

Minutes of the Meeting of Crosthwaite and Lyth Parish Council held on 20th May 2010

PRESENT: Messrs M L Dobson (Chair), M J Dobson, Mr J Bownass, Mr M Casson, Ms M Harkness, Mr C Smith

In Attendance Cllr J Bland (CCC), Cllr R Ballantyne-Smith Mr G Pitt (Clerk).
Two members of the public were also present.

1. **APOLOGIES**, Mr D T Dobson,

2. **MINUTES** of the meeting held on 15th April 2010 (already circulated) were approved and signed.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (not covered elsewhere in this agenda)**

re: 8 Finances – Parish Room Income/Snooker Club: No further progress.

re: 4.4. Winter Gritting etc: Chairman & Clerk had responded with relevant details and suggestions re additional bins. No response yet.

4. **PARISH PLAN – PROGRESS REPORTS**

4.1 Housing: MH reported that she had had discussions with Lucy Reynolds, affordable housing officer SLDC on definitions. These had apparently carried through into the Housing Provision SPD supporting the main LDF. A copy of the draft SPD dated 26th April had been received. MH had read this document carefully, her comments were discussed and accepted, i.e. that, although the document recognised the distinction between ‘local affordable’ and ‘local needs’ housing, the general guidelines on property types and characteristics were too proscriptive. If the recommended limits on space and numbers of rooms were to be applied rigorously, planning officers could well miss out on approving sensible applications. The Clerk was asked to copy the SPD to all councillors and to collate any comments by the response deadline of 15th June. **Action: Clerk**

4.2 Community Events:

Open Gardens Ramble: See recent notes – all in hand for 30th/31st May

4.3 Employment and Business: No further action.

4.4 Roads and Traffic:

CCC Highways – Notice of temporary closures for resurfacing/dressing had been received. Over 4 months starting on 17th May (one stretch in Crosthwaite – through the village.)

4.5 Community Web site; No change

4.6 First Responders: Plenty of activity – mainly in Witherslack.

4.7 Crime & Disorder: The standard monthly report covering the Kent Estuary area had been received but was of little value in assessing the situation in the Parish. Clerk had not yet been able to extract detailed information from the police web site. **Action: Clerk**

5. **Governance**

5.1 SL Strategic Partnership – Local Area Partnership: The next meeting had been held on 12th May in Preston Patrick village hall. There were no attendees from Crosthwaite & Lyth; no minutes had been received as yet. A document providing a summary of funds available to LAPs had been circulated. This document confirmed that some funds would be made available to LAPs to support individual Parish projects which supported the LAP action plans.

6. **OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 CCC consultation on Dean Barwick Primary School proposals for nursery provision.

No objections – noted.

6.2 LDNPA follow up on invitations to briefing/consultation meetings: Planning, DPD and SPD consultation dates. Noted.

6.3 CIEP Participatory Budgeting Workshops: 15th/21st June. No volunteers to attend. Noted.

6.4 CALC (SL) Minutes of 4th March. Meeting on 17th June. Noted.

6.5 Environment Agency – Letter & leaflet re river maintenance in Lyth Valley: This letter included an invitation to a briefing session on 24th May at Gilpin Bridge Inn. The leaflet referred to a study by consultants on the various options for maintenance of drainage in the Lyth Valley and stated that the Environment Agency had decided on a scenario (3) which involved switching off the main pumps whilst maintaining the main drains. The briefing session was intended to explain this decision and was not a continuation of the consultation process.

J Bland explained the political background and the role of the Lyth Valley protection Group. He stated that the EA would be happy to see a local Drainage Board reinstated and would hand over the pumps if such a board wished to run them (but no funds to do so!).

There was considerable discussion around the implications of this decision and the Clerk was asked to reply to the EA conveying the Councils concerns on the lateness of the notice, the reduction in productivity of land which would remain flooded for much longer and the effect this would have on the livelihoods of the farmers concerned. He was asked to copy his letter to Tim Farron MP; Rosie Ballantyne-Smith undertook to approach Tim Farron directly. **Action: Clerk**

6.6 LDNPA – DPD on Allocation of Land: Issues and Options Consultation, covering report and details of plots recorded. This detail was as put forward in response to earlier consultation with the addition of the field adjacent to St Mary's Green, wrongly described as 'Scardale' – otherwise no objections were raised. Clerk to respond accordingly. **Action: Clerk**

6.7 LDNPA – DPD on 'General Development Policies': Issues and Options report for consultation. General Devt policies defined are basically a technical comparison with previous policies without detail on content. PC did not feel able to comment at this stage. **Action: Clerk**

6.8 CCC Minerals and Waste Devt framework submitted site allocations policies and proposals: Not a consultation document – no response required. Parish not affected by any of the proposed sites..

7. PLANNING MATTERS

Footpath Order made:

DO 2010 – diversion of footpath 514026 at Town End.

New application – no objection

7/2010/5221: Balcony etc at Woodghyll Crosthwaite for Mr & Mrs Smith.

8 FINANCES (Since last meeting)

Income:	NSI interest (April)	£ 15.00
Expenditure approved:	Fullpoint for Garden Ramble leaflets	£ 123.75
	Eon for electricity to 19 th April	£ 138.00
	A Mason for refurbishing notice board	£ 256.00
	CALC for annual subs etc	£ 157.00

Annual Accounts & Annual Return: Clerk tabled the audited final accounts for 2009/10 which were approved in the previous meeting. The completed Annual Return and associated statements re governance were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Insurance: Clerk reported that he had received a renewal notice with a premium of £696. In view of the difficulties with FORTIS during the past year he had reapplied to Allianz and would need to pay their premium within the next week when their notice was received – approved subject to premium not being significantly different.

9 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC; The two members of the public present had contributed to the discussion on Lyth Valley drainage and expressed themselves as satisfied with the outcome. No other matters were raised.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS;

Himalayan Balsam control: The Clerk reminded PC of the presence of Himalayan Balsam on the upper reaches of the Gilpin and at Bowling Green Field in particular, asking what action should be taken, if any. In view of a previous commitment to visit Bowling Green Field it was agreed to visit the site immediately before the next PC meeting. (see below)

Action: Clerk

Date of next monthly Meeting: Thursday 24th June 2010 at 7.00pm. **Meeting at Bowling Green Field**

Please note change of date through holidays etc

GP 28/05/10