

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Blennerhasset and Baggrow Social Centre on
Wednesday 19th July, 2017 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllrs. J. Bowe, A. Little (Chair), W. Powley, A. Raine and R. Richardson

Also present: Cllr. J. Mounsey (Allerdale Borough Council), Cllr. A. Bowness (Cumbria County Council) for part of the meeting.

1936 Apologies

None.

1937 Minutes 10th May 2017

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 10th May, 2017 were accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

1938 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

1939 Dispensation Requests

None received.

1940 Public Voice Slot

Cllr. Richardson reported that parishioners are willing to assist with the maintenance the village green at West End in Torpenhow.

Correspondence had been received regarding the village green at Blennerhasset which stated that as the condition of the green had improved, partly due to residents changing the way they are parking, the parish council should monitor the situation before committing the money on installing posts.

1941 Reports from Outside Bodies

- (a) Allerdale Borough Council – Cllr Mounsey reported that the full Council meeting of the Borough Council will be held on Wednesday 26th July. Items to be discussed at the meeting include the Local Developer Plan.
- (b) Cumbria County Council - Cllr. Bowness reported that Cumbria County Council had agreed to replace and install the posts for the village signs. Cllr Bowness suggested that the Parish Council should consider any projects that might benefit from funding that may become available through the UU Legacy Fund.
- (c) Police Community Support Officer – PCSO Megan Jones was not in attendance. The Clerk reported that three crimes were shown on the crime mapper website, one at the sports/recreation ground, Blennerhasset and two at High Road, Blennerhasset. It was noted that the crimes were reported in April. The information on Farm Watch and Smart Water Kits provided by PCSO Jones had been circulated to Members.

1942 Project Groups

Aspatria Rural Partnership

The Chairman reported that the Aspatria Rural Partnership had met last week. The Police Crime Commissioner had been requested to attend a meeting of the Partnership to discuss the police policy of attendance at parish council meetings.

1943 Finances

- (a) The financial statement at 30th June had been circulated with the agenda.

Balance at 30th June 2017 £21,692.80

Income Received

Electricity North West – Wayleave

£ 78.88

COIF Charity

£ 0.36

(b) The following payments were approved for payment:

Torpenhow Village Hall Committee – Room Hire 10 May 2017	£ 15.00
Clerk's account Quarter 1	£326.46
HMRC PAYE Quarter 1	£ 81.60
Clerk's expenses Quarter 1	£135.05

Donation granted to: Baggrow and Blennerhasset Flood Action Group	£ 93.70
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Members considered the invoice from Bromfield Farms Ltd. for £4212.00 for the work to repair the flood damaged fence. The quotation provided in June 2016 was for the amount of £4080.00. It was reported that part of the work originally suggested had not been carried out and the work did not appear to be of a satisfactory standard. It was suggested that an inspection should be carried out after the close of the meeting. It was agreed to pay the invoice subject to an explanation for the increase in the amount of the invoice being received and confirmation that the work has been satisfactorily completed.

(c) Business Bank Account

Further to minute reference 1916(c) a mandate from the Cumberland Building Society had been obtained. RESOLVED to open an account with the Cumberland Building Society with three authorised signatories: Cllrs Little, Powley and Richardson. The mandate would be completed by the authorised signatories and returned to the Building Society.

(d) Blennerhasset Poors Allotments

Cllr Bowe reported that she had spoken to residents in Blennerhasset regarding the history of the Poors Allotments. Information had also been found on the National Archives website that the allotments had been left to the poor of Blennerhasset by will of Richard Bouch. RESOLVED that the Charity should remain open. Once an account has been opened with CBS the mandate to update the account details of the Charity would be completed and returned to CCLA.

1944 Planning

(a) Applications received:

HOU/2017/0101 Winder House Blennerhasset
Alterations to dwelling including replacement garage roof No objections

HOU/2017/0112 – Midtown Farm Torpenhow
Erection of timber clad shed

No objections subject to the shed being used for domestic use but there are concerns if it is intended for commercial use. Issues with smoke were also raised. Parishioners had also raised concerns with the application to the parish council.

