**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Blennerhasset and Baggrow Social Centre on Wednesday 14th March, 2018 at 7.30 pm**

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

Also present: Cllr. J. Mounsey, Allerdale Borough Council

**2035 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. R. Richardson and Cllr. A. Bowness, Cumbria County Council.

**2036 Minutes 10th January, 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th January, 2018 were accepted as a true record subject to the following amendment to minute reference 2023 “The letter also contained a request that the Parish Council consider paying Baggrow and Bennerhasset Cricket Club the sum of £1200 for the grass cutting in 2017”. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

**2037 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

**2038 Dispensation Requests**

None received.

**2039 Public Voice Slot**

The following matters were raised:

The litter bins in Torpenhow do not appear to have been emptied for quite some time. Cllr Mounsey agreed to raise this with the Street Scene Officer at the Borough Council and request that the litter bins in the parish are emptied on a regular basis.

The window in the telephone box in Torpenhow has been smashed. The Clerk was requested to report this to Community Heartbeat Trust and to also enquire what the position is regarding the future of the phone box.

**2040 Reports from Outside Bodies.**

(a) Allerdale Borough Council – Cllr. Mounsey reported that at the recent full Council meeting Allerdale Borough Council had agreed to raise Allerdale’s portion of the council tax by £5 a year on a band D property. At the same meeting the Councillors allowances had been increased by £100 a year. Cllr Mounsey asked if Members were aware if Blennerhasset School was applying for funding for a defibrillator. Cllr Mounsey agreed to make enquiries with Aspatria First Responders with regard to this.

(b) Cumbria County Council - Cllr. Bowness was not present at the meeting.

(c) Police Community Support Officer – A report containing crime prevention advice had been provided by PCSO M. Jones.

**2041 Project Groups**

Aspatria Rural Partnership

The Chairman reported that the meeting due to be held on Thursday 1st March had been cancelled due to the inclement weather.

**2042 Highways**

1. Maintenance

A letter had been sent to Cumbria County Council regarding the remedial works required at Torpenhow and on the Whitrigg road. A response was still awaited.

(b) Speed Monitoring Device

The results of the traffic surveys carried out by Cumbria County Council in Torpenhow had been received. Three sets were carried out in the village and the results were favourable, two sites indicated average speeds of 20mph and the third 25mph. Cumbria County Council also advised that they have no concerns in relation to speeding in the village.

The request for a 30mph limit will be held on file for future consideration but in reality, a 30mph is unlikely to have any real benefit. Cllr Raine agreed to look at the data provided by Cumbria County Council and draft a response. Members also considered that a speed indicator sign at the entrance to the village might be beneficial. The Clerk was request to obtain some information from a neighbouring parish that has a device in operation at the moment.

(c)(d) Consultation re Major Road Networks /Road safety provisions at the junctions with the A595, Cockbridge and Bothel

The government consultation regarding the proposal to create a Major Road Network had been circulated. Concern was raised regarding safety issues at the two junctions in the parish with the A595 at Cockbridge and Bothel. With the potential of an increase in traffic on the A595 substantial improvements need to be made at the junctions which should also include increased or improved signage. Cllr Raine agreed to draft a response to the consultation with the parish council’s concerns also being raised with Cumbria County Council.

(e) Street sweeping in the Parish

Cllr Raine reported that the road sweeper had visited Torpenhow recently. The sweeper had gone through the village but had not swept up to the edges of the roads. Cllr Mounsey agreed to request the road sweeper visit both villages on a regular basis and to also include the sweeping of the Bothel to Torpenhow road.

**2043** **Planning**

1. Applications received:

 None

1. Decisions:

2/2017/0451 – Ellenside Garage Blennerhasset

 Demolition of former garage and erection of 3 dwellings

 FULL PLANS APPROVED

Members noted the comments in the planning officers report regarding the layout, design and access of the proposed development. The report stated that the applicant had amended the access to the site to remove the village green. It was agreed that this should be clarified with the Planning Department at the Borough Council.

**2044 Finances**

1. The financial statement at 28th February, 2018 had been circulated with the agenda.

Balances at 28th February, 2018.

Nat West £16,408.51

Cumberland Building Society £ 1.00

1. The following payments were approved for payment:

Torpenhow Village Hall Committee – Room Hire 10.1.18 £ 18.00

Clerk’s account Quarter 4 £ 326.46

HMRC PAYE Quarter 4 £ 81.60

Clerk’s expenses Quarter 4 £ 140.57

Rocket Sites – Website Hosting Fee £ 18.00

D. Tolson & Sons – Works at Torpenhow Church Layby £2388.00

Arlosh Ltd. – Map Board – Torpenhow £ 45.00

Torpenhow Village Hall Committee – Grant £ 200.00

Blennerhasset & Baggrow Social Centre – Grant £ 200.00

Blennerhasset & Baggrow Social Centre – Contribution

towards legal costs £ 750.00

Blennerhasset & Torpenhow Parish Council – Transfer to CBS £5000.00

Cumbria Childrens Dyslexia Project – Donation £ 50.00

(c) Appointment of Internal Auditor

RESOLVED that Mr. P. Wilson be appointed to carry out the internal audit of the parish council’s accounts for financial year 2017/18.

(d) COIF Charity/Blennerhasset Poors Allotment

The Clerk reported that notification had been received from CCLA that they were unable to update their details as some outstanding information was required regarding the withdrawal instructions on the form. CCLA had also requested independent confirmation of the bank account. The form had been amended and the signatories were authorised to initial the amendment.

