

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 Village Institute at 7:30pm on Tuesday 19th March 2019.

Present: Cllr Vear (Chairman); Cllr H Proud; Cllr J Thirlwall; Cllr M Robinson; Cllr D Smith; Cllr G Proud;
Cllr A Ritchie; Cllr C Guise; Cllr H Bellis

In attendance: Kimberley Lawson (Clerk)

1 member of the public

1. Open Meeting - for discussion of matters of general parish concern (10 mins).
There is a damaged grid and drain by the bungalow at the bottom of Church Institute drive
Action: Cllr Bellis to report this to Highways.

Parish Council Meeting

2. Cllr Guise declared an interest in item 13(g).
3. **Resolved:** to receive, and accept the reasons for, apologies for absence from Cllr D Bradshaw.
Apologies were also received from County Councillor Claire Driver
4. **Resolved:** to accept the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tues 15th January as a true record,
subject to an amendment to item 12(g). The amended minutes were signed by the Chairman.
5. To receive updates on current projects and issues: (Chairman)
 - a. War Memorial Listing – no update
 - b. New signposts – Cumbria County Council has awarded a grant of £1,000. Eden District Council has rejected the parish council's application. The Clerk has an appointment with Cumbria CVS to use their Grant Finder software.
 - c. Faulty streetlights – both have been repaired by EDC
6. No report was received from County Councillor Driver, who was absent.
7. District Councillor Robinson made her report. The AONB executive has approved a new management plan. Details about the creation of Dark Skies areas are available on the website. The Fellfoot Forward team are preparing a Heritage Lottery bid to include village halls and heritage buildings. The AONB is looking for an independent member to join the executive committee.
Action: Cllr Robinson will send information about this vacancy to the Clerk to disseminate.
EDC want to take less notice of parish councils in planning applications – this proposal has been rejected by the accountability and governance committee. The council has agreed a Cumbria-wide health strategy. On Thursday 21st March the findings of the recent housing needs survey are to be presented. The scrutiny review is to be presented on 25th March. Cllr Robinson has attended a countywide scrutiny meeting which covers the work of standards committee.
8. There were no reports from attendance at outside bodies.
9. The Clerk outlined some information about the forthcoming local council elections, including a reminder of the rules of purdah. The deadline for nominations to be handed in to EDC is 4pm on 3rd April.

10. The Clerk has applied for pre application planning advice for the Holme Holt project. This is free of charge to parish councils.
11. Cllr Robinson reported that the initial interest from residents to find a use for the Croglin church building seems to have died down. The Church Commissioners have suggested some possible sources of grant funding for such a project but there needs to be a group within the village to drive the project. After some discussion it was agreed to include this on the agenda for the May meeting, which will be held in Croglin. If there is no plan from residents by the time of the parish council's July meeting, the council will write to the Church Commissioners to inform them that there is no solution from within the community.
12. The Neighbourhood Development Plan Committee has not met since the last meeting of Full Council. A Housing Survey is being designed but, due to the rules of purdah, it cannot be carried out until after the elections in May.
13. Matters relating to banking and finance (RFO):
- The Clerk read out the bank account balances as of 28th February 2019.
 - The following payments were noted:

January:

Date	Payee	VN	Payment type	Amount	Empowering legislation
16th	Lloyds Bank plc	075	DD	£ 3.00	Local Government Act 1972 s 151
23rd	HMRC Cumbernauld	076	SO	£ 39.60	The Income Tax (Pay As You Earn) Regulations 2003 s 21
29th	Land Registry	077	Cheque 300055	£ 40.00	Land Registration Act 2002, ss 4 and 58
29th	CPSL - SI-4376	078	DD	£ 14.40	Local Government Act 1972 s 151

February:

4th	Greg Metcalfe Electrical	079	EP	£ 96.00	Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, s 2.
4th	Morton Garden Buildings	083	EP	£ 3,128.00	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953, s 4.
15th	K Lawson - salary	080	SO	£ 271.60	Local Government Act 1972 s 112 (1); Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act 1963, s 5
16th	Lloyds Bank plc	081	DD	£ 4.01	Local Government Act 1972 s 151
23rd	HMRC Cumbernauld	082	SO	£ 39.60	The Income Tax (Pay As You Earn) Regulations 2003 s 21
25th	K Lawson - expenses	084	EP	£ 74.25	Local Government Act 1972 s 112 (1); Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act 1963, s 5

March:

12th	CPSL - SI-4475	085	DD	£ 14.40	Local Government Act 1972 s 151
15th	K Lawson - salary	086	SO	£ 271.60	Local Government Act 1972 s 112 (1); Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act 1963, s 5
16th	Lloyds Bank plc	087	DD	£ 3.00	Local Government Act 1972 s 151

- The bank reconciliations for Q2 and Q3 were received.

