

# 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**

**Ordinary meeting of Ainstable Parish Council**  
held at Ainstable Church Institute at 7:30pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

## Minutes

In attendance:

Cllr N Vear (Chairman); Cllr H Proud; Cllr G Proud; Cllr H Bellis; Cllr D Bradshaw; Cllr D Smith; Cllr A Ritchie; Kimberley Lawson (Clerk)

County Cllr M Robinson

1 member of the public

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

None

## Parish Council Meeting

2. Declarations of interests.

Cllr Smith declared an interest as an hotelier in the discussion of tourism in the parish.

3. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Guise (away) and Cllr Thirlwall (unwell).

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

There are no candidates.

5. **Resolved:** to accept the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tues 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 as a true record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

6. To receive a report from County Councillor Robinson.

Cllr Robinson reported that speed monitoring has taken place in the village in the last week and she raised a concern that this is not the best time of year to do it; there is more traffic in the summer from farms and visitors. There will be options for changes to speed limits to be made in the next financial year. The work at Coombs Wood has been done by Highways. The Highways Department is trying to fill all the existing potholes. John Banks met with Croglin Resident Helen Little at the bridge at Croglin to discuss flooding. Mrs Little has given permission for ducting to run through her garden. This should alleviate the flooding at the bottom end of the village. Cllr Smith said the schedule work on drains above Heather Glen has not taken place **Action:** Cllr Robinson agreed to follow up on this.

7. To discuss options for funding for benches at Ruckcroft and Longdales

The Parish Council has been turned down for grant funding by the Eden Community Fund, which expressed the opinion that the Parish Council should be funding benches from the precept.

**Action:** Cllr Bellis will ask residents if they would like a new bench at Longdales and Ruckcroft.

8. To discuss Newbiggin Village Green Grass Cutting

Cllr Vear reported that a local resident has been cutting the green at Newbiggin for years, without asking for or receiving any payment, using a ride-on lawn mower which he has bought specially for

the job. There was a discussion around whether the Parish Council should pay for this work. Cllr Bradshaw said many other people mow verges around the parish and we need to be careful not to show favouritism or open the Parish Council up to a lot of claims.

**Resolved:** to find out whose responsibility it is to mow the grass and make a decision at the next meeting.

9. To discuss matters relating to banking and finance:

9.1. To finalise the Precept

It was Proposed by Cllr Bellis and Seconded by Cllr Bradshaw that the precept for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 be £12,000. This was agreed unanimously.

9.2. It was noted that Cllr Ritchie has approved Bank reconciliation for Q2 and Q3

9.3. It was noted that the following payments have been made:

£18 to Unity Bank

£35 to Information Commission

9.4. The following payments were approved:

VN	PAYEE	CHEQUE NO.	BUDGET HEADING	AMOUNT - £
40	Arnison Heelis Solicitors	300018	Administration	£180.00
41	Cumbria Payroll Services	300019	Administration	£28.80
42	CALC	300020	Administration	£39.50
43	Kimberley Lawson	300021	Administration	£293.60
46	Society of Local Council Clerks	300023	Administration	£43.00
47	Kimberley Lawson	300022	Administration	£254.43

10. To receive reports from attendance at outside bodies.

None

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

None

12. To discuss any Highways matters arising.

Various potholes and road maintenance issues were raised; Cllr Bellis will speak to John Banks.

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

13.1. To discuss a community fibre laying superfast broadband scheme.

Cllr Bellis reported there is money available for communities to bid for fibre laying if residents want it for superfast broadband. Phase 2 of the BT roll out doesn't include anything for Ainstable parish. Approximately 1/3 of the parish can currently receive superfast broadband.

14. To receive an update on new bus shelters.

The Clerk reported that she has submitted some grant applications and is in the process of preparing some others.

15. To discuss any matters relating to communications.

15.1. Newsletter

**Action:** Cllr Bellis to write a piece about broadband. Cllr Bradshaw to write pieces about footpaths & dog mess, and the Armathwaite bridge carpark proposal.

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

- 16.1. 16/0760 - Housing for Peak Generator – it was noted that this application has been granted conditionally.
- 16.2. Any other planning matters - none
17. To receive an update on the footpath survey and discuss any matters arising.
  - 17.1. Dog Stiles – **Action:** Cllr H Proud to obtain a quote from a local contractor.
  - 17.2. Neosporosis signage – landowners can gain advice from NFU.
  - 17.3. Waymarkers – Cllr Vear has a supply of new waymarker signs to replace faded ones.
18. To discuss defibrillators.
  - 18.1. To receive an update on signage for existing defibrillators.

