

# 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 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Present: Cllr Vear (Chairman); Cllr H Proud; Cllr G Proud; Cllr M Robinson; Cllr D Bradshaw; Cllr H Bellis;  
Cllr D Smith

In attendance: Kimberley Lawson (Clerk); Eric Guise, St Michael & All Angels PCC

2 members of the public

1. Open Meeting - for discussion of matters of general parish concern (10 mins).  
The two members of the public were interested in access for climbers to Armathwaite Faces, which is on the agenda.

## Minutes

2. To receive, and resolve to accept the reasons for, apologies for absence.  
Apologies were received from Cllr A Ritchie, Cllr C Sproat and County Cllr Claire Driver.
3. To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest.  
Cllr H Proud & Cllr G Proud declared an interest in item 20  
Cllr Vear & Cllr Bellis declared an interest in item 14 e) ii
4. **Resolved:** To accept the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September as a true record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.
5. **Resolved:** To accept the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 as a true record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.
6. To receive updates on current projects and issues: (Chairman)
  - a. Newbiggin fingerpost  
Delivery of the finished post is due early in the new year.  
**ACTION:** The Chairman to confirm the exact location with Highways.
  - b. Trees  
The Clerk has received a survey and report from the parish council's contractor regarding the condition of the parish council's trees.  
**ACTION:** The Clerk to scan and circulate the report, and add it to the parish council's website.
7. To receive an oral report from County Councillor Driver.  
Cllr Driver has circulated her regular YouTube update. She has been involved in ongoing discussions regarding Public Rights of Way at Coombs Wood.
8. To receive an oral report from District Councillor Robinson.  
Eden's Council Plan has gone through full council. Lazonby's Neighbourhood Plan referendum is going before the next meeting of the EDC Executive. Eden is meeting with CALC to discuss closer working as a district council, with the parish charter to be updated in consultation with the parishes. Cllr Robinson is due to attend the forthcoming Borderlands Conference and an LEP meeting which will include discussions on the impact of Brexit.

9. Members' Briefing.

Cllr Bellis and Cllr Vear attended the Highways gritting meeting, identifying key locations in the parish for gritting, which will come into effect for winter 2020.

Cllr Vear attended Heskett Parish Council's recent meeting to talk to them about the Coombs Wood footpath issue.

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

- a. To discuss the village gateway proposals for Croglin  
**Action:** Clerk to chase Highways up for these, as neither she nor the Chairman has received them.
- b. Any other Highways matters arising.  
Cllr Bellis reported that much of the work scheduled by Highways following a meeting with him and Cllr Robinson has now been completed.  
Cllr Bellis will report some water and drainage issues raised, and the number of signs being left behind by contractors on the completion of work.

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

- a. To receive an update regarding Coombs Wood.  
An Extraordinary meeting was held 6<sup>th</sup> Nov with 42 members of the public attending. Ainstable Parish Council agreed to facilitate people applying for an extension to the footpath and investigate easements. Cumbria Countryside Access Officers have since advised that easements are not appropriate for this purpose; they are designed for maintenance access, not public access. The Chairman has informed the landowners at Armathwaite Place of the outcome of the meeting and sent them the draft minutes. He has again invited them to discuss an access agreement under the CRoW Act.  
The proposed date for the next Extraordinary meeting, 14<sup>th</sup> January, clashes with Heskett Parish Council's Ordinary meeting. Therefore, it was agreed to move the date to 7<sup>th</sup> January.  
**Action:** The Clerk to book a venue.

The members of the public left the meeting.

- i. To consider forming a committee to help facilitate a footpath application.  
It was agreed to defer to this to the new year when we see what evidence is forthcoming to support the application.
- b. To receive an update regarding Beck Brow.  
The footpath is shown going around the tennis courts on the Cumbria definitive map. The parish council agreed that it did not need to undertake any further action at this time.
- c. Any other Rights of Way matters arising.  
None

12. To receive a report regarding the Holme Holt project (Chairman)

Work on a leaflet is progressing. The Chairman has received an email from the Cumberland and Westmorland Herald asking about the project. A response was discussed, which the Chairman will send as soon as possible.

13. To discuss a replacement programme for parish noticeboards.

Cllr Bellis reported that he has removed the old Ruckcroft board but needs a tractor to remove the concrete. The noticeboard itself is not in too bad condition. Cllr Vear has asked Mortons to move the Newbiggin board into the bus shelter. The board at the triangle will be replaced by boards at Holme Holt; the Ruckcroft is in the shelter; the Ainstable board could go into the shelter. Therefore it was

felt that no new boards needed to be purchased at this time.

