

Ainstable Parish Council

Serving the villages of Ainstable, Croglin, Newbiggin, and Ruckcroft,
the communities of Dale and Longdales, and the surrounding farms and houses

Chairman: Nigel Vear,
Tel (01768) 896360 - chairman@ainstable.org.uk

The ordinary bi-monthly meeting of
Ainstable Parish Council

held at Ainstable Church Institute at 7:30pm on Tuesday 15th November 2016.

In attendance: Cllr N Vear, Chairman; Cllr H Bellis; Cllr H Proud; Cllr G Proud; Cllr J Thirlwall; Cllr D Bradshaw; Cllr C Guise; Cllr D Smith

Cllr M Robinson (Cumbria County Councillor), Kimberley Lawson (Clerk)

3 members of the public

Minutes

1. Open Meeting - for discussion of matters of general parish concern (10 mins).

Nothing was raised.

Parish Council Meeting

2. Declarations of interests.

Cllr Guise declared an interest in the budget since she is a member of the PCC for Ainstable Church.

3. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Ritchie (away)

4. To discuss the co-option of a councillors for Newbiggin and Croglin.

The Clerk confirmed that someone must either live or have an interest within the parish for at least 1 year before they are able to stand as a parish councillor.

5. To resolve to accept the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tues 20th September 2016 as a true record.

Resolved: to accept the minutes as a true record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

6. To receive a report from County Councillor Robinson.

Cllr Robinson reported that she hopes to have an update regarding speed limits in the next week. There will be speed monitoring taking place in the parish and surrounding area. John Banks at Highways has been out to look at roads in Croglin affected by flooding.

7. To discuss matters relating to banking and finance:

- 7.1. To approve the draft Budget for the financial year 2017-18

Resolved: to hold £11,000 in reserve. This will leave enough for a streetlight in the current financial year.

There was some discussion of the draft budget and amendments made.

Resolved: to approve the draft budget.

- 7.2. To approve the use of a Unity Bank credit card for the Clerk

Resolved: To approve a card with £500 limit and direct debit to clear the balance each month.

- 7.3. To note the payment of £18 to Unity Bank on 30th September 2016

It was noted that this is the monthly account fee, which is deducted quarterly.

7.4. To approve the payment of Bills due.

The following bills were approved:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Cumbria Payroll Services | £14.40 |
| Arnison Heelis Solicitors | £60.00 |
| Royal British Legion | £37.00 |
| Fellrunner | £121.80 |
| Neil Ruddick | £675.00 |
| Cumbria Payroll Services | £14.40 |
| CALC | £44.50 |
| Kimberley Lawson | £323.28 |
| Kimberley Lawson | £254.43 |

8. To receive reports from attendance at outside bodies.

The Clerk has attended the CALC Clerks' Forum

Chairman has enquired about leader funding for the car park project

9. To receive a report on crime in the Parish.

None reported.

10. To discuss any Highways matters arising.

Water is flooding down the fell road in Croglin because the gullies need clearing – Cllr Robinson to report this to Highways.

Culvert below Faugh Head is solid with sand and has grass growing through it.

Cllr Bellis will find out who to talk to about access to fire hydrants, many of which are blocked or and/or not working.

Hedge on the left up Coombs Hill on the Armathwaite to Kirkoswald road by the old chapel is grown over the road.

Pot holes in Croglin by the church.

Cllr Bellis will raise these issues with Highways.

11. To receive a report on the development of Broadband in the parish.

11.1. Digital Inclusion Event

The event was held, although only 6 people attended. Cllr Bellis thanked everyone who delivered invitation cards. He reported that all those who attended enjoyed the evening and got a lot out of it. A lot of the handouts can be accessed on the Connecting Cumbria website.

12. To receive an update on new bus shelters.

The grant applications are ready to go, pending a second quote. The Clerk will continue to apply for money until there is enough.

13. To discuss any matters relating to communications.

13.1. Newsletter

Councillors need to write some news stories, preferably with photographs. Suggested topics included Poppy wreaths, new benches (with a credit to Eric Bell who has installed them without charge), digital inclusion event, footpaths.

14. To consider planning applications made and other planning matters.

14.1. 16/0760 - Housing for Peak Generator

The parish council submitted an objection to this application. The planning officer has found for the application but with conditions. The Chairman has written to Cllr Thompson, Chairman of the Planning Committee, pointing out some further points and asking him to read a statement on the parish council's behalf since no councillor is available to attend.

