**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Torpenhow Village Hall on Wednesday 14th November, 2018 at 7.30 pm**

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

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

Leanne Beverley, Cumbria County Council, Lizzy Shaw, Cumbria County Council, Geoff Holden, Capita, and Chris Spencer.

Prior to the meeting Leanne Beverley and Geoff Holden provided a presentation on the potential A595 Improvements at Bothel. A drop-in session had been held at the Village Hall, Bothel in the afternoon of 14th November and a further session will be held on 17th November. Members were encouraged to attend the drop-in to discuss their concerns directly with Cumbria County Council and to complete and return the feedback form. The consultation commenced on 9th November and finishes on the 7th December. The results of the public consultation will be available on the County Council’s website in January 2019.

The Chairman thanked the representatives from Cumbria County Council and Capita for attending. There was a short adjournment whilst the representatives from CCC and Capita left the room at 8.15pm. The Chairman then opened the meeting.

**2130 Apologies for absence**

None.

**2131 Minutes 19th September, 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th September, 2018 were accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

**2132 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

**2133 Dispensation Requests**

None received.

**2134 Public Voice Slot**

The following matters were raised:

A lack of water volume had been experienced recently in the parish. The Clerk was requested to report this to United Utilities.

A parishioner had reported that wheelie bins are being left out on the pavement and on the street. On windy days the bins are blown about causing an obstruction to traffic. This had occurred in the vicinity of the Village Hall and the bus shelter at Torpenhow. Cllr Mounsey agreed to report this to the Street Scene Officer at the Borough Council.

**2135 Reports from Outside Bodies**

(a) Allerdale Borough Council – In relation to item 11 on the agenda – Defibrillator at Torpenhow - Cllr. Mounsey advised that funding of £600 for each defibrillator is available from the British Heart Foundation and funding is also available from the Charity Shop in Aspatria.

(b) Cumbria County Council – Cllr Bowness reported that the gully wagon had started to visit parishes, requests for a visit should be made via the HIMS. Cllr Bowness also urged Members to respond to the public consultation on the improvements to the A595 at Bothel.

(c) Police Community Support Officer - PCSO Peter Crome reported that as the Aspatria Rural Partnership was not meeting he would be arranging a date for the ten weekly meetings previously discussed. Suggested dates in 2019 were noted.

**2136 Project Groups**

Aspatria Rural Partnership

Further to minute reference 2114 a meeting of the Partnership had not been convened and the future of the Partnership was still uncertain. The second meeting of the parishes with the MP to discuss the designation of the A595 or A596 as a national road network highway had not as yet been arranged.

**2137 Highways**

1. Maintenance – The following matters were raised:

Cllr Raine reported that the roads had been swept in Torpenhow. Unfortunately, the driver had not swept where the road widens on the road towards Bothel. Cllr Mounsey agreed to raise this with the Borough Council. Cllr Raine also reported that the County Council had taken some action to resolve the issue with the water from the spring leaking on to the road. It was suggested that Highways should be thanked for carrying out this work.

(b) Speed Monitoring

PCSO P. Crome had advised that a survey had recently been completed in Blennerhasset and the results had shown good compliance. The issue had been raised at the last Casualty Reduction and Safer Highways meeting where the results were discussed and the issue had been closed as no further action was required. Members noted that the Traffic Data Unit had been placed at Railway Terrace, Baggrow but felt that the speeding issues also occur at the other entrances to the village.

1. Improvements to the A595 at Bothel – Public Consultation.

It was agreed that any responses to the consultation should be forwarded to the Clerk within the next two weeks. A response from the Parish Council would then be prepared for submission to Cumbria CC. It was noted that Members could also respond individually to the consultation.

**2138** **Planning**

1. Applications received: None

1. Decisions: None

**2139 Finances**

1. The financial statement at 31st October, 2018 had been circulated with the agenda.

Balances at 31st October

Nat West £ 5,886.10

Cumberland Building Society £10,305.83

Income Received:

Allerdale Borough Council – Half Yearly Precept £5,225.00

1. The following payments were approved for payment:

Torpenhow Village Hall – Room Hire – 19.9.18 £ 15.00

Clerk – Refund – Registration at ICO £ 40.00

Beaty & Co. – Registration of land at Blennerhasset £288.85

Maintenance of War Memorial Blennerhasset (3 years) £400.40

Christmas Tree – Torpenhow £ 75.00

Donations granted to:

Citizens Advice Allerdale £100.00

Great North Air Ambulance £500.00

**2140 Defibrillator – Torpenhow**

Funding streams for the purchase of a defibrillator at Torpenhow together with possible suitable locations to site the defib were discussed. The following actions were agreed:

Cllr Richardson to contact the fund raisers at Blennerhasset to enquire from what sources they had been successful in obtaining funding

As the telephone box had been removed in Torpenhow, the Clerk to write to the Village Hall Management Committee to enquire if the defibrillator could be sited on the wall at the Village Hall with the Parish Council being responsible for the installation and the reasonable running costs.

