

Lowside Quarter Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2014 at 6.30pm at GOOD COMPANIONS, NETHERTOWN

Present: Cllrs S Clague (in chair), G Mossop, J Brereton, L Gardener, A Sharp
and the Clerk.

02/14.1. Apologies for absence: S Gannon

02/14.2. Declarations of interest: None

02/14.3. Minutes of the meeting on 5th December 2013: It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of Lowside Quarter Parish Council held on the 5th December 2013 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. **Proposed by Cllr Stephenson and seconded by Cllr Mossop.**

02/14.4. Chair's Announcements: The Chair spoke about the changes and improvements by the Parish Council over the last twelve months. In particular the Parish now had its own website, new signs have been erected at entrances to all four villages, a new gardener had been taken over the grass and hedge cutting contract, Mrs Gardener has been appointed as a new councillor and there had been a new Clerk appointed.

02/14.5. Actions Arising:

	Minute Number	Action	Action on	Status
1	08/13.8.1	Supply sleepers to mount bench	G Mossop	Complete
2	08/13.8.1	To mount bench	G Mossop, S Clague	Ongoing
3	08/13.9.2	Breakdown of website agreement with Jack Towers	Clerk	Complete
4	08/13.10	Contact planning and highways with regards to surrounding wall at Ashley Barn	Clerk	Ongoing. Clerk to contact Senior personnel within highways

5	11/13.10.1	Contact Shaun Sykes re: Japanese knotweed	Clerk	Ongoing. Clerk to contact Scott Armstrong Parks Department
6	11/13.17.1	Meet with J.Brough regarding Buggy bridge	S.Clague	Ongoing Write to Highways Engineer
7	11/13.17.1	Contact Highways regarding red plastic on braystones bridge	Clerk	Ongoing
8	11/13.17.1	Correspondance to Middletown septic tank users	Clerk	Ongoing. Contact Highways and ask for a site visit.

02/14.6 Public Participation

02/14.6.1 To receive comments and representations from members of the public.

None were received.

02/14.7 Planning

02/14.7.1. To consider any new applications: None were received

02/14.7.2 To note decisions received: None were received

02/14.8 Finance

02/14.8.1 Payment of accounts.

To whom paid	Particulars of payment	Total Payment	Proposed	Seconded
Stuart Holliday	Grounds work for benches	£120.00	G Mossop	S Clague
Clerk	Wage	£122.10	B.Stephenson	J Brereton
Mr Singleton	Daffodil bulbs	£46.13	B Stephenson	L Gardener

02/14.8.2 To receive report on payments made since last meeting. No payments had been made.

02/14.9. Loss of subsidiary to Bus Service.

Cllr Clague informed the council members that the Whitehaven news had contacted the Clerk with regards to the loss of the Braystones to Egremont Bus service. The Chair and Cllr Mossop had spoken to a number of Parish members who had voiced their concerns. The Clerk explained that she had written to Cllr Clarkson, Cllr Woodburn and Mark Hodgkiss with regards to the importance of the bus service within this rural area. The Clerk had also arranged with the Whitehaven news reporter to meet at Nethertown to speak with Parish members to highlight their fear and apprehension over the loss of the service. This report was published in the Whitehaven News to help draw attention to and emphasise how vital this service is.

02/14.10 Budget for 2014/2015.

The Clerk explained that she had attended Precept Training provided by Copeland Borough Council. The Clerk was informed that the concurrent services payments could possibly drop by 50%+, the council tax support grant will decrease from £226.65 to £158.12 and the transitional grant will be dropped from £6.34 to £0. Due to the increased number of properties /exempt properties now in use and less people receiving benefits the payment for a band D property has decreased from £21.66 to £20.93 with a precept of £5000.00. Following this information it was agreed that the parish council would request a precept of £5174.14 for 2014/2015 which would maintain the payment for a band D property at £21.66p. Proposed by Cllr Mossop and seconded by Cllr Stephenson.

02/14.10 Clerks report of Ongoing Matters

The clerk reported that she had received correspondence from Mr N Thomsen who had stated his displeasure with regards to grounds work being carried out on a parcel of land at the northern edge of Caulderton village. The Clerk replied with an apology and confirmed that the work would be immediately stopped. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to Mr Donaldson and Mr Thomsen to request that until the ownership is agreed could the bench be mounted on the land for the benefit of the community. Once the ownership is agreed then the bench would be removed if need be. **Proposed by Cllr Mossop Seconded by Cllr Clague**

Action Clerk

ENW propose to make £250,000 available across Cumbria with regards to the removal of street lighting mounted on electric poles. The Clerk is to contact the district council regarding the lamp funding.

Action Clerk

Consultation budget meeting on 13th February received the highest number of responses. Thanks to all who took the time to complete the questionnaire.

Coastal update with regards to the Whitehaven to Silecroft stretch. The completion of "walking the course" March/April 2014 to check for storm damage. Final report due in Spring 2014.

CALC Grit bins – Encourage parish councils to take active role in the management of existing bins. New grit bins would be externally funded. It costs £250 per grit bin plus 200-250 to refill – actual cost is £20 per grit bin it is advised clustering work with neighbouring parishes.

Carol Hobbs – Community speed watch volunteers wanted contact
communityspeedwatch@cumbriapolice.co.uk

CALC Two signature rule – NALC is drafting new financial reg model after 18th February to amend existing financial regulation with regards the non requirement of two signatures on a cheque. It was agreed within the meeting this would not be the best practice for Lowside Quarter Parish Council

02/14.11. Items for next agenda

- Cllr Brereton requested that highways are contacted to make a site visit with regards to Flooding at Grandview Middletown.
- Cllr Stephenson requested that highways are contacted with regards to various potholes in roads and flooding on road by Mireveiw cottage.
- Cllr Stephenson requested the county council are contacted with regards to cutting down unstable trees by Sled Bridge.
- Cllr Gardener requested the council are contacted with regards to rubbish at Caulderton beach, Nethertown and Braystones.
- Cllr Gardener requested the council are contacted with regards to fly tipping at Braystones.
- Cllr Gardener requested the Clerk contact the Constabulary with regards to motorbikes frequently using the beach.

02/14.12 Date of next meeting

The next meeting to be held at 6:30pm Thursday 3rdth April 2014 at Good Companions, Singletons Garden Centre, Nethertown.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Signed.....

Date.....