

## **Minutes of Allonby Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021.**

**Attendance:** Mr R Hart (Chair), Mr G Browes, Mr A Jones, Mr J Hanley, Mr A Barnard

5 members of the public were present – Ms Susan Anderson, Mrs Colette Hodginson, Mrs Shirley Clementson, Mrs Sarah Abramaviciene, Ms Karen Yarney

**Clerk:** Mrs M Walker

**Apologies for absence:** Mrs N Wingfield, Mrs Pam Jones, Councillor Tony Markley, Councillor Jim Lister

Declaration of Acceptance of Office – these were signed and witnessed by the Clerk prior to the meeting.

Election of Chair: Councillor Browes and Councillor Barnard proposed and seconded Councillor Hart as Chairman.

Election of Vice Chair: In the absence of Councillor Kendall and with no apologies sent, Councillor Barnard was proposed as Vice Chair by Councillor Browes and seconded by Councillor Jones. A letter would be sent to Councillor Kendall, informing him of the outcome of the election.

**Requests for dispensation** – none

**Declaration of interests** – none

**To authorise the Chair to sign the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021 via Zoom** – the minutes were agreed by full Council.

Public Participation Session – as this had already taken place in the Annual Meeting, this item was dismissed.

Potholes – approximately 75% of the work had been completed and one invoice already paid. Although the fix was only a temporary measure Councillors were pleased and happy with the outcome.

Bollards on Cycle Track – already covered in the public meeting.

Beck – Councillor Barnard reported that he had received a letter from Mark Jenkinson MP on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April who was keeping up the pressure on C.C.C. regarding the beck and also the B5300. Resident Lynda Higham was waiting on a report that had been commissioned by the Environment Agency and the situation of the beck was very much on the agenda of the Environment Agency as well as C.C.C. and the local M.P.

Toilet Block – Councillor Barnard and Chairman Hart had met with the Leaks Engineer from United Utilities recently at the toilet block. Water consumption was high due to a leak that was tracked down to under the flagstones by the gent's toilet. When the stopcock was turned off in the gent's toilet, the leak stopped. Councillor Barnard had met with Simon Ringrose after this meeting to check the cistern in the bike store and despite the stopcock being turned off, water was flowing freely throughout the block.

Councillor Barnard informed the meeting on behalf of his son Richard, that he was formally handing in his notice to quit the hire of the block for his cycle hire business. Council felt that this was a shame but understood the reasons behind it.

Police Report – Anti Social behaviour reports for Wigton and Aspatria, but nothing relating to Allonby. Prior to the elections for the Police and Crime Commissioners, Councillor Barnard had contacted Peter McCall regarding the police cardboard models that were featured in his campaign leaflet. At the time he

said that he would get back to Councillor Barnard if he was re-elected. His P.A. had been in touch to ask what we as a village had done towards the speeding issue through the village. Councillor Barnard informed her of our actions to date. She then agreed to pass this information on to the local constabulary who should be in touch. Councillor Jones wondered if we would get a chance of a second traffic survey which we were promised would take place in the summer, but hadn't due to lockdown. The Chairman agreed to make contact again with Amber Sykes to raise the issue.

Grass Cutting – The Clerk felt that there was a great deal of confusion regarding when the grass was being cut. Councillor Wingfield was getting in touch with Andrew Sim with regard to the cutting either ends of the village. After some discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Tivoli to get a copy of the grass cutting schedule.

Allerdale Council proposals for West End Green Concessions – Councillor Hanley informed the meeting that Peter Napton Estates Manager had taken over at Allerdale and he was wanting to rent out sections of West End Green to the highest bidder after it had been agreed that Dean & Tyler Hanley should operate their coffee business 'The Drowsy Goose' from West End Green. The Parish Council had received an email from Mr Napton's office asking us for a response to his proposal. The Chair had sent a brief response saying that we were opposed to this proposal but that we would be discussing it in full at this meeting and a further response would then be given. Councillors felt that this could potentially lead to competition and duplication for businesses already in the village. The Chair had mentioned the situation to Tony Markley who said that if the Council wanted to charge concessions to use the carpark that technically they were able to do this, but if they were going to start charging to use the green, the Parish Council should have some say in this as it was still likely that at some point in the very near future, the Parish Council would take over ownership and management of the greens. The Chairman thought that the AONB contract was up at the end of this year. Any agreement that is forged between Allerdale and ourselves, must only be in force whilst they are in possession of the greens.

