

AINSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Nigel Vear, Ainstable (01768) 896360 ~ chairman@ainstable.org.uk

CLERK: Rachel Lytollis (01228) 670451 ~ clerk@ainstable.org.uk

Meeting of Ainstable Parish Council held in Croglin Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 17th July, 2012.

Present: Cllr Vear, Cllr Collinge, Cllr Brown, Cllr Smith, Cllr Miller, Cllr Guise, Cllr Thirlwall, Cllr Findlay and County & District Cllr Robinson

MINUTES

OPEN MEETING- For discussion of matters of general Parish concern (10 mins)

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

1. **Declaration of interests**- None
2. **To receive apologies for absence**- None
3. **It was resolved to accept the minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 15th May, 2012 and the extraordinary meeting held on Tuesday 26th June as a true record**
 - Ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 15th May: proposed by Cllr Miller, seconded by Cllr Smith (unanimous vote).
 - Extraordinary meeting held on Tuesday 26th June: proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Miller (unanimous vote by those who had been present).
4. **To discuss the recruitment of new Parish Councillors**- Cllr Vear reminded those present that new parish councillors are still needed, particularly in the Croglin and Newbiggin ward.

Mr James Findlay volunteered to become a councillor, having previously attended a considerable number of meetings. Cllr Collinge proposed that the Mr Findlay become a councillor and this was seconded by Cllr Smith. All councillors voted in favour that he be accepted. Other members of the public who regularly attend meetings were also invited to join the parish council.

It was agreed that parishioners are needed to come forward and become councillors to give opinions and represent their area on the parish council. By way of background, it was explained that the parish council is there to represent the needs of the parish as a whole and the Parish Plan (which is derived from the results of the Parish Survey) dictates spending and planning policies. In doing so the council has to listen to the majority, rather than one or two individuals, and make decisions based upon their needs. Parishioners are encouraged to express their opinions and thereby influence decisions by speaking to councillors. It was agreed that a leaflet be prepared to encourage parishioners in the Croglin ward to come forward as new councillors.

5. **To receive a report on crime in the Parish** – nothing reported
6. **Report from attendance at outside bodies**- nothing
7. **To discuss any Highways matters arising**
 - Cllr Vear said that he had not received any replies to emails recently from Cumbria Highways Dept. Cllr Robinson said that repair work following the recent flooding is taking up considerable Highway Dept.

time and resources, and it was agreed that Highways was doing a very good job in dealing with the repairs required following the bad weather.

The damage at Scarrowmanwick is taking a lot of time as there were considerable repairs needed. It is hoped that the road should be opened later this week. The damage at Renwick and Crindledyke will be carried shortly. It was noted that 160 tonnes of gravel has had to be removed in the immediate area and it will take at least another three weeks to complete the repair schedule.

- Cllr Collinge reported that there is a lot of gravel in Ainstable village. It was agreed that gulley emptying needed to be carried out. Cllr Robinson said that this will be done shortly.
- It was noted that remedial work is needed to a wall belonging to Two Castles Housing on the road behind the Heather Glen. The problem is causing localised flooding. It was agreed that the Clerk send a letter to Two Castles asking them to carry out the work immediately and state that they will be held responsible for damage caused.
- Cllr Thirlwall reported that the drains in Croglin drains are all full.
- The road surface on the road north to The Harras at the crossroad east of Ainstable is breaking up, and is becoming seriously damaged.
- Parishioners are asked to report problems directly to Highways Hotline as this is often quicker than going through the parish council.
- Winter Planning- no complaints have been received about where the bins have been sited. It was agreed that a couple need their orientation adjusting- that at the Ruckcroft 'T' junction and by the old Methodist Chapel. Councillors agreed that two grit boxes at the Gill would be useful, as although it is an important route for the milk tankers. It was agreed that a request would be made to Cumbria Highways asking them to look at siting additional grit bins on the hill going east out of Ainstable.

It was noted that large piles of grit are made available in periods of particularly bad weather to specific farms, and the location of these piles can be suggested through the parish council. A request will be made again this winter, but these piles are only put out in very bad weather.

