

DRAFT MINUTES OF URSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

From the meeting held on Thursday 17th February 2011

At Urswick Parish Room

Present: Cllr. J Keen (JK) (Chairman), Cllr. J. Winder (JW) (Vice chair), Cllr. N. Cowsill (NC), Cllr. G. James (GJ), Cllr. P. Rixom (PR), Cllr. D. Stubbs (DS), Dr. P. Attree (Clerk).

Cllr. James Airey (SLDC, CCC)

Cllr. Janet Willis (CCC)

Mr. Martin Stables (Chairman, Tarn Association)

PC Shaun Conway, Police Inspector K. Spedding.

1. Apologies for absence

Received from Cllrs. Denise Westfield, Caroline Airey and PCSO Helen Madden

2. Declarations of interest

D. Westfield – member Tarn Association and neighbour of Coot development site, N Cowsill – grazing rights Stainton Village Green, as a staff member of Harrison Coward any matters relating to the Stubbs' family, J. Winder – Little Urswick Village Green, G. James - Tarn Association, Daisy Hill TPO.

3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2011 and the extraordinary meeting held on 4th January 2011.

The Council resolved to approve the minutes of both meetings (Proposed GJ Seconded DS)

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.

See item 6 below.

6. To consider the proposed tree works at Daisy Hill, Great Urswick (Tree Preservation Order No. 99, 1994)

The Council was addressed by Luke Steer, a qualified arboriculturist, to help members respond to the consultation about the proposed tree works. He described the condition of the sycamore trees, the recent demolition of a caravan by a falling branch, and the need to manage risk to the public because of the deteriorating condition of the trees. Three options were presented –

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pruning by 4-5 meters, pollarding or felling trees. Mr. Steer explained that his preferred option was to fell the trees and replace them with new trees further away from the road. The chairman questioned whether the trees could be saved by pruning or pollarding. Mr. Steer replied that this was possible, but with reduced vitality, and that the trees may not survive or look like proper trees. Mr. Steer then invited questions from the public about the proposed tree works. Concerns were expressed both by members of the public and councillors about the effect on the natural landscape of felling the trees. Mr Steer explained that, if his report is acted on and the work is carried out accordingly, in his opinion the applicant's insurers should accept his assurance that the trees are safe.

The Council resolved to recommend that the sycamore trees at Daisy Hill be retained and pruned, and that the applicant be requested to plant new trees.

Action: Clerk to write to Graham Nicholson, arboriculturist at South Lakeland District Council setting out the Council's recommendation.

7. To consider the amended planning application for Bankfield and the Coot, Great Urswick (SL/2010/0182)

Cllr. GJ described the changes made in the amended planning application for Bankfield and the Coot, for the benefit of members. Mr Churchman, architect for the developers, answered questions from council members about the design of the proposed houses on the Coot site and the landscaping to the front of the properties. He drew attention to the drawing of the proposed properties' overlay of the current site on the SLDC website. JK suggested that a public meeting be held.

The Council resolved to hold a public meeting in Urswick Recreation Hall on Monday 21st March at 8.00pm.

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

Regarding a letter received from a resident complaining of horse fouling on the pavements in Urswick, PC Conway noted that there is no specific legislation relating to this. He stated that the police will pay a visit to local stables and ask them to address the problem. A notice should also be placed in the Tarn News asking horse riders to be considerate of pedestrians.

Action: Clerk to contact Tarn News to place a notice.

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

Cllr. J. Willis stated that she had been out with the CCC highways team. They are busy fixing potholes at present. If problems are noted she suggested contacting the highways hotline. Cllr. James Airey noted that the County Council have set a zero increase in the budget, as prescribed by national government. More details on how budget cuts will affect rural areas are to follow. He stated that he will attend the planning meeting re the Coot and Bankfield.

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10. Planning Applications and Decisions

1. To consider/confirm the Council's response to the following applications:

SL/2010/1082

Blue Ridges, Bardsea

Two Storey Rear extension and raising ridge height of main roof of dwelling

No Comment

SL/2010/0947

Adgarley Farm, Stainton with Adgarley

Removal of hedgerow

No Comment

SL/2011/0020

Whitwood, Bardsea

Single storey rear extension to existing detached garage

2. To note decisions on the following applications:

SL/2010/0919

Bluebell Cottage, Little Urswick.

Replacement windows and patio doors.

GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS

11. To consider co-option of an applicant for the Bardsea councillor vacancy

JK invited the applicant Dr. Jake O'Donovan to say a few words about his background and why he would like to become a councillor.

The Council voted unanimously to co-opt Dr. O'Donovan as a councillor for Bardsea.

JK then welcomed Dr. O'Donovan to the Council.

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

Martin Stables reported that the Tarn Association was not planning to clear the bonfire site this year and that it was a voluntary task. The green bin was removed as it had been found to be unsustainable. JK noted that the Council was planning a working party to clear the debris. In response to a question from NC the clerk reported that there had been no response from the trustees of the Tarn Association to the letter from the Council inviting them to a meeting. NC stated that the Council had received an offer of an independent chair.

The Council resolved to send a further letter to the Tarn Association chairman and the Trustees inviting them to a meeting.

Action: Clerk to send invitations to TA chairman and Trustees for a meeting with the Council.

