

HELINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held virtually on Wednesday 4 November 2020 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs S Carman (Chairman), K Ritchie, R Caddick, J Cooper, A Davies, G Riley and E Templeton.

Also present were District Cllr K Holmes, County Cllr J Bland and Clerk J Saunders.

37/20 Apologies

None.

38/20 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests

Cllr J Cooper had declared an interest in Planning agenda item 5a) iii (this item was for information only).

39/20 Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 2 September 2020 were approved (Chair to sign when possible).

40/20 Public Participation

None.

41/20 Planning

a) Lake District National Park Authority

(view applications, responses and decisions online at

<http://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/swiftlg/apas/run/wphappcriteria.display>):

- i. 7/2020/5486 - Site at Junction of Brigsteer causeway, adjacent to Willow Tree Barn, Brigsteer - Demolition of existing stable and erection of replacement stable.
Decision - Granted with conditions.
- ii. 7/2020/5342 - Mill Ghyll, Low Lane, Brigsteer - Demolition and replacement of a single residential dwelling. **Decision - Granted with conditions.**
- iii. 7/2020/5589 - Low Plain Cottage, Brigsteer - Detached double garage.
No comments. (Response submitted by Clerk under delegated powers following email consultation. Cllr J Cooper declared an interest in this application, took no part in the consultation and her interest was declared in the response). **No decision.**
- iv. 7/2020/5624 - The Wheatsheaf Inn, Brigsteer - Proposed single storey extension to increase kitchen. **No comments.**
- v. It was noted that 7/2020/5650 - Berry Holme, Whetstone Lane, Helington (Construction of agricultural worker's dwelling) had been received too late for inclusion on the agenda so a response would be submitted following an email consultation.

b) South Lakeland District Council

(view applications, responses and decisions online at

<http://applications.southlakeland.gov.uk/planningapplications/welcome.asp>):

- i. SL/2020/0579 - Prizet Filling Station Northbound, Helington - Expansion of roadside services, including drive-through coffee shop (Class A3/ A5), 8 no. high-speed electrical vehicle charging points, car parking, landscaping and associated infrastructure. (Re-Submission of SL/2020/0195). **No decision.**
- ii. Helm View Barn, Milnthorpe Road, Kendal - Change of use from 2 holiday let units to domestic dwelling. **No comments.** (Response submitted by Clerk under delegated powers following email consultation). **Granted with conditions.**

42/20 Finance

a) Grants 2020/21:

- i. Payment of a grant of £1,325.00 to Helsington and Brigsteer Village Hall (as allocated in 2020/21 Budget) was approved.
- ii. It was noted that no further requests for grants/donations have been received.

b) Grants 2021/22:

A grant request from the Village Hall for £1325.00 was received, considered and approved.

It was suggested that the Village Hall should be asked to supply a copy of its most recent Accounts and Business Plan before payment of the grant in 2021/22. It was noted that the Village Hall grant is made in accordance with the Council's Grants and Donations Policy.

c) Hutton Roof Parish Council's continued use of Helsington's printer at a cost of £24.00 (01/11/20 - 30/04/21) was confirmed.

d) A **Financial Report** comprising Bank Reconciliation 30 September 2020 and Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21 was received and noted.

e) A draft **Budget for 2021/22** was received and considered. It was resolved to approve the Budget as drafted (subject to confirmation of the SLDC grant) and to authorise the Clerk to send the precept request to SLDC.

f) The following **payments** were authorised (in addition to the grants approved above):

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| i. Ibex Creative (Website accessibility improvements) | £144.00 |
| ii. Helsington and Brigsteer Village Hall (room hire 5 Feb 2020) | £21.00 |
| iii. Jane Saunders (Clerk's expenses, 1 Jul - 31 Oct 2020) | £72.00 |
| iv. Jane Saunders (Zoom subscription) | £14.39 |
| v. Jane Saunders (renewal of Office 365 software for Council) | £59.99 |
| vi. HM Land Registry (upgrading title fee) | £40.00 |
| vii. RTM Surveys (Tree safety survey - payable on receipt of survey report & invoice) | £576.00 |
- g) It was confirmed that the bank mandate had been changed as agreed at the previous meeting.