**2045 United Utilities Legacy Fund**

Members noted that the United Utilities Legacy Fund is now open for applications and will be administered by the Cumbria Community Foundation. Members agreed that an application for funding for the works on the village greens should be submitted for consideration at the next grants panel on 25th May.

**2046 Correspondence**

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

ARP – Draft minutes 4th January

United Utilities – Update following PC meeting 10th January

CALC – Update on UU Legacy Fund

Allerdale BC – Notification to proceed with Tree Works at Blennerhasset

Wigton Baths Newsletter

Query re Land at the front of Corner House, Torpenhow

United Utilities – Launch of Tree and Legacy Fund

Cumbria County Council – Notification of temporary road closure

Brain tumours - using your local influence to help us find a cure
CALC - Friday round up including the New General Data Protection Regulations training events

CALC Circular February 2018

ARP – Consultation re Major Road Networks

Allerdale Borough Council – Community Governance Reviews

Sue Hayman MP – Blennerhasset Playing Field

Additional correspondence received

Clerk’s and Councils Direct

ACT Gazette Spring 2018

CALC Circular March 2018

GDPR Toolkit

Three Tier Meeting Agenda 22nd March 2018

**2047 Blennerhasset Playing Field**

(a) Letter from MP – The correspondence from Sue Hayman MP had been circulated. Members agreed that from the contents of the email it appeared that the MP was not fully aware of all the facts. The following response was agreed to the points raised by the MP.

* + - * Following the dissolution of Baggrow and Blennerhasset Cricket Club in March 2017 and the formation of the Playing Field Committee the Parish Council’s relationship is with the Playing Field Committee and not the Cricket Club;
* No tender for grass cutting of the playing field was formally accepted by the Parish Council;
* The Playing Field Committee submitted a request for a donation of £600 towards the grass cutting costs. The Parish Council forwarded a cheque following the meeting in November. The cheque was subsequently returned by the Playing Field Committee.

Cllr Powley provided Members with an update following the last meeting of the Playing Field Committee. The Committee had discussed making alterations to the gate to widen the access to the field and a request had also been received regarding the use of field for functions.

The Clerk was requested to write to the Secretary of the Playing Field Committee advising that all requests regarding the playing field should be put in writing to be considered by members at a parish council meeting.

(b) Registration of the Legal Title

 Beaty & Co. Solicitors had advised that they had submitted the forms to the Land Registry for first registration of the land at Blennerhasset.

Unfortunately, the Land Registry will not accept the copy Conveyance that had been sent with the application. In light of this the Land Registry now require an application to be made for lost title deeds which has to be supported by a statement of truth and signed by a member of the Parish Council. It was agreed that Waugh & Musgrave be contacted to enquire if they have any recollection of the title deeds. Once the position with regard to the deeds has been established the statement of truth can be completed and signed by a member of the parish council.

**2048** **Village Greens**

Cllr Powley had obtained quotations for the work at Blennerhasset Village Green. It was proposed that a grant application form should be submitted to the United Utilities Legacy Fund for the cost of the work to the Village Greens.

**2049** **Layby adjacent to Church, Torpenhow**

It was reported that the work at the layby had now been completed. The invoice from D. Tolson & Sons in the sum of £2388 had been received for payment.

**2050** **Tree Trimming - Blennerhasset**

Cllr Powley reported that one dead tree had been taken down on the village green at Blennerhasset. Two others are still to be removed and the trimming would be carried out in the next few weeks.

**2051** **Blennerhasset Village Hall**

A request had been received from the Blennerhasset and Baggrow Social Centre Management Committee for the parish council’s agreed donation of £750.00 to be paid towards the legal costs involved in respect of the transfer of the trusteeship. The solicitors acting for the Management Committee had confirmed that once two new trustees have been appointed, due to the retirement of two existing trustees, the solicitors will then proceed to register the Village Hall in the name of the Parish Council as proprietor.

RESOLVED that £750.00 be paid towards the legal costs.

Members suggested that the parish council request to be provided with a copy of the recent financial statement and minutes from the Village Hall Management Committee meetings.

**2052 Notice Board/Map Board**

Cllr. Powley reported that a further estimate had been obtained in the sum of £715.00 plus VAT for a larger noticeboard. The larger noticeboard would incorporate the village map of Torpenhow that had been obtained from Arlosh Ltd. Members suggested that the exact measurements should be requested before proceeding to order the notice board.

**2053** **Donation Request – Cumbria Children’s Dyslexia Project**

The request for financial support from Cumbria Children’s Dyslexia Project had been circulated with the agenda. Members considered the contents of the letter and RESOLVED to support the request and grant a donation of £50.00.

**2054 Agenda items for the Next Meeting**

No additional items were added.

**2055** **Future Meeting Dates**

The meeting dates for the next council year were agreed as follows:

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting – 9th May, 2018 - 7.00 pm – Baggrow & Blennerhasset Social Centre.

11th July, 2018 7.30pm – Torpenhow Village Hall

12th September, 2018 – 7.30pm – Baggrow & Blennerhasset Social Centre

14th November, 2018 – 7.30pm – Torpenhow Village Hall

9th January, 2019 – 7.30pm Baggrow & Blennerhasset Social Centre

13th March, 2019 – 7.30pm – Torpenhow Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Signed……………………………….

Chairman

Date………………………………….