**UNDERSKIDDAW PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING held in the Underskiddaw Church Rooms on Tuesday 20th November 2018 at 14:00**

**PRESENT :** Mr J Wilson (in the Chair), Mr Tony Gibbs, Mr Chris Corder, Mr Ian Hall, Mr David Horsburgh, Mrs Jan Boniface, Becx Carter-Parish Clerk, C/CC Cllr A Bowness, 3 members of the public.

###### 2018.56 Apologies for absence.

None received

###### 2018.57 Minutes of the 25th September 2018

**Resolved** that the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record by Cllr J Wilson in his role as Chair of the meeting.

**Action: Clerk to upload minutes to website.**

###### 2018.58 Application for Co-option

None received.

It was noted that interest had been expressed by a local resident.

**Action: Clerk to contact the individual in question to discuss the vacancy prior to an application for co-option being made at the January 2019 meeting**

###### 2018.59 Declarations on Interest.

None

###### 2018.60 Public Participation

3 Members of the public were present a number of issues were raised:

* Parish Council agendas are no longer being placed on the Millbeck Village Hall Noticeboard.

The clerk confirmed that this was correct as the noticeboard is not a Parish Council noticeboard.

**Action: Clerk to send copies of future meeting agenda’s to Dr T Donaldson for information**

* Millbeck Lane resurfacing project was completed some time ago but the road markings at the junction with the top road (opposite the Village Hall) have never been reinstated. A number of near misses have been observed with vehicles not being aware of the junction at this location.

**Action: C/CC Cllr A Bowness to raise this with the Highways Team at CCC**

**Action: Clerk to report this matter on the CCC Highways Information Management System**

* Hedges- In particular the corner opposite Field View Applethwaite, the hedge is about 3ft past the boundary line and encroaching on the highway on this tight right hand bend

**Action: Cllr D Horsburgh to discuss this with the land owner.**

* Hedges on Applethwaite Lane are only being trimmed seasonally and not cut back, resulting in a loss of the verge space which used to be used as pedestrian refuge if vehicles needed to pass. It was noted that the responsibility for these hedges is split between three landowners.

**Action: Clerk to draft a letter for sending to the landowners requesting that the hedges are properly cut back to reveal the verges and allow for extra space on the Highway.**

###### 2018.61 United Utilities West Cumbria Pipeline Update

Paul Mckeown (Construction)

Dan Hunt (LDNPA/Environmental compliance)

Dave Watson (UU Planning)

Andy Roe (LDNPA/Environmental compliance)

It was noted by all present that Deborah Marsh has now left United Utilities.

Mr Mckeown spoke to an hard copy presentation that was distributed at the meeting. He noted that agreement has been reached with the LDNPA for working into the winter.

The local works are ongoing at Greta Tunnel, Castlerigg Tunnel, and the three road crossings (Brundholme Road, Spooney Green & the A66) will be taking place in the near future. Within the Parish works will be ongoing at the north end of the Parish to complete the pipelaying (a short stretch) on the balance of impact it has been deemed that continuing to work into the winter on stretch is better than reopening the site next year.

Testing & commissioning preparation will be ongoing throughout the winter, along with ongoing environmental monitoring & silt mitigation works (in particular in response to any severe weather events).

The reinstatement within the Parish will happen in 2019, including post construction drainage, topsoil spreading & then works to restore boundary features (e.g. hedges/trees) followed by seeding/planting.

Q: The remaining area left to lay pipe on in the Parish is the bog to the north area of the Parish, why wasn’t this done during this Summers unprecedented dry period?

A: It is a peat area, which a special technique had to be developed for accessing. (Digging the trench, back filling with stone & then digging back out to lay the pipe). UU would have liked to have started this section earlier but delays meant this wasn’t possible. UU are now waiting for the water levels to drop to complete the works in this area. A selection of techniques are being used to reduce the water levels in this area but crucially Bassenthwaite Lake level needs to fall before the dewatering techniques can be utilised. Councillors noted that they felt it unlikely that this area of land would be dry enough between now and March for works to take place.

Q: Applethwaite Road End, the pipe & infrastructure have been in and out of the ground many times what is going on?

A: It is a complex valve point on the pipeline. This section has been selected as one of the areas to be pressure tested (the decision on which sections are to be tested was only taken after the pipeline was laid and covered). As such all infrastructure has been dug out and replaced.

Q: How do you propose to reinstate the hedges?

A: In detail the answer is not known yet, but plans will be taken to landowners in January with the detail on the proposed reinstatement, including topsoil, boundary features and seeding mix. However there are restrictions on what can be planted over the pipeline which will have to be taken into consideration. UU anticipate that the hedges will be laid in Autumn 19.