2/2017/0288 – Highwood Nook, Mealsgate
Erection of slurry tower on existing agricultural land No objections

CAT/2017/00019 – Millfield, Torpenhow
Consultation on an application under Section 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to carry out works to trees in Torpenhow Conservation Area No objections

(b) Decisions:

2/2017/0064 – United Utilities PLC
Six proposed temporary construction accesses at various locations
Sites off A595/School Lane Bothel between Williamsgate, Bridekirk and Mealsgate
FULL PLANS APPROVED

2/2017/0065 – Proposed Pipeline United Utilities
New temporary access and minor realignment of pipeline at Quarry Hill WTW, revised construction technique at river crossing near Low Mill and widening of working areas near Bridekirk on A595
FULL PLANS APPROVED

2/2017/0198 – Land off High Road Blennerhasset
Variation of application 2/2016/0215 for a four-bedroom two storey dwelling. Provide en-suite in bedroom 2 and amend staircase window

FULL PLANS APPROVED

HOU/2017/0112 – Midtown Farm Torpenhow
Erection of timber clad shed

FULL PLANS REFUSED

2/2017/0288 – Highwood Nook, Mealsgate
Erection of slurry tower on existing agricultural land

FULL PLANS APPROVED

1945 Highways Maintenance

The following matters were discussed:

The issues with the resurfacing work in the parish had still not been attended to. Cllr Bowness reported that Highways are aware of the issues and will be coming round to fill in the 'drop offs'. Following the resurfacing work areas are still flooding and the gullies had not been covered up whilst the chippings had been put down. Cllr Bowness advised that this should be reported on the HIMS.

The recent road closures and confusion caused with diversion signs was raised.

United Utilities are not clearing the mud off the road to a satisfactory standard where works are being carried out.

Pot hole on the Blennerhasset to A595 road.

The report in the press relating to the A595 upgrade at Bothel and Moota was raised. As the parish council had not been consulted on the proposals it was suggested that the Clerk write to Cumbria County Council asking for copies of the designs for the proposal.

1946 Correspondence

Correspondence received since the last meeting had been circulated to members:

CALC – Three Tier Meeting Agenda 11th May 2017

CALC Circular May 2017

PCSO M. Jones – Farm Watch and Smart Water Kits

CALC – Letter re Engagement by Cumbria Constabulary with Parish and Town Councils

Cumbria County Council – Temporary Prohibition of all Traffic – Threapland Lees road

Cumbria County Council – Temporary Prohibition of all Traffic – High Woodhook Farm, Torpenhow

Aspatria Rural Partnership – Minutes meeting 11th May 2017

CALC – National Grid North West Coast Connections Project – Press Release

Cumbria County Council – Temporary Prohibition of all Traffic – Low Mill, Torpenhow

United Utilities – West Cumbria Supplies Project Update

Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Allerdale – Final Recommendations

ACT – Household Emergency Planning

CALC – Circular June 2017

CALC - Note of 3 tier meeting Allhallows May 2017

Streetlight No. 10, Blennerhasset

CALC - Press release: Success Regime Programme in West, North and East Cumbria

Allerdale BC – Fraud Risks in Town and Parish Councils – advice for councillors

Baggrow and Blennerhasset Flood Action Group – Request for funding

Additional correspondence received:

Clerks and Councils Direct

CALC Circular July 2017

Cumbria County Council – Re-activation of Road Closure – Torpenhow to Ireby

ARP – Re Highways projects in the Aspatria area

1947 Blennerhasset Playing Field

(a) Management of the field/Registration of the Legal Title.

The Clerk reported that the Cricket Club had not provided an update on the new arrangements for the management of the cricket club.

Correspondence had been received advising that a meeting had been held to discuss setting up a new committee which intended to look after the playing field and play area. It had been confirmed that the Cricket Club will continue to operate under its own constitution and the playing field committee will be a separate committee. Members noted that a meeting is to be held in the School on 6th September when hopefully more information will be available.

The Chairman reported that she had contacted Beaty & Co., Solicitors regarding the registration of the legal title. In order to draft the transfer document, the solicitors had requested a copy of Mr. Bowe's death certificate. Cllr Bowe advised that this was not available and agreed to confirm to the clerk the date of Mr Bowe's birth and death to enable the solicitor to obtain a copy via the Registrar.