15. To receive an update on the footpath survey and discuss any matters arising.

Cllr Robinson reported the section she surveyed is clean.

Cllr Bradshaw has prepared a written report, which he handed to the Clerk. He said that many sign posts are weather-faded. Extra way markers are needed around the alpaca centre. Neosporosis, similar to BVD, causes cows to abort, and is spread through dog faeces. Landowners want to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs. Sterling Council has put up notices and the Clerk will ask the Footpath Officer for advice on signage regarding this.

Cllr H Proud reported that the first 3 stiles between Ainstable Chapel & Bascodyke are not dog friendly. The Clerk will ask if dog gates can be added.

16. To discuss emergency planning and sandbag storage.

There was a lengthy discussion around this item. It was suggested that the main emergencies likely to affect the parish are flooding, or extra traffic if the bridges over the Eden were closed. Traffic diversions will be the responsibility of the police and Cumbria County Council. In the event of flooding, the Parish Council has some flood snakes which can be given to residents if needed. Eden DC have offered to place bulk sand and empty sand bags in the parish if a suitable storage place can be found. However, the council felt that the type of flash floods which occur in the parish happen so quickly that there wouldn't be time to go elsewhere in the parish to fill sandbags. It will be more effective for residents who consider that they are at risk from flash floods to store sand bags at their homes. Ainstable is a small parish and it is known which residents may be vulnerable; it was felt that the community will rally round in an emergency. **Resolved:** not to develop an emergency plan for the parish.

17. To discuss defibrillators.

17.1. To receive an update on signage for existing defibrillators.

Signage for the Croglin and Newbiggin defibrillators should be going up in the next couple of weeks. Additional signs could be erected immediately outside the premises where the defibrillators are sited but there is nothing to fix them to. The signing department will provide advice if the parish council provides photographs which include the verge at each site.

17.2. To discuss the requirement for additional units.

The Clerk reported that the British Heart Foundation has launched a new round of funding. The Parish Council must put in £400 for each unit funded and can afford to apply for four this financial year. **Resolved:** the Chairman to apply for funding for four defibrillators. There was some discussion about locations and it was felt that there should at least be one each in Ruckcroft, Longdales and The Dale.

18. To discuss registration of parish land.

18.1. To receive an update on the registration of the Sand Pit by Channel Pool

The registration has been submitted to the Land Registry by the Clerk. The Land Registry has a backlog of about 4 months and there is no update yet.

18.2. To receive an update on the registration of the parish land at Ruckcroft

The Clerk is ready to submit the documents for this parish land. **Resolved:** the Clerk to ask the solicitor if the parish council should send a claim for back rent now.

Cllr Robinson will ask Rachel Lytollis for the accounts for the years 2008-2012.

18.3. To consider whether to pursue registration of Croglin Quarry

The Clerk reported that, whilst researching the land at Ruckcroft, she has discovered further information relating to Croglin Quarry but that she has not yet had time to compile the information for the councillors and would therefore like to leave this item until the next meeting, which was agreed.

19. Review Statutory documents

19.1. To approve a revised version of the Standing Orders

Some comments have been submitted to the Chairman. Any further comments should be sent to the Chairman and the Clerk as soon as possible.

19.2. To approve the Equal Opportunities Policy

Resolved: to approve the policy. It was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

20. To discuss footway lighting

A footway light is needed at Towngate for pedestrians. The Parish Council can apply for, and pay for, a footway light through Eden DC. **Resolved:** to try to adopt the existing light. Cllr Bradshaw will talk to the householder about the need for a written agreement between all the parties. The Clerk and the Chairman to progress this, get quote from Eden DC and a draft agreement. Once completed, this project could be used as pilot for a light at Croglin.

21. To discuss creating a car park at Armathwaite bridge.

Cllr Bradshaw circulated a proposal and map. There was a lengthy discussion about various options. **Resolved:** to progress the project. The Clerk will write to Heskett Parish Council to ask them to work with Ainstable and enquire if representatives from Ainstable can attend their next meeting. Cllr Bradshaw will investigate the costs of the project. The Chairman will enquire about planning permission.

22. To consider correspondence received.

The Correspondence register had been circulated in advance.

23. Points to be raised at the next meeting.

Clerk training. Eden Tourist Board, which doesn't cover Ainstable at all (Cllr Smith). Cllr Guise sent apologies for the January and March meetings as she will be in Australia.

24. Date of the next ordinary meeting – Tues 17th January 2017.

Signed: *Kimberley Lawson*

Clerk to Ainstable Parish Council

22nd November 2016