Q: UU are currently pumping water out of the ‘lagoon’ at Applethwaite Road End, it is being pumped to ground further up the field, and the end result of this is large amounts of settlement are flowing down Burr Gill.

A: This is being monitored, the pumping to ground should only take place where there is no risk of sediment entering the water courses. This has been raised with the contractors on a number of occasions.

Q: How are you going to deal with the large amount of water/run off that is sitting on/crossing the working easement after/during reinstatement? Will the outcome of this project not be just increased levels of flooding/standing surface water along the easement (E.g. Applethwaite Road End).

A: UU will work with landowners to restore the drainage, and have a long term obligation in terms of reinstatement to continue to monitor and respond to any issues such as standing water/run off issues. If the first solution is not correct then UU will return to correct it.

Q: How long will UU need to have access to the valve complex for, and what type of access will this be (e.g. vehicular access/hardstandings).

A: Access will be required in perpetuity whilst the pipeline is in use, and will be via either a field gate or other pre-agreed access with the landowner. It will be 24 hour access. They don’t anticipate there being a requirement for a hard standing. There are two types of valves water (concrete slab flush to the ground), air valves, need to be proud of the ground by circa 1m. The concrete pads will be circa 3meters by 6meters. There will be 17 valves with kiosks over the top of them across the pipeline.

**Action: Clerk to request specific plans from UU for all valves & kiosks within the Parish with detail of the concrete areas/size/heights/lighting etc for distribution to all Councillors.**

Q: Will the valve areas need to be fenced to protect from stock?

A: Not anticipating them to be no.

Q: How do you (Paul) fit in the UU hierarchy? As there has been significant personnel changeover on the project.

A: Paul works on the construction side of the project under Glen Mallinson (current project manager).

The Parish Council noted that they have continuing concern about the high turnover of staff and communication pathways on the project. UU noted that this was a large project with an expected staff turnover.

UU confirmed that Dave, Andy & Dan have been with the project since the start as has Ian McCoy who is the new contact for the Parish Council now that Deborah Marsh has left.

Q: The 30mph speed limit at Thrushwood who instigated it? And could it be made permanent?

A: UU believe this was instigated by CCC Highways, C/Cllr A Bowness wasn’t aware that this had been formally approved by CCC and suspected it may be a temporary measure, and the issue with it being made permanent is who/how they will be enforced.

**Action: C/Cllr A Bowness to raise this with CCC for consideration**

**Action: Clerk to follow this up with CCC in due course.**

###### 2018.62 Update from other bodies (if present)

LDNPA

The Clerk informed the Council that the LDNPA were offering a grant of £250 to all Parish Councils to help with the capital equipment costs of viewing planning applications electronically.

**Resolved** by all present that the Clerk apply for this grant on behalf of Underskiddaw Parish Council.

**Action: Clerk to apply for this grant on behalf of the Parish Council.**

Police Report

Contents of the Police Report were noted.

Cumbria County Council

Cllr A Bowness informed those present that Cumbria County Council have been holding discussions relating to the revisiting of becoming a Unitary Authority. In the past this hasn’t been successful due to the District/Borough Councils vetoing it. However it is likely now that the financial pressures are such that decisions taken maybe different.

**Action**: **Cllr A Bowness to keep Underskiddaw Parish Council updated regarding this matter.**

Gully Cleaning- If this is required it needs to be requested.

**Action: Clerk to report the issue of the blocked Gully on the Parish Boundary at Little Dodd Sawmill.**

###### 2018.63 Clerks Report

All matters were covered in the Clerks written report circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

Andrew Wilson Grass Cutting

The Clerk noted to the meeting that she had received correspondence from Mr Wilsons accounts manager seeking clarity on the job description as he had been requested to stop looking after some of the areas that have previously been included.

**Resolved** by all present that Cllr D Horsburgh act as a point of contact for Andrew Wilson if he is approached by anyone within the Parish asking him to stop/alter his work.

**Action: Clerk to confirm this and Cllr D Horsburgh’s contact details to Andrew Wilson.**

It was noted by all present that Andrew Wilson’s work is very valuable and he undertakes it to a high standard.

Applethwaite Road End Mirror

The Clerk confirmed that CCC will not be installing a mirror in this location, despite the known issues with visibility.

**Resolved** that this is a serious problem, and the potential impacts of an accident here would be high. The Clerk is to contact CCC to ask them to speak with the Landowner about re-aligining the hedge. If this fails the Clerk to approach UU to ask if they could (with landowner consent) re align this hedge as they reinstate the working easement through this field.

