

DRAFT MINUTES OF URSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

FROM THE MEETING

Held Thursday 7th October 2010

At Urswick Parish Room

Present: Cllr Mr J Keen (JK) (Chairperson), Cllr J Winder (JW) (Vice Chair), Cllr Mr G James (GJ), Cllr Mr P Rixom (PR), Cllr Mr Daniel Stubbs (DS), Cllr Ms D Westfield (DW), Cllr Mrs N Cowsill (NC), Mrs H Gregson (Acting Clerk)

County Cllr Janet Willis

Mr Martin Stables (Tarn Association), Mr Ray Wilson, Mr Alan Dewar

PCSO Helen Madden

1. Apologies for absence- Councillors C Airey, J Airey and J Cooper.
2. Declarations of interest - G James- Member Tarn Association, D Westfield – Member Tarn Association and neighbour of Coot development site, N Cowsill – Grazing rights Stainton Village Green, J Winder- Grazing rights Little Urswick Village Green.
3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting (26th August 2010) Proposed DW
Seconded NC
4. To note the progress on items for action agreed at previous meetings, not on today's agenda. None.
5. Public Forum: Questions, comments or concerns from any local resident. **NB.** The Council may wish to consider a matter in more detail at a later date before making a full response.

DW reported that she had received a phone call regarding fireworks at 10.05 on a Saturday night due to a wedding at the Coot. This can cause a problem to residents with animals who ought to be notified in advance. Apparently the Coot management have attempted to notify residents but only those people living in houses along the main road.

Alan Dewar stated that there had been a similar problem in Bardsea and perhaps if fireworks were to be used it could be earlier when it has just gone dark?

J W suggested that notices could be put up to warn people in advance.

Action: DW to speak to Coot management and Old Mill

6. Report from Police on any matters of local concern and /or interest to Councillors and residents.

PCSO Madden reported that there have been thefts of sheep in nearby areas.

Hundreds have been stolen from the Cartmel area and residents are advised to be vigilant. NC asked if there was a local number to phone. PCSO Madden replied that all calls had to go to the Penrith call centre as local numbers are not manned 24hrs. Regarding local dog fouling problems, enforcement officers have recently recruited two extra staff who are now working weekends.

Following NC's letter to the Northwest Evening Mail there have been no problems in Stainton for about 5 weeks.

The police have been assisting with cycle training with the yr 5 children at the school. There are no burglaries or robberies to report in the Parish, just neighbour disputes. Recent speeding checks in the 30mph area have resulted in one prosecution and several verbal warnings.

7. Reports from District and County Councillors on matters of interest to Councillors and residents.

Cllr Willis brought to the Council's attention the 'Have your say' leaflet and encouraged people to fill it in to provide the council feedback.

LAP meeting went very well (see item no 14) and was driven by the District Council to get feedback from ground level and, for parishes to get together. The Local Area Partnership should be driven from the bottom up and the top down i.e. asking opinions of parishes and finding out things from the residents in their area.

PR commented that the subject of highways comes up every time, but that it hasn't been formalised how parishes will feed into this.

NC stated that Parish Councillors don't mind doing work if you can see results.

PR said he was worried that District Councillors won't come to parish meetings and would do all their business from the LAP instead. Cllr Willis said that this very much depends on personality. JK said that he was worried that Parish Council's would get all the menial jobs. Cllr Willis said that the Partnership needs to evolve, and that the District council wants to make sure residents get involved. Things have improved since the first meeting.

PR said that there is money available from the Partnership for local Parish projects and that his proposal is to apply for a grant to painting fences in Urswick. The next LAP meeting is on the 21st October.

PR and GJ have been making enquiries about the viability of having tourist information boards for Great and Little Urswick covering historic facts about the area

and displaying walking maps. They have been talking to a designer and will put forward details and costings at the next meeting. The intention is to include information covering bird life in the area so the Tarn Association will be consulted.

To find out how much we will need covering bird life etc so will be consulting TA. Obviously any boards chosen would have to be very hard wearing.

JW suggested grants could be used as sponsorship for training for volunteers. Cllr Willis said that other ideas had included of stickers to go on the side of bins warning traffic to slow down. These warnings would be seen on the road once a week when residents put their bins out for collection. Mobile flashing signs for speeding and 'Welcome to signs' were also a possibility for funding.

8. Planning Applications and Decisions

i) To consider/confirm the Council's response to the following applications

SL/2010/0182 Bankfield Hall and the Coot Amended Plans

SL/2010/0642 3 Stone Close, Stone Close, Stainton with Darley. Application for extension and alterations.

SL/2010/0715 Willow Grove, Great Urswick. Application for single storey front extension.

ii) To note decisions on the following applications.

SL/2010/0510 Holme Bank Farm, Little Urswick. Application for extension to cattle building
GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS

SL/2010/0593 Brookside Cottage, Bardsea. Application for two storey side extension and re-building of chimney stack GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS

SL/2010/0422 The Cottage, Well House Farm, Bardsea. Application for alteration to sun room to form additional bedroom and entrance hallway. GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS

9. Tarn Association. Report on anything of concern and/or interest to Councillors and residents in particular.

Mr Stables stated that there was not much to report except that the half yearly meeting was to be held at the General Burgoyne on the following Tuesday.