Overnight parking in the village – Councillor Barnard had attended a zoom meeting with Allerdale and Copeland Borough Council Tourism department. During the course of the meeting, camper vans came up under discussion. Councillor Barnard asked if Allerdale could do more to enforce the authorisation of no overnight camping in car parks. Councillor Hanley had also informed Dave Bryden of the situation. Susan Anderson had informed Councillor Barnard that there were FB pages where free overnight camping was discussed and Allonby was on the list. Councillor Browes reminded the meeting that it was illegal. The problems were many and included 'what do people do with their rubbish?' and 'what do people do with their effluent?'. The signs were very small at the entrance to the car park and it was felt that we could do with some more visible signs. The issue will be raised with Tony Markley.

Reports from Committees – Councillor Barnard informed the meeting that he hoped that Forum meetings would re-commence in July. He had recently got some new dog fouling posters which he had put up in the village. Donna Pim reported that 'Anti Vac' stickers had been placed over some of the posters, but she had removed them. Councillor Barnard reported that the dog poo bags in the dispensers were being used frequently.

Councillor Browes reported that the Village Hall Committee was meeting tomorrow and that Art Ex was planning to go ahead. The Clerk reported that the school were hoping to hold a Junior Art Ex the Saturday of the same weekend as Art Ex and it was hoped that they would do a reciprocal signing to each other. This would be for primary aged pupils in the immediate area. The school would be having refreshments and activities. The Grumpies would be putting up the art ex boards.

Planning – nothing received.

Correspondence – the Chairman had received a letter from County to inform us that they will be starting the re-surfacing of the cycle path from Blue Dial to the Surfers car park in the immediate future. He had also received an email from Environmental Health in relation to Beach clean and clean water initiative. They have a message board on the toilet block opposite the Surf Bar and solar panels which they were looking to relocate and they wondered if we would be interested in housing both items on the toilet block by the play park. Councillors were happy for the Chairman to proceed with this initiative, presuming that there would be a payment of some kind. The Chair was due to meet with them on Thursday. County had suggested that they would like to make more of Allonby as a tourism destination and had talked about yellow flag status. They were also talking about a no dog area on the beach. Love My Beach had produced a Beach Clean Board and were looking for a business sponsor. Councillor Hanley said that they may be interested.

Councillor Barnard had emailed Ellenvale and County to inform them of the vandalism and removal of the bus stop sign near Green Bank. The Environment and Infrastructure Department had agreed to replace it.

The Clerk had received an email and phone message from a gentleman who had come to service the defibrillator and had found it extremely difficult to access it due to the volume of books in 'Laal Library' and the heaviness of the door. It was agreed that the Clerk would remove the shelf of books facing the defibrillator to give people enough room to access it easily. The second email was regarding the servicing of the defibrillator and whether the Parish Council would be willing to take over the servicing of it. It was agreed to approach St Johns Ambulance to see if they could offer this service to all three defibrillators in the village and what the cost would be.

Finance – The Annual Accounts had been accepted and agreed at the Annual Meeting. The Chairman would sign the Agar at the end of the meeting. The problems with the banking still continue and the Clerk had received a letter recently informing the Parish Council that the HSBC Branches would soon all be going counterless, which would make life more difficult. The Clerk had emailed CALC to see if they were aware of the problem and was awaiting a response.

**Items for next agenda:** It was agreed that some of the standard items such as toilet block, potholes, bollards and police report could be taken off the agenda items as they had now run their course.

**Date and time of next meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30p.m. at the Village Hall, unless otherwise notified,

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.10p.m.