

Minutes of a meeting of Burneside Parish Council held by ZOOM on Tuesday 2nd March 2021 at 7pm.

Present were Councillors Pennie Ridyard (Chairman), Phil Alder, Tonia Armer, Julie Huck, Will Huck, Judith Notley, Paul Senior, and Keith Tondeur, Linda Fisher (SLDC Monitoring Officer), County Councillor Stan Collins, District Councillor Pat Bell, three members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were noted from Councillor Derrick Wade (leave of absence).

21/18 Public participation: None.

21/19 Requests for Dispensations: None.

21/10 Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Alder declared an interest, as a member of the Burneside Resident's Association committee, should any relevant matters be discussed. Councillor Will Huck declared an interest, as a school governor, should any matters pertaining to St Oswald's School be discussed.

21/11 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2021, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

21/12 Council Vacancies:

The Clerk reported that Brian Smith has resigned from the Council; the vacancy is currently being advertised. SLDC will notify the Council if there are any requests for an Election, failing which the Council will be free to co-opt, if it wishes. Councillor Ridyard has sent Brian a card and conveyed the good wishes of the Council to him.

21/13 Updates:

- a. Memorial bench. The Clerk has not received a reply from the applicant but will write again.
- b. Bench at Steeles Row. Councillor Will Huck has completed the grant application form and sent it to Gill Holmes at CCC.
- c. New bin. Councillor Will Huck thanked Councillor Bell for helping with this as part of the dog fouling issue; the site assessment has been undertaken by SLDC, and, all being well, the bin should be in place on the Hall Road path soon.
- d. Tree planting. An article had been written for the CALC Annual Report on the Parish Council's tree planting project. This came about from the poster that Councillor Will Huck initially made for the notice boards.
- e. Dog fouling. Thanks to Councillor Bell and the Locality Team, a photograph and article had appeared in the '*Westmorland Gazette*'. Locality have also been visiting the village and installing signs and chalk stencils on the pavements.

- f. Councillor Alder asked if, following receipt of an email via the Clerk today, an agenda item at the next meeting could be 'Public Space Protection Orders'. This was agreed.
- g. It was reported that the Resident's Association are also working on the dog fouling problem, in conjunction with the mothers in the village. They are concentrating on educating the public about the problem and have also enlisted the help of the PCSO. Dog fouling will also be an agenda item for the next meeting.
- h. Allotments. Councillor Notley said another possible site had been identified but it was proved to be in the flood plain. She continues looking for possible sites but needs agreement from the land owner. Sites further outside the village were discussed.
- i. Community fridge. Councillor Notley had considered various sites for this but none seemed suitable. She wondered if the railway station might be a suitable location.
- j. Siting of BT poles at Hall Park. Councillor Bell and Councillor Notley are awaiting a response from BT on the matter.
- k. Planting of bulbs and trees in the parish. This might be a project for the school but not until pupils return and the Covid situation improves.
- l. Assets Register and insurance assessment. It is hoped that this will be completed in time for the next meeting.

21/14 Finance:

Possible funding for the play area was discussed and a quotation for the replacement of the flooring had been forwarded by the Anglers Trust, which manages the area. In the light of a report from SLDC (sent in error to the Council) which highlighted a number of areas of concern, it was resolved to contact Hannah Hill again and ask, in the light of possible substantial work/upgrade being required, if the Anglers Trust would welcome some Council involvement in future, and if a meeting with the Trust could be arranged, to be attended by two or three Councillors.

21/15 Reports:

Councillor Collins reported as follows:

- a. The CCC and SLDC Elections, planned for 6th May 2021, have been cancelled and will not now take place until 2022 or possibly 2023.
- b. Cycling/wellbeing initiatives have been attended by Councillors from various parishes.
- c. SLDC has a £200,000 'environmental fund' for improvements to footways.
- d. The CCC Budget for 2021-22 includes a 3.99% increase, 2% being for adult social care.

Councillor Bell reported as follows:

- a. Most of SLDC staff are still working from home.
- b. The collection of 'green waste' bins will re-start later this week.
- c. A government grant to support businesses is being distributed by SLDC.

- d. SLDC is one of the few Authorities in the country that operates the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

21/16 Footpaths:

Councillor Will Huck reported on the extensive survey Stewart Menzies had carried out on the parish footpaths. This had all been passed on and is now on the Council's website. It was resolved to convey the Council's thanks to him for this work. Councillor Will Huck will 'screen share' some of the details at the next meeting.

