

KIRKOSWALD PARISH COUNCIL

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Ordinary Monthly Meeting of Kirkoswald Parish Council at 7.00pm on Tuesday 9th November, 2021 in Kirkoswald Church Institute

PUBLIC OPEN MEETING (Maximum time 15 mins total, with 5 mins per individual question): None present

Present: Mrs I Henderson, Mrs J Tea (Vice Chair), Mr J Haugh, Mr N Jackson, Mrs S Quinn (Chair), Mr J Little, Mr J R Raine, Mrs W Smith, Mrs R Lytollis (Clerk), Mr A Jackson & County Cllr Driver

DRAFT MINUTES

ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING

1. **To receive any declarations of interest:** None
2. **To receive apologies:** District Cllr Robinson (work commitments) & Mr N Edmundson (previous commitments). It was resolved that the apologies be accepted (proposed by Mr J R Raine, seconded by Mrs J Tea, unanimous vote).
3. **Minutes:** It was resolved to authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 12th October, 2021 as a true record (proposed by Mrs J Tea, seconded by Mr J Haugh, unanimous vote).
4. **To discuss matters arising from the last meeting**
Amendments
 - Point 5 should read 'J Fenwick'
 - Highwayman's report should read Croglin Low Hall
 - Volunteers have come forward to look after the defibrillator
 - Eden Housing Association- car park. Clerk to send a letter to Mrs J Tea
 - Drains at Huddleseugh: It was noted that the tree is self seeded
5. **To discuss broadband:** Mrs S Quinn apologised for not inviting Mr B Smythe, but everyone acknowledged how busy he is with the project at present. It was reported that the mole ploughing has now begun and there are training meetings next week for house box fitting (both upper and lower quarters). So far one house in Renwick has been connected as a trial. It was noted there is still a lot to do in terms of wayleaves and Mrs S Quinn said that she is working on them. It was noted that B4RN have this week won two major community awards. Mrs S Quinn said that she has a co-ordinators' meeting later this week. It was noted that householders need to get their properties ready as soon as possible, so that everyone is ready for joining up. Councillors then discussed how a number of properties will be accessed.

6. **To receive an update from CALC and EALC (by Mrs J Tea):**

- Advertisement in Cumberland and Westmorland Herald: Samantha Bagshaw is stepping down, so a new Chief Officer is being recruited.
- CALC: There will be a 8.25% increase in subscriptions for 2022/23
- New Code of Conduct is now in place and parish councils are asked to ask review it and adopt it at their next meeting.

7. **To discuss the Parish Plan:** Mrs S Quinn and Mrs W Smith have put letters out to all the organisations listed in the Raven and responses are slowly coming in. It was noted that a lot of groups feel that they don't need anything at present but some organisations are struggling to get funding as they are only used by those worshipping, and not other community groups.

8. **To receive the Financial Report**

- It was resolved to make payments of bills due (proposed by Mr N Jackson, seconded by Mr J Haugh, unanimous vote)

Clerk's Salary & Expenses (including wreath)	£355.52	(Paid by bank transfer)
Campbell Logue (Spraying)	£460.00	(Paid by bank transfer)
- To review cash flow projections for the remainder of 2021/22- Councillors reviewed the cash flow projections for the remainder of the year.
- Grants: To decide grant payments for 2022/23- Councillors agreed to pay the grants requested in full, as there were no major projects scheduled for the next financial year.
- To set the precept for 2022/23- After discussion, it was resolved to increase the precept by 5%.

9. **To receive the Highwayman's Report and discuss matters related to Highway**

• **To discuss road through Kirkoswald and property damage caused by vehicle**

Mrs S Quinn reported that she had contacted Mr John Banks about the two recent incidents caused by long vehicles and he had come out twice to look at the situation. The repair work to the property has now been carried out and neighbouring walls repaired following the damage. It was suggested that warning signs or a barrier might be needed. It was noted that vehicles are getting stuck in the village multiple times per week and Highways Dept. are considering if new signage could be put in to warn drivers that the road is not suitable for long vehicles.

