". There is no funding to review speeds in this financial year but it may be looked at again next year. Councillors felt that a second letter showing the strength of feeling on this matter should be sent to the Highways department... **was someone else (Micheal?) going to do this?** The response from the Highways department also included information regarding parking during the daytime on the land opposite the village hall. This was obscuring the view of residents leaving the Hollins farm lane. The village hall committee were aware of this problem and thought that it was due to Sellafield traffic parking up during the daytime. This will be monitored by councillors.
12. Parish website; the clerk has been in contact with CALC to progress the development a new site for the PC. A rough cost estimate of £350 was proposed by CALC. The clerk will rearrange a meeting with the developers and include Roger Braithwaite.
13. Review of standing orders; postponed until next meeting due to time constraints.
14. **Newsletter;** items for the December newsletter need to be with Michael Watts by the 26th November. There is no January newsletter. Items for inclusion will be; the smaller sized response to the Millfields planning application, Chairs view and recruitment call for new councillors. **Anything else?**
15. Copeland local plan; Roger Braithwaite had looked at the plan in relation to local planning needs. He recommended basically a 'status quo' response from Lamplugh PC. This was agreed by all and Roger will send the response on behalf of the parish council.

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16. Upcoming Meetings/Meetings attended; CALC AGM, RNEC (SR), planning panel (RB , SR, DL , clerk).

17. Items for next agenda; review standing orders/general update, budget setting and precept, development of local neighbourhood plans.

The next **Parish Council meeting** will be held on the **17th Jan 2018 in the Lamplugh Village Hall**.

Closure of Council Meeting at 10:05pm.

Dates for Wednesday night Council meetings in 2018;

Parish Council Meeting	21st March 2018
Parish Council Meeting	2nd May 2018
Parish Council Meeting	16th May 2018
Parish Council Meeting	18th July 2018
Parish Council Meeting	19th Sept 2018
Parish Council Meeting	21st Nov 2018