**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Torpenhow Village Hall on Wednesday**

**9 September 2015**

 **1716. Present.**

 Cllrs: Richardson, Clarkson, Mrs. Bowe, Raine, Ms. Little. Also present was Cllr. A. Bowness (C.C.C.)

 **1717. Apologies.**

There were no apologies for absence.

 **1718. Minutes.**

 It was agreed that the minutes of 8 July 2015 be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

 **1719. Declarations of Interest.**

Cllr. Richardson declared an interest in any items concerning Torpenhow Village Hall and Cllr. Clarkson declared an interest in any items concerning Blennerhasset School and Village Hall.

 **1720. Dispensation Requests.**

The Clerk had not received any requests for dispensation to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

 **1721. Public Voice Slot.**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to hear comments from the public.

1. A letter had been received from the Cricket Club concerning bag of loam removed by Allerdale B.C. (See Min. 1706(xi)). The council agreed that it would not pay any claim made by the Cricket Club concerning the removal.
2. Cllr. Mrs. Bowe said someone had enquired whether the Playing Field was a “dog free” area. The Clerk was asked to enquire of Allerdale B.C. as to whether it is or not.

 **1722. Items in Action.**

i) Queens Diamond Jubilee Seat. The Chairman reported that United Utilities had been digging the site up but now it was prepared for the installation of the plinth. He suggested that the salt and rubbish bins be dropped to road level and all were in agreement. (Min.1706(i) refers.)

 ii) Village Signs Post Replacement. Nothing appears to have been done. (Min. 1706(i) refers.)

 iii) Blennerhasset Village Hall Trust Deed The Clerk has still to contact the solicitors. (Min. 1706(iii) refers.)

iv) Village Maps. The maps have been installed but a complaint has been received concerning the Cockbridge map, that it has been installed on private property without permission. It was agreed to remove the map and to apologise to the complainant. (Min. 1706(ii) refers.)

v) Blennerhasset Playing Field. A letter has been sent to the Cricket Club but no reply has been received to date. (Min. 1706(v) refers.)

vi) Blennerhasset Riverside. Strawberry Cottage Landscapes have been contacted and advised of our requirements. A letter has also been sent to Allerdale B.C. regarding roadsweeping and gully-emptying. (Mins. 1706(viii) and 1707(ii) refer.)

vii) Audit Report. A corrected Report plus our Risk Assessment has been sent to the External Auditor. (Mins. 1706(vi)& (xii) and 1711 refer.)

viii) Newsletter. Draft Minutes of the last meeting had been sent to the editor of the Binsey Beacon and to the council’s website. (Min. 1707(iii) refers.)

ix) Allerdale Site Allocations. Amended Maps had been sent to Allerdale B.C. (Min. 1712 refers.)

x) Relocation of Map Board in Torpenhow. An estimate for this work has been received from Alan Norman and it was agreed to accept it. The Clerk was also asked to arrange with him measures to prevent the ingress of moisture. The Clerk was also asked to obtain a price for a replacement Torpenhow map from Ron Williams. (Min. 1713 refers.)

 **1723. Project Groups.**

i) Aspatria Rural Partnership. Cllr. Ms. Little presented a report of the last meeting. the time being. The Clerk was asked to write to Cumbria Highways expressing the council’s concern that the A595 is not suitable for the increase in traffic especially due to traffic to and from Iggesund’s mill at Workington

 ii) Blennerhasset Riverside. Cllr. Clarkson, on behalf of Blennerhasset School, presented a plan of what the school would like to do with the small patch of woodland at the riverside. Cllr. Raine proposed that the council has no objections to the plan so long as there was adequate insurance cover of the council’s liabilities. The Clerk was asked to check this with the council’s insurers.

 **1724. Blennerhasset Village Green.**

 At the Chairman’s request, JM Tree Services of High Longthwaite, Wigton have submitted a quotation of £120.00 for removal of the lower branches of the willow tree on the village green and removal of the waste. It was agreed to accept their quotation and the Clerk was asked to send them an order.

 **1725. Finances.**

a) The Parish Council’s account stands at £15394.49. The Clerk presented to the council a statement of receipts and payments to date under each of the budget headings.

b) Precept of £4630.24 and CTRS Grant of £119.76 have been received from Allerdale B.C.

c) The following payments were approved :

 i) to AKN Developments for making and erecting

 three map boards £528.00

 ii) to the Clerk as Half-year salary £640.29

 iii) to H.M.R.C. for income tax on (ii) above £160.07

 iv) to AON UK Ltd for insurance premium £159.00

 **1726. Planning.**

 The Clerk had been approached by Mr. Mark Lee of Park House, Torpenhow requesting that the Parish Council support his application for a Farm Diversification Project to create a hospitality suite for wedding receptions etc. As a matter of urgency the Clerk had contacted available members by email and others by phone. None had any objections to the proposal and Allerdale B.C. had been notified accordingly. In hindsight, the members felt that the matter had been dealt with too hastily and, in future, it should not be pressurised into arriving at its decisions. Cllr. Clarkson informed the meeting that Allerdale D.C. had approved the application.

 **1727. Correspondence.**

 A file of correspondence had been circulated to members includingdetails of the West Cumbria Water Supply Project, consultation regarding the Proposed Route Corridor for National Grid, Temporary Road Closure Order for U2103 Torpenhow and an update from Cumbria Constabulary.

 **1728. Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 11th 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in Blennerhasset Village Hall.

Signed……………………………….

Chairman

Date………………………………….