

# HELINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## DRAFT MINUTES

OF A MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 06 APRIL 2022  
AT 7.00 p.m. IN BRIGSTEER VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Cllrs J. Cooper, G. Riley, K. Ritchie, J. Sunderland and M.R. Curry (Clerk)

**In attendance:** District Cllr. K. Holmes and 1 member of the public.

**77/21 Apologies:** Cllr. S. Carman (Covid), County Cllr. J. Bland (conflict of meetings). In the absence of Cllr. Carman, Deputy Chairman Cllr. Cooper took the Chair.

**78/21 Co-option of New Councillor:** The Clerk reported that SLDC had confirmed that the Parish Council was at liberty to co-opt new Members to the two current vacancies. Following an expression of interest from Mr. J. Seddon who was eligible to serve, Councillors voted unanimously to co-opt him as a new Member of the Parish Council. Mr. Seddon had indicated his willingness to serve if co-opted, but had tendered his apologies as being unable to attend this meeting.

**79/21 Declarations of Interest / Requests for Dispensation:** None had been submitted.

**80/21 Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 02 February 2022 in Brigsteer Village Hall were approved as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Chairman.

**81/21 Public Participation:** There were no items raised by members of the public.

**82/21 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 – replacement and enlargement. No Objection submitted by Clerk 30/07/2021. **ACON – 14/03/2022.**
  - ii. **7/2021/5960 - Sizergh Castle:** Installation of 2 biomass flues. No objection submitted by the Clerk 13/12/2021. **Listed Building Consent Granted - 03/02/2022.**
  - iii. **7/2021/6050 - Hollybrook, Brigsteer:** Removal of side porch and other external alterations. No objection submitted by Clerk 11/01/2022. **ACON: 04/03/2022.**
  - iv. **7/2021/6026 - Brighthouse Barns, Helsington:** **Approval** of details reserved by condition on planning application 7/2020/5324 - 05/03/2022
- 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, Helsington:** Restoration of water wheel. Support for the application submitted 02/09/2021. Listed Building Consent: **ACON 03/02/2022.**
  - ii. **SL/2021/0775 - Land south of Prizet Filling Station Southbound:** Construction of a new business building etc. No Objection submitted. **No Decision.**
  - iii. **SL/2021/1105 - Sunny Brae, Helsington LA8 8AA:** Demolition of bungalow and construction of new. No objection but recommendation for permeable surfaces to hard standing areas submitted by Clerk 11/12/2021. **ACON 22/02/2022.**
  - v. **SL/2022/003 - Larkrigg, Natland:** Change of use of agricultural building to vehicle repair/service/mot centre. No Objection submitted. **ACON 07/03/2022**
  - vi. **PN/2022/0015 - 4 locations Milnthorpe Road & A591** for erection of 4xlightweight poles under The Electronic Communications Code (Reg. 5)
  - vii. **SL/2022/0196 - Prizet House LA8 8AB:** Non-material amendment to planning consent SL/2020/0794. **No Decision.**

**83/21 Parish Land**

- a. **Land Opposite the Village Hall:** HMLR has not yet responded to the request for rectification of address.
- b. **Tree Work on Parish Land:** Councillors were pleased to note that a significant start to the phased programme to tackle ash die-back had been made at Stricklandgate Quarry.

Due to technical difficulties in using the on-line application form a Felling Licence for further work had not been secured from the Forestry Commission before the onset of the bird-nesting season when woodland work is not recommended. The application would be concluded during the summer months and work would recommence in the late-Summer / Autumn.

- c. **Drainage on the Parish Road Opposite the Wheatsheaf:** There had been no recent update on any work on the culvert as previously discussed. It was **Agreed** to write to all the neighbours to enquire as to proposals for future work.
- d. **Registrations of Title:** Registration remains work in progress.

#### 84/21 Highways

- a. **Highways Schedule:** It was noted that several outstanding matters had been re-reported through the County Council HIAMS Scheme and that following work to fill pot-holes, Whetstone Lane should be removed. It was **Agreed** to put the Highways Schedule on the website for general awareness
- b. **Low Lane:** Cllr. Riley undertook to investigate the current position with the supply of aggregate.
- c. **Speed Indicator Devices:** Cllr. Cooper reported that whilst not formally confirmed, the application for grant (£1,500) from Cumbria County Council was progressing. The Clerk reported that following a request from CCC in respect of this grant, the Parish Council had been registered as a supplier which was a prelude to approval and payment. He also reported that a cheque for £1,000 from Cllr. Bland's local project fund would be received within the next week or so. When these funds were secured it was **Agreed** to approach Robinsons Brewery for the £250 previously pledged and to request any further support that might be available.

#### 85/21 Reports

- a. **Chairman and Parish Councillors:** Other than the Chairman's Report to be presented to the Annual Parish Meeting to follow, there were no other reports from Councillors.
- b. **Helsington and Brigsteer Village Hall:** Cllr. Ritchie reported that the hall was operating more or less back at capacity once again after the Covid pandemic. The Committee was investigating the acquisition of a new sound system for the building and Cllr. Riley was liaising with it on this. It was **Agreed** to make the first stage payment of the Parish Council grant to the Village Hall for 2022.
- c. **Local Police Team:** No report relevant to Helsington had been received.
- d. **District Councillor:** Cllr. Holmes confirmed that under proposals for Local Government Reorganisation, SLDC and current Councillors would remain in place for a year notwithstanding the outcome of the elections on 05 May 2022. That election would determine the make-up of the new Councils to be in place from May 2023 (Westmorland & Furness and Cumberland) and create new 'shadow' Councils to operate in a transitional role until then. On other matters he reported that with Cllrs John Holmes and Jim Bland he had attended a meeting on the A590 Working Group on 31 March. This is working with Highways England to implement road improvements including at Brettagh Holt, Foulshaw and Meathop with a possible roundabout at Gilpin Bridge
- e. **County Councillor:** In Cllr. Bland's absence Cllr. Holmes reported on his behalf that he too will remain as a local representative following the elections in May. On local matters there is still no new development on the repair of the Moss Lane Bridge; the re-surfaced road across Lord's Plain seems to be lifting in places but Cllr. Bland is aware of this. Cllr. Riley felt that this had been a good job, but that the drops on either side of the road were becoming progressively deeper which was of possible concern.

#### 86/21 Finance

- a. **Receipts:** The following receipts since the last meeting were noted:
  - i. 23/03/22: N W Electricity – wayleave £2.00
  - ii. 23/03/22: South Westmorland Village Maintenance Association – refund on wind-up of the Association £214.52

**Note:** this was subsequently debited and re-credited due to an error in the dating of the cheque.

**b. Payments:** The following payments made since the last meeting were noted:

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| i. 15/02/22: Clerk's salary – February                                | £349.74 |
| ii. 15/03/22: Clerk's salary – March                                  | £349.74 |
| iii. 23/03/22: SWVMA - cheque incorrectly dated; debited from account | £214.52 |

**The following items were Approved for payment:**

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| i. Harry Jeffs (Accountants, Kendal): Payroll services (Sept-Mar) | £90.00  |
| ii. Information Commissioners Office (GDPR Reg. fee)              | £35.00  |
| iii. M R Curry: Office allowance/back-pay/expenses                | £184.22 |

**c. Financial Report:**

The Clerk had circulated a bank reconciliation from 01/04/21 to 31/03/2022 detailing all receipts and payments during the financial year. The reconciled bank balance at 31/03/2022 stood at £11,122.69. Cllr. Sunderland asked for a budget review in due course to ensure that any additional payments were not having an adverse impact on the agreed budget. The Clerk reported that arrangements for the internal audit as part of the 2021-22 AGAR were in hand.

**d. Bank Mandates:** Cllrs. Cooper and Ritchie confirmed that they had received all necessary paperwork confirming their mandates to operate the bank account. Cllr. Sunderland confirmed that he had not received any confirmation form Lloyds. The Clerk undertook to refer this on to the Chairman who was dealing with the mandates.

**87/21 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee:** Cllr. Ritchie reported that the community was preparing events and activities. Shelley Savasi was organising a meeting including representatives from the Village Hall, W.I., the Parish Council, The Wheatsheaf and other volunteers to coordinate activity. The local YFC had offered support. A Sunday lunch for 05 June was being planned to be held in the Village Hall and there was still the possibility of a beacon to be lit on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **88/21 Community Initiatives**

- a. Community Led Plan:** There was open discussion on the need to review the Plan which should not be conflated with the Resilience / Disaster Plan. Councillors agreed that as the lead organisation in preparing the previous Plan (having written it up based on returns from a local survey) the Parish Council should take the lead in reviewing the need for
- b.** any revision. It was **Agreed** to include this as a full Agenda item at the next meeting to consider whether a new survey is required and if so, to decide how to take this forward.
- c. Resilience Plan:** Cllr. Ritchie confirmed that CALC was now taking a lead in providing support to parish councils on how to develop local Resilience Plans and had appointed a dedicated member of staff for this purpose. It was **Agreed** that it would be sensible to monitor how this initiative was progressing and develop local a plan in line with its recommendations.

### **89/21 Future Meetings**

The next meeting is scheduled for 04 May but it was noted that this was the day prior to the local elections and there was doubt as to whether the Hall would be available as it would be a polling station the following day. Cllr. Cooper undertook to check alternative dates when the Hall might be used

**Note:** Subsequent to the meeting, Cllr. Carman liaised with those organising the election and confirmed that it would be possible to use the Hall on 04 May subject to business not extending far beyond 9.00 p.m.

The Meeting closed at 8.00 p.m. and the Annual Parish Meeting was convened (separate Minute prepared).

**M R Curry, Clerk to Helsington Parish Council**  
**25 April 2022**