**Action: Clerk to pursue this with Cumbria County Council, and then UU if this fails.**

###### 2018.64 Finances

1. Bank Balances

**Resolved** that these were noted as:

Current Account £8,649.63. at 5th Nov 2018

Money Manager £2,628.53 at 31st October 2018

1. Bank Reconciliation and Spend Against Budget Reports

These reports were signed as a true & accurate report.

1. Approval of Cheques

**Resolved** that the following cheques were approved by all present and signed by Cllrs Wilson & Boniface.

Crosthwaite Church Room Hire £20.00

Andrew Wilson Grass Cutting £355

Becx Carter Expenses £190.28

Campaign to Protect Rural England (Subscription) £36

Andrew Wilson (Replacement Cheque) £225.50

**Resolved** that it be noted that HSBC had made an error with Andrew Wilson’s September 2018 cheque and it hasn’t cleared. Therefore a new cheque to be reissued.

**Action: Clerk to submit a complaint to HSBC regarding this matter.**

**Action: Clerk to process the above payments**

**Resolved** by all present that Cllrs D Horsburgh & I Hall be added to the Bank Account as signatories on to the Parish Council Bank Account in replacement of two outgoing signatories.

1. Consideration of Draft Budget for 19-20 Financial year

**Resolved** by all present that a 5% precept rise be requested for the forthcoming year. Setting a precept demand of £6407.36 for the forthcoming year.

**Action: Clerk to complete the relevant paperwork.**

1. Keswick & District First Responders Grant Request

**Resolved** by all present that a S.137 Donation be made of £60 to cover the cost of 1 pager for one year.

**Action: Clerk to process this donation**

1. Great North Air Ambulance Grant Request

**Resolved** by all present that a S.137 Donation of £50 be made in recognition of the charitable lifesaving works undertaken by the Great North Air Ambulance across the region.

**Action: Clerk to process this donation**

###### 2018.65 Lake District National Park Authority

1. Decisions

**Resolved** by all present that the below decision be noted:.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **Address** | **Proposal** | **Decision** |
| 7/2018/2184 | Underscar Timeshare, Oxleys Health Spa, Applethwaite | Use of building as Spa facilities not in accordance with condition 2 of planning permission 7/2000/2059 (permitted leisure club membership to increase to 125) | Approved with Conditions |
| 7/2018/2217 | Springbank, Underskiddaw, Keswick | Proposed new porch | Approved with Conditions |
| 7/2018/2194 | Borrowdale View, Keswick | Alterations & extensions to existing detached garage to form studio office & storage for use with Borrowdale View | Approved with Conditions |
| 7/2018/2189 & 2188 | 1-4 Little Crosthwaite, Underskiddaw | Converting rear window of No 3 into French Doors & relocating 2 no first floor 20th C Partitions to Nos 3 & 4 | Withdrawn  & Listed Building Consent Granted |

1. Planning applications for consideration

**Ref: 7/2018/2286 & 2285**

Location: Underscar Manor, Underskiddaw, Cumbria,

Proposal: Restoration and reinstatement of Smoking Tower access, insertion of discreet structurally independent glazing box to the upper level, general restoration of existing tower & minor re-configuration of recently approved garden wall.

**Resolved** by all present that Underskiddaw Parish Council have no comments or objections to this proposal but would request that a condition be added to any approval that the glass be anti-reflection to prevent sun glare impacting on the neighboring timeshares.

**Action: Clerk to submit these comments.**

**Ref: 7/2018/2288**

Location: Crosthwaite Conference Centre, Church Lane, Keswick

Proposal: Operation of a temporary self catering campsite for 3 weeks, to run in conjunction with Keswick Convention 2019

**Resolved** by all present that Underskiddaw Parish Council have no comments or objections.

**Action: Clerk to submit these comments**

###### 2018.66 Members Reports

Village Hall- It was noted that with Kath’s illness no further progress has been made.

**Resolved** that the Clerk contact John Hayes to ask if a letter could be put in the Keswick Reminder and circulated via the Parish Council distribution list asking people that if they want to preserve this asset that they attend a meeting (date to be agreed).

**Action: Cllr D Horsburgh to broach this subject with Mr Hayes**

**Action: Clerk to follow this up with a letter.**

###### 2018.67 Date & Time of the Next Meeting

**Resolved** by all present that the January 2019 meeting date be altered to the 15th January 2019

**Action: Clerk to update the website**

Meeting closed 15:45