13. Drains & Drainage. DS/GJ

GJ reported that little was happening as the repair of potholes was currently taking precedence.

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14. Local Area Partnership update.

PR reported that funding had been received for the information boards and the Parish railings.

15. LAP Tourist Information boards – update on progress PR

PR requested a change to the wording of the letter to BB Design (the firm producing the boards). The work is to commence after a further meeting to discuss the layout/content etc.

Action: Clerk to send purchase order and amended covering letter to BB Design accepting quotation for work.

16. Grit bins. Clerk to update on request for grit bins for the parish.

The clerk reported that she had sent a reminder to Keith Masser at Cumbria County Council regarding allocation of additional bins. The original application (August 2010) had been mislaid by the CC. Cllr. Janet Willis agreed to follow up.

Action: Clerk to forward copy of email to Cllr. Janet Willis.

17. Bardsea public conveniences – update on closure. JK/JA

Cllr James Airey stated that offers from businesses before 31st March 2011 may be able to save the toilets. If no firm expression of interest is received the toilets will close permanently. JK read out the breakdown of costs as supplied by SLDC and asked councillors if they would be willing to get involved to identify sponsorship for the toilets. NC suggested that it would be useful to obtain costs for opening the toilets for 6 months of the year, as suggested by one of the interested parties.

Action: Cllr. James Airey to obtain costs of running toilets for 6 months; Clerk to update Caroline Leigh at SLDC.

18. Footpaths, posts and styles around the Parish. JK/JA

Cllr James Airey reported that Cumbria County Council has installed new gates on land near Little Urswick.

19. Headlands to Headspace – Morecambe Bay Landscape Partnership Scheme bid to Heritage Lottery - update. GJ/PA

The clerk reported that a letter of support has been sent for the bid and an acknowledgement received. The result of the bid should be known in August 2011.

20. South Lakeland Local Development Framework – consultation re land allocations. GJ

PR reported on a meeting held on 7th February in Urswick Recreation Hall to publicise the consultation document. GJ proposed that the land allocation maps for the Parish be displayed at the public meeting to be held on 21st March.

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21. To consider registration of Urswick Parish Council in the Parish Paths Initiative. PR/GJ

The meeting regarding the PPI is to be attended by PR. PR proposed that the Council register under the scheme.

The Council resolved to register for the Parish Paths Initiative.

22. To consider issues of local concern in Stainton with Adgarley. NC

NC reported a problem with the number of quarry vehicles travelling towards Barrow in Furness or along Long Lane towards Tythe Barn. This increased activity is as a result of a new contract to take stone to wind farms. Although it is recommended that wagons do not travel in convoy it is difficult to enforce in practice. Residents had complained about the amount of mud on the roads; as a result a wheel wash was reinstated and the situation has improved. The quarry owners are in consultation with landowners to lay hedges and erect fences on the road between the quarry entrance and Tythe Barn, to improve visibility. It is hoped to get something done by the Spring.

23. To discuss need for improvements to road signage in Urswick. JK

JK reported that a number of road signs in Urswick are rusty and the fittings are in a poor state of repair.

Action: GJ to check on signs and report faults.

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

Bardsea bus shelter rental	£50	Frederic Robinson (Notice board hire Derby Arms)	£21.15
Training package (clerk)	£50		
		Clerk's expenses Dec 2010-Jan 2011	
Clerk's Salary (inc 8 extra hours)	£342.51	Broadband allowance	£20.00
The Tarn News	£8	Printer cartridge	£19.99
Bardsea public conveniences	£828.77	Stationery	£14.35
Room hire (Urswick Parish Room) £12		Filing cabinet	£30.00
		Total	£84.34

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

Tree preservation order no 228, on land adjacent to Woodlands, Great Urswick; Electoral review of Cumbria – Local Government Boundary Commission; Great poppy weekend – Royal British Legion; Skipton-East Lancashire Rail Action Partnership; Cumbria Police Authority online community meeting; Consultation of the revised validation checklist for planning applications – *Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting*

SLDC; Buckingham Palace garden parties invitation; Localism – meeting the need for affordable housing - Meeting hosted by SLDC on 18th March 2011; Queen Elizabeth 11 Friends Challenge; Forestry Commission and sale of public forest in Cumbria – copy of letter to Jim Paice MP from Cumbria County Council leaders; South Lakeland District Council Standards Committee - agenda and minutes; E mail from Kate Lawson re new driveway on Hooks Lane – **Action: Clerk to follow up**; CALC circular Feb 2011; CALC – Cumbria Choice: Choice based lettings; Cumbria County Council - Better Highways: South Lakeland; Lake District National Park Authority – Supplementary Planning Document for the Ambleside Campus, public consultation; Timetable for Parish and Town Council elections on Thursday 5th May 2011; Agenda for CALC meeting to be held on 3rd March 2011 at Brettargh Holt at 7pm; Letter from Dr. J. O’Donovan re attendance at UPC meeting on 17th Feb 2011; CALC – Cumbria in Bloom competition 2011; CALC – interview survey of parish councils; CALC – ‘Cumbria alert’; Letter from D. Miller re problems in Bardsea – **Action: Cllr Rixom to follow up**.

26. To receive items for the agenda for the next meeting.

None

27. Date and time of next meeting.

Thursday 31st March 2011, Stainton Recreation Hall, 7.30pm

PA 25th February 2011

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