- d. **Resolved:** to accept Community Heartbeat Trust's quote for a defibrillator for the Ruckcroft shelter.
Action: The Clerk to place the order.
Resolved: to accept Greg Metcalfe's quote for the electrical work for the defibrillator, as long as the steel waterproof case is not charged for if not needed.
Action: The Clerk to communicate with Greg Metcalfe.
- e. To consider the Clerk's salary:
 - i. **Resolved:** To adopt the National Joint Council for Local Government Services pay scale 2019-20.
 - ii. A scale point increase cannot be awarded as it is subject to the Clerk's annual appraisal, which is scheduled for 27th March.
- f. **Resolved:** to accept the list of regular due payments for the coming financial year, in line with Financial Regulation 5.6.
- g. There was some discussion regarding the legality of the parish council making a grant towards the upkeep of an open churchyard.
Action: The Clerk to take legal advice.
- h. The Clerk requested that councillors standing for re-election sign up for online banking as a matter of urgency.

14. To discuss the Ainstable Millennium Green Trust (Chairman)

- a. Mr Robert Proud has fixed the dry-stone wall and submitted a bill. He has also provided an estimate for repairing the rest of the wall where it is beginning to show signs of damage. This will be considered at the May meeting.
- b. **Resolved:** that the cost of renewing the gravel paths on the Green be met from the Trust's funds.
Action: The Clerk to arrange the payment.
- c. The Clerk informed the meeting that the insurance policy for the Millennium Green would be renewed on 26th March.

15. To discuss any Highways matters arising, and consider actions:

- a. The proposals for village gateways at Croglin were discussed. Cllr Ritchie asked if there could be a sign north of the village warning motorists of pedestrians on the road. Other suggestions included rumble strips and moving the 30mph sign back up the hill. The councillors were happy with the proposals for the south of the village.
Action: The Chairman will ask Highways for a site visit to discuss the north of the village.
- b. Cllr Robinson reported that cars outside a property opposite a blind corner in Croglin blocking the road. The Chairman said that the parish council has no powers in this matter and that anything blocking the public highway should be reported to the police.
- c. The Chairman reported that the vandalised signpost at Ruckcroft is in the process of being repaired. The Clerk has applied for grant from the Association of Industrial Archaeologists to cover these costs.
- d. Councillors were reminded to log any potholes or drainage issues on the Highways portal. Cllr Smith commented that the roadworks between the A6 and Armathwaite are affecting local businesses.

Resolved: In accordance with Standing Order 3 (w), to allow extra time to complete the agenda.

16. The Chairman reported that the parish council's contractor has gained a qualification in tree inspection. He will provide a quote for the work. The question was asked again whether the parish council had responsibility for the trees; reportedly, former councillor Malcolm Kendall, who was Chairman when the trees were planted, was told that the parish council would not have any ongoing responsibility for their maintenance. This is in contradiction to the information provided to the current Clerk by Highways; that the parish council bears the responsibility for them. There is a need to identify where all the trees are before responsibility can be determined.

Action: Cllr Robinson to invite former councillor Malcolm Kendall to speak to the parish council at the next meeting.

17. **Resolved:** to adopt the following policies for the next 12 months:

- a. Health & Safety
- b. Code of Conduct
- c. Freedom of Information

18. Cllr Bellis reported that there is no update regarding the development of Broadband in the parish but there is a Hub Coordinators' meeting 3 weeks' time.

19. The Chairman stated that, under the rules of purdah, there cannot be another newsletter until after the elections. The parish council website is getting towards needing a revamp.

20. To consider planning applications made and other planning matters. (Chairman)

- a. Councillors are in support of this application, which had already been discussed via email and the Clerk has responded to Planning:

Variation of condition 2 (plans compliance)
to include design and siting attached to

19/0125 Dale Mill House approval 17/0125

- b. Any other planning matters

- i. Application 18/0961 is due to go before the Planning Committee on 18th April. It is not clear whether or not the Planning Officer is recommending that the committee grant planning permission.

21. To discuss any Rights of Way matters arising, and consider actions:

- a. **Action:** The Chairman will contact Geoff Fewkes for an update regarding changing the stile to a gate on footpath 301004 in Newbiggin.
- b. **Action:** The Chairman will contact Geoff Fewkes for an update regarding reinstating the right of way at Ainstable Church.

The new people moving into The Place have contacted CCC. They are reportedly keen to restore the footpath and improve disabled access. Geoff Fewkes is already aware of the work required.

22. **Resolved:** not to create a plan of action in the event of the death of a senior member of state.

23. No incidents of crime have been reported in the Parish.

24. The Correspondence Register was noted.

25. Points to be raised at the next meeting.

Croglin church.

Millennium Green play equipment

Dry stone wall quote & bill

Is the Sanctuary Pillar protected?

26. Date of the Annual Meeting and next ordinary meeting – Tuesday 21st May 2019 at Croglin Village Hall.

Meeting closed 22:02

Signed: *Kimberley Lawson*

Clerk to Ainstable Parish Council

11th March 2019

DRAFT