

Draft

## **LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Virtual Meeting held Thursday 18 March 2021**

**1. Chairman opened the meeting at 19.30 welcoming several members of the public**

**2. Present and Apologies**

#### **Councillors**

Graham Sanderson (Chair)

Bernard Mitchell

Simon Bailey

Jo Edmondson

#### **District Councillors**

Tracy Coward

#### **County Councillors**

Matt Brereton

#### **Also Present**

Les Ingham (acting)

Several members of the public

#### **Apologies**

Ian Wharton District Councillor

**3. Adoption of Minutes from 21<sup>st</sup> January Meeting**

Resolved that the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 January be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

Proposed by Cllr Mitchell Seconded by Cllr Edmondson

**4. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Edmondson declared interest in the Lowick Community Hall

Cllr Sanderson declared an interest in Planning Applications on the agenda arising from his proximity to the applications

## **5. Public Participation**

The Secretary of the Lowick Allotment Association prior to the meeting had written to the PC expressing interest in applying for a grant from the Nigel Lord bequest towards development of the Lowick Green Allotments. Several questions were asked of the PC as follows

- would the PC explain how they intended to distribute the funds available
- what were the eligibility criteria
- what was the timescale for action
- is there a process in place for governance and management of the bequest

A discussion followed the main points of which were

- although the PC had been informed during 2020 that the Parish would receive a bequest it was not until December 2020 that the first tranche was quantified and paid to the PC.
- a second tranche is anticipated but the PC has no knowledge of value or timing.
- for the time being the first tranche is held in an account separate from the PC funds.
- initial information had been made available to Parishioners via the website and Newsletter.
- the bequest was stated to be for 'infrastructure and benefit of local people' and the PC agreed that in principle supporting the development of the allotments would be entirely within the remit.
- however, it would take some time to fully promote the bequest across the Parish, fairly elicit interest and need for consideration of proposals and establish a governance process Indeed until the full value of the bequest was understood this would add further uncertainty.

Cllr Sanderson stated that he thought there may be a possibility of matching funding from District, County and other possible schemes and suggested this could be researched by the Allotment Association. Cllrs

Coward and Brereton confirmed this could be possible. Cllr Sanderson suggested that the Allotment Association develop a plan and costed budget for the PC to better understand the scale of their proposal.

Cllr Coward noted how Coniston PC had created a Charitable Trust following a bequest they had received some years ago. This continued to support local projects through donations received from organisers of events basing their activities in Coniston. She suggested this may be a model the PC might wish to consider.

## **6. Report from County Councillors**

Cllr Brereton reported that there was now dedicated funding for the repositioning of the SATNAV sign on the A5092 at Lane End. Highways had on their agenda a review of the signage and road markings at the junction of the A5092 and A5084 to better highlight the turndown to Coniston.

Cllr Brereton continued to explain there would be a review of speed limits along the A5092 from Greenodd to Grizebeck and onwards along the A595 to Broughton. Proposals included a continuous 40 mph limit from Greenodd through Lowick Green with a 50 mph limit from Lowick Green over Gawthwaite to Beanthwaite and a 40 mph limit through Grizebeck. This would be subject to public participation.

Cllr Edmondson re-iterated the poor state of the road over Lowick Common. Cllr Brereton asked for an update of the Lengthsman's progress so he can follow up.

Cllr Brereton reported the B4RN had introduced an appointee to accelerate their intended development of a Furness broadband network, coordinating across parishes. The project would be promoted through social media and local papers.

## **7. Report from District Councillors**

In the absence of Cllr Wharton there was nothing to report.

## **8. Progress Update**

Cllrs reported more sightings of activities in Moss wood and were aware that more local residents were feeling concerned. PC Harris would appreciate being informed of any such activities. People are advised not to take matters in hand themselves.

It was understood that an SLDC Planning Officer will be further investigating the site.

## **9. Planning Applications**

Planning applications SL/2021/0218 Mill Close and SL/2021/0222 The Cottage, Woodgate Hall were discussed. Cllrs had no comments to make on either application.

## **10. Correspondence**

Nothing to report

## **11. Parish and Town Council Elections**

Nomination forms had been copied to Councillors and put on the PC website. Nominations must be submitted by hand to SLDC in Kendal by 8 April.

## **12. Poaching**

PC Harris had informed the PC of an increase in poaching in the area and asked for vigilance and any such activity to be reported via the 101 telephone number.

Post Meeting note from PC Harris

'Over the past few weekends we have had an increase in deer poaching across the area.

Dogs are used to kill the animals and because of the nature of the dogs and owners we have also had cases of livestock being worried.

We'd ask that if you do find any evidence of deer being taken you call it in on 101 (or send to [101emails@cumbria.police.uk](mailto:101emails@cumbria.police.uk))

or if it is an ongoing crime 999.'