Drain at Huddlesceugh- Mr A Jackson reported that he had gone to look at the drain and it needs lowering at the far end. It was agreed that they need to get the digger back and use lasers to get the levels. It was noted that there had been some flooding last week. It was also reported that the gully at Jack's barn needs to be extended.

The pot holes at Five Roads End are terrible and need emergency repair- The Clerk was asked to email Mr John Banks about them and also mention the tree in the drain at Huddlesceugh and that laser levelling is needed for it to work as it should. Mrs W Smith said that the roads in Parkhead are currently okay but it was noted that Sickergill Bridge needs work as it is in a poor state. It was reported that there is also a deep pothole developing by 3 gates at Fog Close.

Grit heaps have now been placed on road sides. Mr A Jackson said that he still has the gritting machine, but no grit as yet. Mrs W Smith said that the gullies at Parkhead are pretty full. County C Driver Clare said that the aim is for the gullies to be looked at once every 2 years, but that doesn't happen. The work is classed as an emergency is if property is at risk and this interrupts the usual schedule.

10. **To receive a report from County Cllr Driver:**

- Gritter: County Cllr Driver said that she is still trying to get to the bottom of the agreement which had been sent out. The document currently available, after it was drafted for another area, is too

onerous and heavy handed for what is needed down here. Cllr Driver said that she would go back and ask for a contract which has a lighter touch. She said that insurance is still going to be a sticking point and reassurances are needed. It was noted that if the gritter was gifted (then maintenance wouldn't be covered) it would make the legal side far more straight forward. It was agreed that volunteers will start to lose their goodwill if it is made too difficult.

- It was reported that the structural changes to the district authority rumble on with questions about a judicial review still ongoing. It was noted that the structural change order has been released and that the latest Chief Executive had resigned last week
- County Cllr Driver said that her biggest concern at present is social care, as there is a horrible level of vacancies. It was reported that a £7m emergency grant fund is now available to uplift the basic pay rate for care staff, to help fill the vacancies.
- It was noted that Mr A Jackson needs some grit for use with the gritting machine. The Clerk was asked to email County Cllr Driver to request that the grit be delivered.

11. **To receive a report from District Cllr Robinson:** Report circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

12. **To receive a report from the Church Institute:** Mrs L Little reported that work is going to be carried out to the gents toilets and that no grant would be necessary next year. The committee are currently looking at ways to commemorate way to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee.

13. **To discuss Police matters arising:**

It was noted that there has been a spate of thefts in the area. Householders are reminded to ensure that their property is locked, good lighting is in place and insurance policies are in place. It was noted that a number of vans full of tools have been taken. It was reported that the Police are now using helicopters to look for the land rovers, quads, tools which have been taken. Parishioners are reminded to report anything that doesn't seem right and to make sure that car keys are out of sight of the front door and front doors locked, even when residents are at home. Parishioners are asked to report suspicious vehicles immediately so that perpetrators can be caught quickly.

14. **To consider any planning applications made and related matters:** None

15. **To receive decisions on planning applications made:** None

16. **To receive Councillors' reports and items for future agendas**

- Raven Notice: Parishioners are reminded use a torch and wear a high vis jacket when walking dogs in the dark.
- Lights being taken back by Eden District Council: Clerk to ask that the light by the shop in Kirkoswald be looked at again
- Co-option of new councillors

17. **To decide the date and venue of the next meeting:** 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th December, 2021 in Kirkoswald Church Institute. Councillors were sorry that they could not meet at Renwick at present, as the hall there is not of sufficient size to allow social distancing for councillors and members of the public.

The meeting closed at 8.22 pm

Signed: R. E. Lytollis

Clerk to Kirkoswald Parish Council

Date: 09/10/2021