

Minutes of the Meeting of Crosthwaite and Lyth Parish Council held on 16th October 2008

PRESENT: Mr M L Dobson (Chair), Mr D T Dobson, Mr J Bownass, Mr M Casson

In Attendance: Cllr J Bland (CCC), Cllr R Ballantyne-Smith (SLDC) Mr G Pitt (Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES, Mr C.Smith, Ms M Harkness, Mr M J Dobson

2. MR W STOTT: The Chairman referred to the recent death of Mr W ('Billy') Stott and commented on the well attended funeral which had taken place on the day of this meeting. Mr Stott had been a Parish Councillor for many years and had been Chairman up until his retirement in 2004. The Council wished their appreciation of his work and sadness at his death to be conveyed to David and Linda Stott and the Clerk was asked to write on the Council's behalf. **Action: Clerk**

3. MINUTES of the meeting held on 25th September 2008 (already circulated) were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

re: Data Protection Registration: Registration Form completed; fee now required (£35)..

re: Road Closures for Water main repairs Proceeding as scheduled. No significant complaints yet.

re CCC/SLDC Locality Working Parish Summit. Clerk had written to Wendy Dixon, Chair of the SL District Partnership as requested – no formal response as yet. Cllr J Bland reported that the Partnership was to carry out another round of consultation based on more detailed statements on delegated powers etc. It was agreed to leave the proposed informal local group meeting until this next round of consultation was under way.

re LDNPA appointments/ Tim Farron letter: No progress yet but Ms Harkness was still interested..

re: 11.1 Cross Howe policies. Letter written to CE but no response as yet. .

5. PARISH PLAN – PROGRESS REPORTS

5.1 Housing Copies of the Housing Needs Survey questionnaire and covering letter had been provided in addressed envelopes by CRHT. They were now been distributed following the parish meeting on 3rd October. That meeting had been well attended and there were sufficient volunteers to distribute the surveys to all households. Mary Harkness was congratulated on giving a clear presentation on the Survey form, its background and how distribution and collection would be managed. .

5.2 Community Events: No further action.

5.3 Employment and Business: No further action. .

5.4 Roads and Traffic: No further action at this stage; Councillors were reminded that any suitable tasks still needed should be advised to John Handley before the next visit of the Highway Steward. Flooding/surface water on roads at various points in the parish was the main concern – clerk to pass on specific issues. Clerk also reported that Elizabeth Cartmell & the Headmistress had been particularly concerned about flooding near the school and they had written to the Highways Engineer; Clerk had also written asking for this problem to be addressed before the next visit of the Highway Steward. Clerk understood that the proposed footpath between school and church between wall and road was not practicable. However the owner of the land on the other side of the wall may be willing to consider a permissive path – D Dobson was asked to follow up this possibility. **Action: D Dobson**

5.5 Community Web site. Development on going. Sub group identified at last meeting has had an initial meeting. They have been invited to meet with the manager of the Natland web site to discuss management and access to information on their site.

5.6 First Responders: JB reported continuing difficulties with arranging training. J Holmes had rung officers concerned and it now seems that training will be available in 6-8 weeks. There appear to be significant differences in (voluntary) funding for First Responders; i.e. Lancashire are raising funds centrally and distributing to local groups but some groups (e.g. Crook) in Cumbria are raising funds directly in order to obtain equipment.

6. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 CALC AGM: Calling notice for 8th November at Rheged.. KB and GP to attend.(provisional)

6.2 CALC Employing a Parish Steward: Guidelines on managing a self employed Parish Steward at a likely cost for 1 day/week = approx £4400 pa). Benefits of having a dedicated person were clear but the potential costs were felt to be well in excess of what could be reasonably charge via the annual precept unless other sources of funding were to be made available.. Report circulated – to be considered at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

6.3 CALC PC Trends in Cumbria: Analysis of % of guidelines met shows improvements year on year (2008 overall 63.4%). Corresponding figure for Crosthwaite & Lyth was 85% - the negative answers being on Quality Parish status and Councillor training. Report circulated.

6.4 Govt Office for NW: Notice that the NW Regional Spatial Strategy document is now published and available to view or down load. Clerk had downloaded the section relating to Cumbria and N Lancs (c 12 pages) and this was circulated - to be considered at a future meeting **Action Clerk**

7. PLANNING MATTERS

New applications

7/2008/5567 Greenside, Crosthwaite – New Conservatory for Mr & Mrs B Clifford.

(no objection)

8 FINANCES (Since last meeting)

Income: NSI interest (1 month) £ 43.35

Expenditure approved: Data protection registration £ 35.00

Budget 2009/10 Clerk tabled a summary receipts and expenditure budget which was discussed and approved. The draft budget, based on the current precept of £1000, showed a year end deficit of c£250. It was agreed to set the precept for 2009/10 at £1500 including £61 of election expenses already shown on the SLDC return. Clerk to prepare return/Chairman to sign. **Action: MLD, Clerk**

10. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC None

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS;

11.1 Cllr Ballantyne-Smith tabled a letter from NPS Group (property consultants) advising that work on improving Council (SLDC) property including Crosthwaite would take place between 13th October and end December 2008.

Date of next Meeting: Thursday 20th November 2008

GP 19th October 2008