**Action:** Cllr Vear to follow up with Mortons

14. To discuss matters relating to banking and finance (RFO):

- a. To receive a verbal report on the bank account balances  
The Clerk read out the bank balances.
- b. The following payments were noted:

September

Date	Payee	Amount	Empowering Legislation
16th	Lloyds Bank plc	£ 3.00	Local Government Act 1972, s.151
23rd	Croglin Village Hall	£ 60.00	Local Government Act 1972, s.134(4) Local Government Act 1972 s.112 (1); Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act 1963, s.5
24th	K Lawson - expenses	£ 52.13	Local Government Act 1972, s.151
27th	CPSL - SI-5100	£ 14.40	Local Government Act 1972 s 151
30th	Unity Trust Bank	£ 18.00	

October

Date	Payee	Amount	Empowering Legislation
7th	Eden Valley Flix	£ 310.00	Local Government Act 1972 s 145
7th	Fellrunner Bus	£ 200.00	Transport Act 1985, ss 22-23 and s 106a
14th	Millennium Green - Wayleave	£ 9.47	Local Government Act 1972 s 151 Local Government Act 1972 s.112 (1); Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act 1963, s.5
15th	K Lawson - salary	£ 303.42	Local Government Act 1972, s.151
16th	Lloyds Bank plc	£ 92.06	

November

Date	Payee	Amount	Empowering Legislation
11th	Neil Ruddick	£ 275.00	Highways Act 1980, s 96 (5) Local Government Act 1972 s.112 (1); Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act 1963, s.5
15th	K Lawson - salary	£ 303.42	

- c. The bank reconciliation for Q2 was received.
- d. The budget reconciliation for Q2 was received.
- e. To discuss budget items for the financial year 2020/21.
  - i. To discuss the grant application from St Michael & All Angels PCC.  
Eric Guise took questions from the councillors about the mowing of the churchyard.  
Cllr Bellis thanked Eric for attending, saying it had been very helpful to have him there.
  - ii. To discuss the grant application from Eden Valley Flix.  
It was stated that the grant pays for a PRS license for the Church Institute, which covers any other musical event, not just Flix, plus insurance.

- iii. To discuss other budget items.

There was a discussion of other items on the draft budget and the potential impact on the precept.

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

- f. To consider setting up a Variable Direct Debit mandate for Land Registry e-services.  
This would have been used for applying for an easement at Armathwaite Place. In the light of the advice regarding easements from Cumbria Countryside Access Officers, a Variable Direct Debit is not required.
- g. Any other matters relating to banking and finance.  
none

15. To consider the following policies:

- a. **Resolved:** to adopt the Equal Opportunities Policy for the forthcoming year. The policy was signed by the Clerk and Chairman.
- b. **Resolved:** to adopt the Complaints Procedure for the forthcoming year. The policy was signed by the Clerk and Chairman.

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

- a. To receive an oral report on the finances.
- b. Any other matters relating to the Millennium Green.

It was agreed to defer this item until the January meeting.

17. **Resolved:** in line with the budget, to purchase two new benches, one for the Millennium Green, several possible locations were discussed for the other.

**Action:** Clerk to order the benches.

**Action:** Councillors to nominate locations for the second bench

18. To discuss grass cutting at Newbiggin.

The grass on the triangle at the top of Newbiggin has been being cut, free of charge, by a local resident. Unfortunately, due to a local dispute, the resident in question no longer wishes to carry out this work. The land belongs to Highways and is their responsibility but they will only cut the grass once a year. It was noted that the dispute in question is related to item 22 a.

19. To discuss any matters relating to communications. (Chairman)

The Chairman suggested that the parish council produce a leaflet regarding the footpath extension application. The Clerk has sent a report and photo of former Cllr Thirlwall's recent award presentation the Herald and the parish magazine.

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

- a. To consider the parish council's response to the following application(s):

19/0779                      Faugh Head                      Change of use of redundant swimming pool to a dwelling and associated operations  
Cllr H Proud circulated points to support the application.  
**Resolved:** that the parish council support this application.

- b. Any other planning matters

An appeal has been lodged with Eden District Council against the refusal of application 19/0219 at Hillside, Ruckcroft. The Planning Officers already have the parish council's views on this application

A question was raised about the status of application 19/0760 Peak Power Generator.

**Action:** The Clerk will enquire with Eden Planning

21. To discuss VE Day celebrations within the Parish.

It was agreed to defer this item until January.

22. To receive a verbal report on crime in the Parish.

a. To discuss bullying and cyber-bullying in the parish.

A report has been received by the parish council of bullying, including cyber-bullying, on a community social media site. Whilst recognising that this is a criminal matter and urging anyone affected to report it to the police, Ainstable Parish Council condemns any form of bullying and anti-social behaviour.

23. To receive a verbal report on the development of Broadband in the parish. (Cllr Bellis)

Cllr Bellis reported that there is no change to the position.

24. To consider correspondence received.

The correspondence register was circulated, plus the CALC annual report.

25. Points to be raised at the next meeting.

Any points to be forwarded to the Clerk

26. Date of the next ordinary meeting – Tues 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at Ainstable Church Institute.

The Meeting closed at 10.14pm

#### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Minute No.	Action for:	Detail
6a	Chairman	To confirm the exact location for the Newbiggin fingerpost with Highways
6b	Clerk	To scan and circulate the tree report, and add it to the parish council's website
10a	Clerk	To chase Highways for the village gateway proposals for Croglin
11a	Clerk	To book a venue for the Extraordinary Meeting on 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2020
13	Chairman	To chase Mortons to move the Newbiggin noticeboard into the shelter
17	Clerk	Order two benches
17	All	Nominate locations for the benches
20b	Clerk	Ask Planning about application 19/0670