

**Minutes of the meeting of Urswick, Bardsea & Stainton Parish Council, held at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2023 @ Urswick Parish Rooms.**

**Present: Cllrs; D Chamberlain; N Cowsill; T Brimley; J Scott; S Stockdale; J Winder (from agenda item 2); K Stepanian (from agenda item 2)**

**AGENDA**

**1. To appoint Chair for the remainder of the Council year following the resignation of Cllr Keen & to appoint Vice Chair as necessary.**

Resolved: Cllr Chamberlain be appointed as Chair.

*Resolved: Agenda item 6 moved to follow agenda item 1.*

**6. To consider applications for Urswick vacancies/co option.**

*2 applications received for 2 vacancies. Resolved: To co-opt Jeff Winder & Katie Stepanian. Declarations of acceptance of office were signed.*

Resolved: To appoint Cllr Winder as Vice Chair.

**2. To receive and approve apologies for absence.**

Cllr Cawley

**3. Declarations of interests**

**To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.**

Cllr Chamberlain declared a pecuniary interest in the Agenda item 10 - SL/2022/0968

Cllr Cowsill declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 16.

**4. Requests for dispensations**

None received

**5. To authorise the Chairman to sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2023**

Resolved: That the minutes are signed as a correct record

**6. To consider applications for Urswick vacancies/co option.**

See above

**7. To note progress on ongoing matters not on today's agenda - for report and observation only** (items requiring a decision to be placed on agenda of next meeting)

- grasscutting - complaint received again from resident. Some opinion is that the grasscutting will have been difficult to do this year due to the weather. To put on next agenda.

**8. Public Forum: Questions, comments or concerns from any local resident.**

Members of Furness Fishing Association attended regarding agenda item 14.

Matters passed on from Public:

- brambles overgrowing Church Rd nr Rec. Hall

- horse "keep distance" signs on Horse Close Lane believed to now out of date due to new legislation. Cllr Chamberlain to view and pass to Cllr Cawley as Highways rep.

**9. Report from Councillor Cooper on matters of interest (for information only).**

Cllr Cooper updated on:

- funding allocations now through in WAF Council - capital grants up to £1500 and Cllr Locality budget

- Highways working group now operational - awaiting news re various projects including 20 MPH speed limits & junction Church Rd/Kirk Flatt.

- encouragement for everyone to report blocked drains to Highways HIMS system and Highways are responding fairly quickly.

- WAF Council now have 3 pothole jetpatchers.

Council asked Cllr Cooper to raise the issue of Ulverston Library with WAF & Simon Fell regarding re-opening as many residents of the Parish use this service. Council to also write to Simon Fell about this.

**10. To consider/confirm the Council's response to planning applications received and raise/note any other planning matters**

Applications:

SL/2022/0968 – The Willows, Great Urswick – amended plans.

Resolved: response of objection as per previous comments.

Notifications:

SL/2021/1123 (appeal) – Land at Becksid Smithy – 2 storey extension for essential rural worker – appeal/permission granted.

SL/2023/0072 – Bank End, Great Urswick – refused.

**11. To receive update on Common land access obstruction and discuss planning enforcement issues relating to Bourn House (previously Plot 2 The Coot).**

Planning app SL/2023/0246 has been referred to planning committee. Cllrs to view the site for any movement relating to common land access.

**12. To receive updates from the Tarn Working Group.**

The beck was dredged recently due to high levels following rain. Cllr Chamberlain has requested a plan from the EA regarding the beck mouth which needs to be narrower. Hazel hurdles & hay bales were mentioned as possible solutions. The Tarn levels links in with the PC's consideration of the future balance of ecology and would be considered within any professional advice.

**13. To receive updates on and discuss future actions regarding Tarn wildlife**

No progress to date finding a source of professional advice. Full agreement that this is very necessary for the future. To continue trying to find appropriate guidance. Parish funds may need to be redirected for this.

**14. To receive updates on & discuss proposal for leasing of Urswick Tarn to Furness Fishing Association (FFA)**

The proposal & various aspects relating to this were discussed with the committee representatives of FFA. The FFA would look to making the platforms safer and extend; restock with mixed fish. They work with the Environment Agency. It could be possible to net the carp that is possibly a factor in high phosphate levels. They would carry out periodic clean ups of fishing wire etc. All aspects would be approved with the PC as part of the lease should it proceed. It was agreed that the FFA should submit a more formal proposal to the Parish Council to then be considered again at the next meeting.

**15. To receive updates on and discuss speeding issues/actions.**

No response to date from Low Furness School – Cllr Winder will follow up. Also see agenda item 9.

**16. To discuss future grasscutting of Stainton Green**

Approximate cost for Farmer to continue cutting would be £300. Resolved: To enquire via another contractor and also to look into formation of Stainton Grasscutting committee to take on the work and request for donation support from the PC.

**17. To receive updates on Parish Steward jobs**

Brambles overhanging pavement on Church Rd near Recreation Hall/Little Urswick Green – encroachment of vegetation onto the road.

**18. To agree payments in accordance with the budget as listed below.**

Clerks Expenses - £51.63

Clerk Salary – by standing order

HMRC - £6.40

Urswick PCC - £15

CALC - £30

Westmorland & Furness Council (Bins) - £582.00

**19. To note correspondence received (circulated) and decide on any response required. (Clerk)**

No actions required.

**20. To receive items for the agenda for the next meeting.**

Ongoing matters/Grasscutting contract/Tarn wildlife/Tarn lease/grasscutting Stainton.

**21. To confirm date and time of next meeting as Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 @ Stainton Recreation Hall**

Confirmed

Signed: *B Workman* (Clerk) 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2023

MINUTES REMAIN IN DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING