

## HELINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 02 February 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in Brigsteer Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs. S. Carman (Chairman), J. Cooper, K. Ritchie, J. Sunderland, M. R. Curry (Clerk).  
**In Attendance:** County Councillor J. Bland and 1 member of the public.

**63/21 Apologies:** Cllr. G Riley (post-meeting), District Cllr. K. Holmes.

**64/21 Declarations of Interest / Requests for dispensation:** None.

**65/21 Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 03 November 2021 in Brigsteer Village Hall were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**66/21 Public Participation:** There were no items raised by members of the public.

**67/21 Planning:** The following applications, responses, decisions and updates were received and noted:

**a) Lake District National Park Authority**

View applications, responses and decisions online at:

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

- i. **7/2021/5537 - 1 Moss View, Brigsteer:** Loft gable window etc. No Objection submitted. Decision not yet declared.
- ii. **7/2021/5720 - Orchard House, Brigsteer:** Alterations as detailed. No objection submitted 19/11/21. **Decision:** Approved with conditions – 09/11/21.
- iii. **7/2021/5960 - Sizergh Castle:** Installation of biomass flues. No objection submitted 13/12/2021. Decision not yet declared.
- iv. **7/2021/6026 - Brigg House Barns:** Reserved matters on application 7/2020/5324 **Decision:** approved.
- v. **7/2021/6050 - Hollybrook, Brigsteer:** External alterations. No Objection submitted 11/01/22. Decision not yet declared.

**b. South Lakeland District Council:** View applications, responses and decisions online at:  
<http://applications.southlakeland.gov.uk/planningapplications/welcome.asp>

- i. **SL/2021/0660 - Water Mill, Helington:** Letter from then PC supporting restoration proposals submitted 02/09/2021. No Decision yet declared.
- ii. **SL/2021/0775 - Land south of Prizet Filling Station Southbound:** New business building etc: No Objection from Helington PC submitted. No Decision yet declared.
- iii. **PN/2021/0095: 9M BT pole in front of South View, Helington.** Determined 08/12/21.
- iv. **SL/2021/1105: Sunny Brae, Helington LA8 8AA:** Demolition and re-build. No objection (with a recommendation for permeable surfaces to hard standing areas) was submitted 11/12/2021. No Decision yet declared.
- v. **SL/2022/0031 - Larkrigg, Natland:** Change of use of agricultural building. It was **Resolved** to make no objection to this proposal.

**68/21 South Lakeland Local Plan Review:** Councillors confirmed that there were no additions to make to the Brownfield Sites Register.

**69/21 Parish Land**

- a) **Land opposite the Village Hall:** HMLR have not yet confirmed correction of the key address for the Village Hall as requested by Richard Bryan.
- b) **Tree Work on Parish Land:** The Clerk reported that the application for a felling licence had been accepted by the Forestry Commission and passed to their local officer for final approval. Once approved, further work might be undertaken at Peat Houses or on the Moss Road before the end of March.

- c) **Drainage on the Parish Road opposite The Wheatsheaf:** The Clerk reported that in an email dated 13 December 2021 to all Councillors, Mrs Savasi had confirmed that following a conversation between neighbours she had agreed to remove the whole length of the pipe so that the beck is reinstated to its original condition. The Clerk had written to the householders at all four properties directly concerned to advise them of this on 25 January. The timescale is not yet confirmed but it is understood from Mrs Savasi's email that the work is to be done "promptly."
- d) **Registrations of Title:** The Clerk confirmed that registration remained work in progress.

#### 70/21 Highways:

- a) **Highways Schedule:** The Clerk presented the updated Schedule of Highway Defects to which no new additions were made. It was **Agreed** to log and / or re-register all outstanding issues with County Highways via the new HIAMS reporting procedure.
- b) **Low Lane:** Cllr Bland confirmed that he was arranging for the supply of aggregate for work on Low Lane which will be spread locally when received.
- c) **Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS):** Cllr Cooper had received a quote of £3,170 for a SID from Pandora Signs of Hawkshead. Cllrs Richie and Cooper confirmed that a Cumbria County Council Community Grant of up to £1,500 could be available as match-funding; £500 had been pledged by Cllr Bland and Robinson's Brewery had offered £250 and further support. Taking VAT into account the shortfall was estimated at around £600. Cllr Bland offered to find a further £500 and on this basis it was **Agreed** to go ahead with the Parish Council funding the shortfall either from external support or its own resources.

