

LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on Thursday 20 May 2021 held at Lowick Community Hall.

Present Cllr S Bailey, Cllr J Edmondson, Cllr G Sanderson, Cllr L Ingham

001/21 Apologies

Resolved that apologies from District Cllr Wharton be accepted.

002/21 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on Thursday 18 March 2021 to be signed by the chair as a true record.

003/21 Declaration of Interests

Resolved to accept there are no declarations of interests.

004/21 Public Participation

- a) Local Police Report - The police were not in attendance
- b) County Cllrs report – The County Cllr was not in attendance
- c) District Cllrs were not in attendance but Cllr Wharton had sent an e-mail as follows:

1: Covid 19 Update

As of 9th May, the number of Covid 19 cases in South Lakeland is 10 cases per 100,000 as opposed to 22 per 100,000 in England and 29/100,000 regionally, which has been skewed by the arrival of the Indian variant in the Bolton area. The infection rate is greatest in the 12 to 18 age group, followed by the 30 to 39 age group. So, there is cautious optimism and the need for controlled return to the “new normal”.

2. SLDC Update

SLDC will be meeting up for its AGM next week, so apart from Covid management, there has been little happening.

The focus is currently on opening up the Economy and grants have been allocated for this purpose. This involves Marketing campaigns to promote trade and tourism, Covid marshalling, provision of seating and signage in outdoor spaces and the generally opening up of the high streets.

Businesses are still available for grants and change regularly as restrictions alter. The SLDC web page is <https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/business-and-trade/business-support-grants-coronavirus-covid-19/>

3. Visitor Management

The National Park, in partnership with various agencies, like the Police, SLDC, CCC and National Trust have formed a Tactical Visitor Management Group and developed specific area visitor management plans. There is one specific to around Coniston and another around Hodge Close/Tilberthwaite. They have been reviewed by the local Parish Councils.

These plans include regular Ranger and Police patrols, clearer signage, controlling the movement of Camper Vans on narrow roads and the provision of litter bins. To prevent parking congestion, the Park is encouraging Pop up Car Parks and likewise for temporary Camp sites to limit the amount of fly camping.

The park has also recruited Welcome Hosts, for hotspots like Brown Howe and Monk Coniston to help visitors and promote the Countryside Code, linked in with a National campaign. The patrols will be dealing with infringements through education and enforcement. I have been out on a couple

of these patrols over May Bank holiday and, although quieter than expected people were responsive. In short, the plans are working.

We are still seeing problems with littering and barbecues and this is a part of the message the park and SLDC are trying to get across to locals and visitors. Another problem we are seeing throughout the area is off-roading. This is illegal and a Police issue. The advice is not to confront, but to note registrations if possible, with time and place and direction.

We are asking people to inform the police on 101 or 101emails@cumbria.police.uk if they see any of these issues occurring.

4. Farmers Arms, Lowick

The Farmers Arms has now been bought through Grizedale Arts and funded by a mixture of local buy in and grants. Refurbishment has started and there various events and work days planned. Over 200 people turned up at the rummage sale last weekend and volunteers turned up for gardening. It is nice to see activity there again. It will be even better, when the first pints are poured.

5. New District Councillor

The Bye election for District Councillor in Broughton and Coniston ward on May 6th caused by the retirement of Anne Hall, was won by Heather Troughton, the Liberal Democrat Candidate. 2538 votes were cast and Heather gained 1317 votes, or 52% of the total, with a majority of 340. Heather is born and bred in Coniston and is a teacher at Windermere as well as a Parish Councillor for Coniston.

Now the team is up to full strength, we will be discussing how we manage the District and communicate with the Parishes as effectively as possible.

Contact me on 077784 30926, or ian.wharton@southlakeland.gov.uk if you have any queries/concerns.

Stay Safe, Keep Healthy

Ian, Heather and Tracy

One other matter is that Cllr Sanderson had spoken to Cllr Wharton and was told that the off roaders had dropped and if anyone does see any they should discreetly take photos and ring 101 so that the police can deal with them. District Cllr Ian Wharton will also probably still be looking after this area.

d) There were no residents in attendance.