The Parish Council has ordered signs for Croglin and Newbiggin, which are due to go up. The Clerk has asked the First Responders to suggest wording for signs for Ainstable.
  - 18.2. To discuss the requirement for additional units.

Cllr Vear reported on his meeting with Martin Fagan of the Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT). He suggested installation of an emergency phone and a Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) in Ainstable at the crossroads phone box. For an annual fee, CHT will manage all the maintenance, insurance etc. for PADs in the parish and can adopt the existing one at Croglin. There is no news on the British Heart Foundation grant application. In response to a question, Cllr Vear said that the PAD at High View House is privately owned. He also reported that PAD's attached to privately owned buildings confer a vicarious liability to the owner. CHT can provide template agreements to deal with this.
  - 18.3. Registration of existing Newbiggin defibrillator.

The owners of Bluebell Cottage in Newbiggin paid for the installation of a British Heart Foundation-funded PAD on the outside of their house.

**Action:** Cllr Vear NV to ask them if they will be the guardian so the PAD can be registered with the First Responders.
19. To discuss registration of parish land.
  - 19.1. To receive an update on the registration of the Sand Pit by Channel Pool  
The Clerk reported that the Land Registry have turned down the Parish Council's application, saying that the decision of the Commons Commission on ownership is insufficient evidence. The Clerk has spoken with the solicitor who recommends a renewed application, to include a formal Statement of Trust by someone who has had knowledge of the land for at least 12 years. Cllr H Proud agreed to complete this.  
**Action:** the Clerk will forward the appropriate forms.
  - 19.2. To receive an update on the registration of the parish land at Ruckcroft  
The Clerk reported that the Land Registry has acknowledged receipt of the Parish Council's application.
  - 19.3. To consider whether to pursue registration of Croglin Quarry  
The Clerk reported that she is still working on the document regarding Croglin Quarry and will circulate it when it is complete.
20. Review Statutory documents
  - 20.1. **Action:** To review the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations  
Comments to the Clerk by the next meeting.

21. To discuss footway lighting.

Cllr Bradshaw reported that he has spoken to Anne Caradus, who is happy to have the light on her house and to sign an appropriate agreement regarding Wayleave. Cllr Vear has had no feedback from Eden District Council.

**Action:** Cllr Robinson will follow up with Amanda Ward at EDC, to request an up-to-date price for the work and a template Wayleave agreement to sign with the homeowner.

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

Cllr Vear and Bradshaw reported on their discussion with Hesket Parish Council on this project. They have agreed to survey residents on both sides of the river.

**Action:** Cllr Vear to prepare an online survey plus a response box in the shop in Armathwaite.

**Resolved:** That Ainstable Parish Council will pay to advertise the survey in the Parish magazine.

Cllr Bradshaw reported that he has been canvassing residents informally; the Parish Council has been asked to write to the Canoe Association to ensure canoeists leave the river at the correct point as navigation rights only extend as far as the mill weir.

**Action:** The Clerk to write this letter.

Cllr Bradshaw is chasing up quotations for the work.

23. To appointment a contractor for the Millennium Green.

**Resolved:** to invite Neil Ruddick to carry out the work at the Millennium Green for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

24. To discuss training requirements

24.1. CALC training courses

Cllr Bellis to attend the Good Councillor course in February.

24.2. CiLCA

**Resolved:** to fund half the costs and time for the Clerk's qualification.

25. Coombs Wood Consultation

The Forestry Commission documentation has been circulated.

26. It was noted that the Fellfoot Forward project are holding an event at Croglin Village Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> February.

27. To consider correspondence received.

Further to his email to the Clerk, Cllr Smith reported on the failure of Cumbria Tourism and other tourism bodies to promote the Ainstable area. It is difficult to find any information for anywhere north of Kirkoswald. Cllr Vear advised that the Parish Council needs to create portfolio of local businesses to send to the relevant organisations.

**Action:** Cllr Smith to create a list of all local tourism-related businesses in this area and further north.

28. Points to be raised at the next meeting.

Fire Hydrants

29. Date of the next ordinary meeting – Tues 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

The meeting closed at 21:38