**2141 Budget 2019/20**

A draft budget for 2019/20 had been circulated with the agenda. Items of expenditure and future projects were discussed. It was agreed to include an amount of £2000 towards the village greens, £60.00 for training and £1000 for general maintenance. RESOLVED that the precept should be increased from £10,450 to £10,650.

**2142 Correspondence**

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

Beaty & Co. – Blennerhasset Playing Field

UU – Priority Services Register

Allerdale BC – Site Allocations Pre-submission Consultation

Cumbria County Council – A595 Improvements

Cumbria County Council – Working Together Programme

Donation Request – Great North Air Ambulance

Letter of thanks from Baggrow & Blennerhasset VHC for the parish council’s donation towards defibrillator

CALC – Tree Liabilities and Cemetery/Memorial Management

Baggrow & Blennerhasset Playing Field Committee – Re Goal Posts

Cumbria County Council - A595 Improvements (Bothel) Invite Only Consultation Event

**2143 Blennerhasset Playing Field**

1. Blennerhasset and Baggrow Playing Field Committee – The following matters were discussed:

* The future of the Playing Field Committee was still unclear
* Confirmation had been received that insurance of the field and playground equipment was in place until the end of the year
* As a result of the Parish Council raising concern that the goal posts on the field were unsafe a request had been received for a copy of the Parish Council’s consulting engineer’s report.
* An invoice for £1400 had been received from the Cricket Club for grass cutting in 2018.

The following actions were agreed:

The Clerk to write to the Chair of the Playing Field Committee for an update regarding the future of the Committee and to request confirmation that the Committee will have the necessary funding to renew the insurance for the playing field and playground equipment at the end of the year;

The Clerk to obtain a quotation from the parish council’s insurers to insure the field and playground equipment and circulate this to members;

Cllr Giddings to obtain a quotation for replacement goal posts;

The Clerk to advise the Cricket Club that it had been agreed at the May meeting of the Parish Council to pay the amount of £1000 to the Playing Field Committee for grass cutting in 2018. The payment had been made to the Committee and subsequently returned.

1. Registration of the Legal Title

Registration of the legal title to the playing field had been completed. The following matters were raised:

It was proposed that the Title Possessory should read “Blennerhasset and Torpenhow Parish Council as Trustees on behalf of the parishioners/inhabitants of Blennerhasset and Baggrow”.

As the future of the Management Committee of the Playing Field is uncertain clarification should be sought as to the Parish Council’s responsibilities as Holding Trustees if the Management Committee is not re-constituted.

The Clerk was requested to contact the solicitor regarding these matters. The transfer of the strip of land at Blennerhasset would be discussed at the next meeting.

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**2****144 Village Greens**

It was agreed to discuss projects for the village greens at the next meeting.

**2145 Notice Board/Map Board**

Cllr Powley reported that nothing further had been heard form the contractor. It was agreed this should be included on the agenda for the next meeting. It had been brought to the Parish Council’s attention that the door of the notice board in Torpenhow keeps blowing open in strong winds.

**2146 Torpenhow Village Signs**

It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

**2147 Christmas Tree/Lights**

Cllr Richardson reported that a request had been received for the Parish Council to fund the purchase of a Christmas tree at Torpenhow this year. RESOLVED that £75.00 be granted for the purchase of a tree.

**2148 Sky Lanterns**

Cllr Raine reported that he was aware the NFU are urging local councils to recognise the dangers of sky lanterns which can cause fires and kill or injure farm animals. Some local councils have introduced a ban on the sale of the lanterns. Cllr Raine proposed that Allerdale should be approached with the suggestion that they consider introducing a ban. All were in agreement.

**2149 Donation Requests**

Requests for financial assistance had been received from the Citizens Advice Allerdale and the Great North Air Ambulance Service. RESOLVED that £100.00 be donated to Citizens Advice Allerdale and £500.00 to GNAAS.

**2150 Co-option of New Councillor**

Chris Spencer from Blennehasset was present and had previously expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council. Mr. Spencer’s letter of application was read out at the meeting. Mr. Spencer left the room whilst Members discussed his application. Following a discussion, it was agreed that as parish elections are due to be held on 2nd May, 2019 that no further vacancies would be filled at this time. Mr. Spencer was invited back into the room and informed of Members decision and invited to join the Parish Council in May 2019.

**2151 Agenda items for the Next Meeting**

Additional items to be added to the Agenda:

Tree Inspections/Tree Liabilities

**2152** **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 9th January, 2019 at Blennerhasset & Baggrow Social Centre at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm

Signed……………………………….

Chairman

Date………………………………….