#### 71/21 Reports

- a) **Chairman and Parish Councillors:** There were no reports from the Chairman or Councillors other than items on the Agenda.
- b) **Helsington and Brigsteer Village Hall:** The Clerk reported that he had received an email with thanks from the Village Hall Committee for the offer of grant approved at the meeting in November.
- c) **Local Police Team:** The Clerk confirmed that the December edition of the South Lakes Focus Newsletter had been received. There were no items with direct relevance to the Parish Council.
- d) **District Cllr K. Holmes:** Though unable to attend, Cllr. Holmes had advised the Clerk that there were no matters to report with direct relevance to the Parish Council.
- e) **County Cllr J. Bland:** Cllr. Bland reported as follows:
  - i. Under proposals for local government reorganisation divisional boundaries will change and Cllr. Bland will lose representation for Helsington and Levens after April 2023, gaining Heversham and Endmoor in their place.
  - ii. Moss Road Bridge: Plans have now been submitted to the Environment Agency for its approval.
  - iii. Following the rapid and effective deployment of resources to clear roads after Storm Arwen, subsequent road repairs have also progressed well. Whetstone Lane is in the current plan for re-surfacing though there is no timing schedule at present.
  - iv. The Kendal end of Brigsteer Road will be closed for several weeks in February for the laying of a mains sewer relating to a new development.
  - v. Further afield, there are plans for a footpath and cycle track at Levens Bridge and the creation of a footpath along the old canal from Natland to Sedgewick and beyond.

#### 72/21 Finance

- a) **Payments:** There were no invoices to hand requiring payment. It was agreed to pay the contractual commitment to the Clerk of £18 per month from September to March inclusive for use of home as office. Based on payments made and income received, the Clerk submitted a bank reconciliation for the period 16 October 2021 – 17 January 2022. The gross balance was £11,820.17 which includes a ring-fenced allocation of £500 from Cllr. Holmes towards a bench. Councillors noted the ongoing commitment to fund the costs of managing ash die-back.

- b) **Bank Mandate:** The Chairman reported that the process was nearing completion.
- c) **Draft Budget 2022-23:** The Clerk reported that the budget had been amended slightly from that agreed in November but with no effect on the bottom-line. The Precept bid had been submitted and remained at £9,631.00 as previously agreed.

**73/21 The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee - 02 June 2022:** Councillors confirmed that it was not the intention of the Parish Council to host a Beacon on Thursday 2 June. It would however fully support a ‘street party’ if the community wished one, possibly to be held in the Village Hall on either the Saturday or Sunday of the celebratory weekend. It was **Agreed** that Cllr. Ritchie will contact the Village Hall Committee to ask for its involvement and possible donation of the Hall for a day. She reported that the WI is interested in participating. It was also **Agreed** to check for the availability of any grants that might be available for community events.

**74/21 Co-option of New Councillors:** The Chairman confirmed that all the flyers had now been distributed and that Alan Davies was to promote the initiative via his email list. There had not yet been any formal response. It was noted that there is no live feed for information other than the PC website, nor is there a Parish Newsletter. Following a discussion on local communications it was **Agreed** that this matter would be an item for further discussion on the next Agenda.

**75/21 Community Initiatives**

- a) **Community Led Plan Working Group:** Councillors felt that this initiative needs refreshing and that guidance on preparation needs review. It was **Agreed** that Cllrs. Cooper and Richie would investigate the process and report back.
- b) **Community Resilience and Emergency Plan:** The need for an Emergency Plan (EP) had been highlighted by the power cuts experienced during Storm Arwen. Prior to the meeting, Cllr Ritchie had circulated a draft EP based on an existing template and was thanked for this start. It was noted that an EP should be prepared by a Community Response Group as part of the Community Led Plan (CLP) and that the PC should coordinate the process for preparation of a Plan rather than prepare one itself. It was **Agreed** to try to convene a CLP Working Group / Community Response Group involving representatives from the PC, the WI, the Village Hall and the Responder Group. It was noted that District Cllr. John Holmes may have some advice to contribute to this initiative.

**76/21 Future Meetings:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 06 April in Brigsteer Village Hall. In addition to standard and current items the next meeting will include an item on Parish Communications.

The Ordinary Parish Meeting will be followed by the **Annual Parish Meeting**.  
The **Annual Meeting of the Parish Council** will be held on Wednesday 04 May.

The Meeting closed at 9.12 p.m.

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date.....