10. Clerk's resignation, to discuss the appointment of a new clerk. An advert has been placed in the Evening Mail and Advertiser, the closing date being 21st. Interviews will take place on the Oct 25th/26th upstairs in the General Burgoyne. An interview panel is to be arranged.

11. Vacancy for Bardsea Councillor. The Clerk suggested that there was a need to concentrate on recruiting a Bardsea resident there isn't one on the Council at the moment. It was suggested that as well as putting adverts on the village notice boards they should be put up in the pubs and the Malt Kiln in Bardsea.

12. Appointment of a Parish Council representative to the Tarn Association. DW has volunteered.
13. Closure of Great Urswick Post Office. JK reported the ongoing process of trying to find a business in the village to run the Post Office. Cllr Willis who is postmistress at Greenodd has offered to help. There has been no progress so far. DW reported that the landlords of the Derby found the cost prohibitive and were put off by the need to keep a lot of cash on the premises and the set up process which was going to take about 6 months.
14. Local Area Partnership update. See item 7 above.
15. Maintenance of War Memorial to discuss plans for cleaning. Progress report. The Memorial has now been cleaned by JK and DS RESOLVED
16. Excavation of earth at the Landing to discuss any progress made over this issue.
SLDC are happy that the soil can be moved but recommend that it is not redistributed where people are likely to walk. GJ suggested that top soil will be needed as rain washes away the soil under discussion.
RESOLVED
17. Planted Willows and concrete at the catwalk. Update. A meeting is to be arranged between the Tarn Association and the Parish Council. The suggested date is Thurs 14th 7.00 pm. Clerk to email B Rawlinson. PR + DW apologised for being unable to attend on this date.
18. Viewing platform on the Croft. To discuss necessity for planning permission. As item 17 above.
19. Height of hedges at Church Road House and the possibility that they may be exceeding planning restrictions concerns raised by residents. DW reported that Hedge has now been cut following a visit by the planning office enforcement team.
RESOLVED
20. Proposed development of the Coot and Bankfield House – to discuss any progress.
DW was present at the planning meeting on 30th Sept. The result was deferred. There are live applications on both sites and if the application was rejected outright it would have been overturned on appeal. The major concerns are not over Bankfield since there are only 5 chalets proposed. The Council was concerned that the Coot would be over developed wants to see a reduction. The idea of preserving view of Tarn was seen as important. The Council is looking for a compromise. DW suggested that the onus was now on the Parish Council to try to work with County and District councillors ahead of next planning meeting. The likelihood is that the application will be granted in some form but it remains to be seen whether what is acceptable will be financially viable in order to support to support the Bankfield development. GJ asked what the developers were prepared give to the village in return, Mr

Postlethwaite having previously suggested that the Bankfield site may include village amenities including a shop. It was suggested that since the Bankfield plans have been scaled down this may not happen. S 10 proscribes the need for a guarantee that if Coot was developed Bankfield would be completed. The Parish Council needs to work with James and Caroline Airey and Jackie Cooper. There may need to be a public meeting.

21. Common/open access land to the Tarn. Common land without access. Designated open access land. The Council considered that this question has already been answered satisfactorily.

22. Dog fouling to discuss any progress made in attempts to reduce dog fouling in the parish.

See item 6 above.

23. Grit bins. Clerk to update on request for grit bins for the parish. The Clerk has emailed the Highways department again and received a standard form response.

24. To discuss Precept for 2011/2012. Re the Parish Council's contribution to Bardsea toilets, by 31st October SLDC will be closing some public toilets but SLDC are trying to get local businesses to take them over.

The Council resolved to leave their contribution in precept for the time being.

JK discussed changes to be made and agreed to email a copy of the figures discussed to fellow Councillors.

The overall increase would only be 1.4% up on last year's figures which was a reduction on the 5% increase of the year before.

25. To authorise payment of bills and expenses received since the last meeting.

£188- Audit

£282.94 -Furness newspapers advert

£20 - Clerks expenses (broadband allowance)

£10 - Hall hire

Received – £645.30 Vat refund

26. To note correspondence received and decide on any response required.

J Abrahamson re boundary hedge which is on Council land. Letter read by JK. The Council agreed that the hedge should be no more than 1 meter high and ½ of a meter wide from boundary wall and should be kept under control.

J Abrahamson re cutting grass as community service. The Council agreed to this, provided that the cuttings are not disposed of on Council land.

J Abrahamson – concern over treatment at the last Council meeting. The Council regards this matter as at an end.

R Wilson letter regarding water level gauge in the Tarn. The Council agrees to this.

R Wilson letter re research carried out at the Tarn. The Council is happy for this to go ahead.

B Abbott letter re Bardsea Toilets. JK to email in reply.

27. Items to be added to the next agenda.
Highways Steward.

28. Date and time of next meeting.

18th November 2010 @ Stainton.

HG 21/10/10