(b) Dog Fouling Issues

The issues at the Playing Field reported at the last meeting had been passed to the Borough Council. A sign had been erected at the entrance to the playing field stating that the field is a Dog Exclusion Zone. The Street Scene Officer had also carried out a leaflet drop to residents in Blennerhasset. Despite this dog fouling at the playing field continues. The use of CCTV cameras was discussed. It was suggested that a notice should be displayed on the notice board and an article included in the Binsey Link advising that the parish council are considering the use of CCTV cameras to deter dog fouling. Cllr. Mounsey agreed to contact the Borough Council to request the presence of a street scene officer in the village and if possible a larger sign to be erected at the playing field.

1948 Layby at Kirkland

The condition of the layby at Kirkland had been reported to Cumbria County Council Highways Department. They had advised that they do not consider this a defect that requires their attention as it is a private road. It was suggested that residents in this vicinity be contacted to ascertain whether the land is within their ownership. Cllr Bowness also agreed to pursue this further with County Highways.

1949 Village Signs Post Replacement

Cllr Bowness reported earlier in the meeting that Cumbria County Council Highways Department had agreed to install and replace the posts for the village signs.

1950 Blennerhasset and Torpenhow Village Greens

The condition of the village greens will be monitored and discussed further at the next meeting.

1951 Footpath at Whitrigg

Cumbria County Council had confirmed that they had now located the parish council's application form. This will be dealt with within the next three years.

1952 Layby adjacent to Church, Torpenhow

The estimate from Tolsons was still awaited. It was agreed that once the estimate is received an inspection of the excavations would be undertaken prior to the area being tarmaced.

1953 Map Boards

Cllr Richardson agreed to contact Alan Norman to retrieve the map boards.

1954 Tree Trimming

Cllr. Powley reported that he had requested a quotation from a contractor at Blencogo. This was still awaited.

1955 Blennerhasset Village Hall

The solicitors had advised that the Charity Commission have requested that an amendment be made to the Charity's Trust Deed. An application has been made and the solicitor is still awaiting to hear from the Charity Commission.

1956 Funding for Defibrillators

Sources of funding to install defibrillators in both villages was discussed. Cllr Mounsey reported that funding is available from the Charity Shop in Aspatria and funding may also be available from the United Utilities Legacy Fund. It was agreed that a notice should be displayed on the notice boards advising that the parish council are considering purchasing two defibrillators and inviting ideas for fund raising activities.

1957 Community Emergency Plans

ACTion with Communities in Cumbria had provided Members with leaflets containing advice on Emergency Planning. ACT is encouraging households across the county to consider what local risks may affect them and how to be better prepared in the event of an emergency. ACT have offered to provide leaflets to distribute to all households in the parish. It was agreed to accept ACT's offer and distribute the leaflets to residents. It was noted that it had been agreed in principle for the village halls to be used as a contact/meeting point in the event of an emergency.

1958 Baggrow and Blennerhasset Flood Action Group

Work had recently been carried out to dredge the river and a request had been received from Baggrow and Blennerhasset Flood Action Group for a contribution of £93.70 towards the work. The request was considered. RESOLVED that the request be supported on the proviso that the parish council are consulted prior to any future works being carried out.

1959 Revision of Standing Orders

Cllr Richardson reported that subsequent to the Annual Meeting (minute reference 1909) the Council's standing orders should be amended to reflect the appointment of a Vice Chairman. Following a discussion Cllr Powley agreed to step down as Vice Chairman. RESOLVED that the parish council would revert back to the original arrangements that if the Chairman is not present then someone would be appointed to take the Chair.

1960 Mains Gas in Torpenhow

Northern Gas Networks had been contacted regarding the availability of mains gas into Torpenhow. Their response advised that currently there are no plans to provide gas to this area. If gas is required to Torpenhow the works would be chargeable to the residents of the village and the nearest gas main that can be connected to is approximately 4km away from the village. Members suggested there is a connection available approximately half a mile away from the village. The Clerk was requested to contact Northern Gas Networks with this information.

1961 Agenda items for the Next Meeting

Speed Monitor Device in Torpenhow.

1962 Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th September, 2017– 7.30 pm – Torpenhow Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....