43/20 Parish Land

It was noted that the outstanding tree work (Helsington Moss Road) had not been completed by the contractor and it was agreed that this would not be pursued unless the tree in question was identified as posing a risk of harm by the surveyor. It was further noted that the professional inspection of trees on parish land (instructed as a matter of urgency following receipt of RTM Surveys' quote and email consultation with councillors) was under way.

Chairman reported on correspondence received regarding flooding on the Parish Road (land opposite the Wheatsheaf). It was agreed that the flooding problem was a separate matter from the resurfacing issue. Chairman S Carman and Cllr A Davies had undertaken separate site visits to investigate the flooding, which appeared to be due to the culverts not coping with the flow of floodwater following heavy rain. It was resolved that the Chairman would examine the legal documents in order to try to clarify responsibility for the culverts (though it was noted that legal advice may be required) and also that the Chairman would undertake any further investigation of the problem as necessary.

44/20 Reports

To receive the following reports:

- a) Chairman and Parish Councillors; no further reports.
- b) Helsington Community Land Trust Ltd; no report.
- c) Helsington & Brigsteer Village Hall; Cllr R Caddick reported on the Village Hall's recent AGM. The Hall had closed again for the duration of the current lockdown with consequent loss of income, but there were sufficient reserves to support the Hall going forward. A tree-planting ceremony had been held to mark the Hall's tenth anniversary.
- d) Local Police Team; no reports until further notice.
- e) District Cllr K Holmes noted that the Morecambe Bay Unitary Authority proposal was due to be considered at a Full Council meeting the following day.

f) County Cllr J Bland noted the County Council's proposal for one unitary authority for Cumbria. With regard to Highways matters, he advised that Helsington Moss Bridge on the Toll Bar Road was likely to remain closed to traffic until June 2021 but that consideration was being given to allowing passage for pedestrians and cyclists. The re-surfacing of Whetstone Lane should be undertaken in 2020/21 but there were drainage problems which needed to be resolved first. On behalf of residents of Low Lane, Cllr G Riley raised the issue of the drop to the verge and accesses to properties following the resurfacing and raising of the carriageway on Low Lane. Cllr Bland agreed to take this matter up with the residents concerned. It was reported that part of an HGV tyre had been left in a lay-by on Brigsteer Road, near Whetstone Lane junction. Clerk agreed to report this as fly tipping to SLDC.

45/20 Clerk's Report and Correspondence

The following were noted:
Dark Skies Virtual Talk on 5 November 2020 at 7.00pm;
Website accessibility work undertaken;
Local Neighbour Support information;
Information circulated re proposals for local government reorganisation;
CALC LDNP Partnership Events for parishes in November 2020;
CALC virtual training courses running in remainder of 2020.
Cllr K Ritchie expressed an interest in the promotion of the Cold to Cosy and Green Homes Grant schemes and also volunteered to work on drafting a Community Emergency Plan.

46/20 Highways

Highways issues had been addressed under County Councillor's Report. Cllr A Davies agreed to respond to a resident's inquiry about the duration of the closure of Helsington Moss Bridge.

47/20 Lake District Local Plan: Consultation on Proposed Main Modifications - 29 October to 11 December 2020 (view at <https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-review/examination/core-document-library>)

The Main Modifications consultation was noted and it was resolved not to submit a formal response.

48/20 Community Led Plan (CLP)

It was noted that the CLP Working Group had not met and, because it was not felt viable for the Group to meet virtually, activity was currently on hold. The intention to review responsibilities in the Group and to recruit new members was reiterated.

49/20 Future meetings

(i) Dates of future meetings were noted as Wednesday 3 February 2021 and Wednesday 7 April 2021;

(ii) It was confirmed that meetings would usually commence at 7.30pm and be held in the Helsington and Brigsteer Village Hall and/or remotely, as authorised by the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England & Wales) Regulations 2020.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed:(Chair)

Date:.....