005/21 Progress Update – The order of the updates was rearranged by the Chairman

a) **B4RN** – Cllr Bailey has spent a lot of time on this. The target B4RN area starts west of Kendal covering the Furness Peninsular. From a topology perspective this Parish seems to be a fairly easily achieved addition. What this area now needs is some enthusiastic volunteers to get behind the initiative so that we can begin the planning exercise. It is likely the cabinet will be strategically best sited at the Community Hall. Lots of interest in Kirkby Ireleth towards Subberthwaite and across the Common many remote farms are very keen. Not sure what the minimum number of subscribers is or how many households we need to get interest from but the project is generating much interest outside the Parish. We need to get the message across that this is a worthwhile and future proof service and encourage people to register an interest. If we can get this established there is no doubt that it will benefit the whole community both now in the future. It will be particularly useful for home working professionals.

The fact that B4RN put dark fibre in means they can support even faster links – e.g.10Gb or greater. Leaflets are now available and a door drop should be the next step and also a perfect opportunity to deliver the Parish Plan Questionnaire at the same time.

It was also note that the use of local contractors is where is crosses peoples land they will get wayleaves and it is much cheaper than BT.

- b) Parish Plan** - Hopefully the Parish Plan Questionnaire will be delivered with the leaflets for B4RN but need a date for the Questionnaires to be returned by. The questionnaire will be available on the website and people will be able to submit a response through the website. They will also be dropped off and collected from the telephone box and the Red Lion. There was a short discussion about the printing and the cost of the printing of the questionnaires. It was agreed that the responses should be in by the end of June.
- c) Moss Wood** – The Planners at LDNPA are behind with many aspects of their role and had not responded to emails from residents. Cllr Bailey was asked to contact LDNPA and spoke directly to the Case Officer. Planners are reverting to original judgment with planned enforcement. The owners will be obliged to remove several vehicles and other items that still remain as this is in breach of the Planning order. Several residents have expressed concerns about a caravan on site but this was not evident when the planners visited the site a few weeks ago. When the planners did visit they did not initially provide feedback.
- d) Lowick Community Hall**
 We are open to the public but have no bookings as yet but the K2B is scheduled for September.
 New radiators, windows and some painting completed.
 White plastic chairs in stored outside in a new storage unit next to the recycled benches.
 New regulations for users posted and risk assessment carried out.
 Notice board outside needing to be repaired and new barge boards to be installed over the entrance.
 Lowick WI is closing down due to lack of members. They are making an embroidery item for display in the hall to mark 70 years since it was formed. They are donating £50 for a new outside light and any other funds to go to Lowick Show. Gill Wardle will remain on our committee but not as a rep for WI.
 The committee will meet probably in early July depending on regulations when we will appoint a minuting secretary and review our situation. charity commission report has been sent and our accounts have been audited.
- e) Lowick Green Management Committee**
 No update available.
- f) Lengths man** – Apart from the drains, some road signs have been cleaned. Roof repairs have been done on the bus stop at Lowick Bridge. Whilst doing the roof repairs, discovered that the Apex is rotting and the roof will need re felting. For this reason his invoice will be higher because of the materials.

006/21 Planning Applications

There were no planning applications for consideration.

Notice of grant of planning application

7/2021/5211, Lowick Bridge Farm

007/21 Correspondence

Correspondence noted since the last meeting included:

- a) Cumbria County Council – Update on reporting highway matters
- b) LDNPA – Land at Mosswood update
- c) CALC – Local Nature Recovery Strategy Pilot

008/21 Outgoing Correspondence
Covered in Progress updates.

009/21 Finance and Clerks Report
The following payments were authorized for payment:

Lengths man Service £144

The clerk advised the bank balance is as follows:

Current Account 2,559.32

Business Savings Account 10,737.14

010/21 Annual Governance Statement

To consider the approval of the Annual Governance Statement (section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return)

Resolved to Adjourn until next meeting.

011/21 Accounting Statements

To consider the approval of the Accounting Statements (section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return)

Resolved to adjourn until the next meeting.

012/21 Certificate of Exemption

To consider the approval of the Certificate of Exemption - AGAR 2020/21 Part 2

Resolved to adjourn until the next meeting.

013/21 Appointment of Clerk

Resolved to appoint Christine Adams as clerk.

014/21 Date of next meeting

Resolved to note that the next council meeting will be on 22 July 2021.

It was noted that an Extra meeting may be needed in order to approve the AGAR within the time limits.