8. **To receive an update on the Parish Footpath survey** – Nothing to report

9. **To receive a report on the Millennium Green and the adoption of its maintenance by Eden District Council**

The Chair reported that Eden District Council have inspected the site and will carry out the maintenance to the site for £403.59 (to be reviewed annually). The Parish Council can request additional work directly from the contractor. The package includes third party insurance, maintenance, repairs, the annual inspection and an annual reconciliation of repairs. It was noted that the District Council will not take responsibility for the benches in the play area as they aren't kite marked.

The Chair reported that Playdales need to send a copy of the annual inspection report to Eden District Council before adoption can go ahead.

One councillor asked whether the beck needed to be fenced, but the Chair reported that Eden District Council have stated that it shouldn't be as that would increase the danger of children being stuck in the beck

and prevent people getting out should they fall in. The Environment Agency has also indicated that fencing could cause flooding by trapping debris and forming a dam. The parish council is not allowed to alter the beck in any way without permission from the Environment Agency.

Cllr Collinge proposed that the Parish Council go ahead and accept the Management Agreement from Eden District Council. Cllr Brown seconded this and councillors voted unanimously in favour of doing so.

Cllr Collinge suggested that some trees on the Green should be thinned out over the next year. It was suggested that it may be sensible to ask the contractors to do this work later in the year.

10. **To receive an update on Croglin Educational Foundation**- The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with the Legal Department of Cumbria County Council to arrange a meeting. It was agreed that this meeting should include the church, Cllr Robinson (representing the County Council) and the parish council. Cllr Vear agreed to send the trust deed to Cllr Robinson. It was resolved that the Clerk contacts the diocese and requests a copy of the accounts for the trust.

11. **To discuss the adoption of a new Code of Conduct and complete the revised registration of interests**

After discussion it was resolved that councillors adopt the new Code of Conduct (proposed by Cllr Vear, seconded by Cllr Collinge, unanimous vote). New registration of interest forms were given out to councillors and it was agreed that they send them back to the Clerk by the end of the month.

12. **To discuss any matters relating to communications**

- Website- Cllr Vear said that a basic website is now online. There is still much to add. The register of interests will be added in due course as this is a legal requirement.
- Parish News- It was reported that there is insufficient room in the Parish News for the full minutes to appear and it is possibly not the right forum. It was suggested that the minutes could be included as a flyer and just contact details and meeting dates appear in the newsletter. It was suggested that copies of the minutes be put in the pub and the post office.
- Newsletter- It was agreed to produce a newsletter to be distributed to the whole parish in early autumn-end of September. It was agreed that an article on Croglin Educational Foundation would be of interest to people, and to include other articles highlighting the work of the parish council.
- Parish File- up-to-date

13. **To consider planning applications made and other planning matters**

- Static Caravan at Faugh Head, Ainstable- The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Planning Department at Eden District Council. They have put an enforcement order in place and are monitoring the situation carefully.

14. **To notify the Council of planning decisions received** -None

15. **To consider correspondence received** -The Chairman read through the correspondence received.

16. **To discuss finance**

- To receive an update on Parish finances- the Clerk updated Councillors on the balances held.

To resolve to make payments due – it was resolved to make the following payments (proposed by Cllr Vear, seconded by Cllr Collinge, unanimous vote):

Clerk's salary & expenses £566.12 (Chq No: 100622)

Croglin Village Hall (Jubilee costs) £250.00 (Chq No: 100623)

- Forms were completed to add additional signatories to the bank accounts held with Barclays. This should ensure that two signatories are at each meeting. It was resolved that Cllr Smith, Cllr Findlay and Cllr Guise be added (proposed by Cllr Collinge, seconded by Cllr Miller, unanimous vote).

17. **To receive a report from County Councillor Robinson**

- Lights on Eden Bridge, Lazonby: A meeting with Rob Lawley and others has been arranged for 4th September to discuss the future of the lights. Cllr Robinson is to fund a further 6 months of the lights. Costings for permanent lights are being drawn together.
- Cllr Robinson said that she was disappointed that there had been a lack of applications for Rural Infrastructure grants from her area. There is money still available for suitable projects but it is going quite quickly so applications must be submitted soon.
- Armathwaite School has now secured its full primary status.

18. **Points to be raised at the next meeting**

- Usual agenda points
- Croglin Educational Foundation
- Noticeboards and benches

19. **Date of the next meeting**- 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th September, 2012 in Croglin Village Hall

Signed: R.E. Lytollis

Clerk to Ainstable Parish Council

17.07.12