Councillor Notley will now work with Stewart Menzies on footpaths. Broken and missing signage was discussed and Councillor Senior said that there is funding available for signage.

21/17 Proposed formation of sub-group to liaise with the Burnside Resident's Association:

Following the 'training' session for Councillors on 18th February, a proposal was made to form a sub-group to liaise with the Burnside Resident's Association. This was agreed, and Councillors Alder, Notley and Tondeur are happy to be part of this group. Councillor Bell indicated she would be willing to attend if required.

The sub-group will need to set their own terms of reference and will be required to keep simple minutes as a record of what has been decided. There will be the opportunity to report back to every Council meeting if appropriate.

The Clerk will convey this to the Resident's Association and it will be an agenda item for the next meeting, should any further clarification be required.

21/18 Planning: None.

21/19 'Library' in the Hollins Lane bus shelter:

Steve Holton had kindly secured the book shelf in the bus shelter and it is no longer a safety hazard. Some of the old stock of books have been removed and so the 'library' continues as a valuable community service. Councillor Ridyard thanked him very much for his work.

21/20 Traffic issues:

Councillor Ridyard had received two responses from CCC Highways and these had been shared with Councillor Julie Huck and Councillor Senior. It seems likely that the required work may cost in the region of £20,000. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

21/21 United Utilities work in the village:

No news has been received as yet. Councillor Collins said he will try to progress matters and Councillor Will Huck agreed to contact United Utilities.

21/22 Re-claiming of disused/underused buildings in the parish:

Councillor Notley continues her investigations into the former toilet block and what use it might be put to, possibly working together with the Resident's Association. Councillor Bell has been in contact with the owners. Councillor Tondeur agreed to investigate if any funding might be available to purchase and renovate areas such as these. The car park opposite the church and the former youth club building are also areas of concern and these have been raised with the owner by Councillor Ridyard.

21/23 Neighbourhood Plan:

Councillor Ridyard said that, following the resignation of Councillor Smith, she is the only Councillor on this group. Councillor Alder agreed to become part of the group. There has been no progress on a plan, apart from the change in designation and the securing of funding from LOCALITY for a Housing Needs Assessment and Design Code; the draft Design Code has been sent back for amendments. That is as far as the matter has been taken and none of this has cost the Parish Council anything at all.

21/24 Open Forum:

- a. Roger Leather updated the Council on B4RN progress, from its beginning in 2018. The initiative to bring hyperfast broadband to Strickland Roger and Over Staveley is complete. Of a possible 97 connections, 94 were requested. A 97% take-up. The Clerk will officially convey the Council's thanks for his continued work. An initiative to bring B4RN hyperfast broadband to Strickland Ketel has sprung (B4SK). More information can be found on the B4RN page on the PC website.
- b. In response to a comment that the station lights are left on all night, Roger Leather agreed to contact Jane Murray to ask that they are turned off when there are no trains running.
- c. The Clerk said that £250 had been received today from Councillor Hazel Hodgson's allowance, towards equipment for the play area. The Clerk will convey the Council's thanks to her.
- d. The Clerk advised that, as things stand at present, the government legislation allowing remote Council meetings is not to be extended beyond 7th May 2021. The meetings in April and May will not be affected but he will keep Councillors up to date as there is pressure by various bodies to persuade the government to extend the legislation. If this does not happen, then preparations will need to be made for the return to face-to-face meetings.
- e. A resident of Bowston had raised issues in relation to the telephone kiosk, the notice board and the need for a litter bin to be installed. It was agreed to make this an agenda item for the next meeting.
- f. Councillor Alder and Steve Holton had completed the survey of potholes in the parish as agreed and this will be sent, together with photographs, to CCC Highways. The Council's thanks are recorded for this work.
- g. The Council has not come to a collective view on the present proposal for the re-organisation of local government and it was suggested that Councillors should be free to complete the survey individually.

21/25 Date of the next meeting:

Tuesday 6th April 2021 by ZOOM at 7pm.

21/26 Other Agenda items for the next meeting:

Use of plastic poppies on the War Memorial - Councillor Armer.

21/27 Dapper Dick Award:

(this item was taken in private)

One name was proposed and this was unanimously accepted. The Clerk will make arrangements in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed:

Dated: