

UNDERSKIDDAW PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING held in the Underskiddaw Church Rooms on Tuesday 15th March 2016 at 14:00

PRESENT : Mr J Wilson (in the Chair), Mrs B Bulman, Mr C Corder, Mr T Ryan, Mr T Gibbs

In attendance : Bex Carter Clerk, Mr A Seekings (ABC Director), A/BC Cllr M Grainger

2016.25 **Apologies for absence.**

Cllr J Boniface, Cllr I Hall

2016.26 **Minutes of the 15/02/16**

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.

2016.27 **Declarations on Interest.** The Chairman requested Members should declare any interest they had in any of the Agenda items.

No declarations of interest or requests for dispensations were received.

2016.28 **Public Participation**

- a) Police Report: **Resolved** that it be noted that there had been 0 incidents since the last meeting.
- b) Allerdale Borough Council- Mr A Seekings (Director)

Mr Seeking attended to hear the opinions/concerns from Underskiddaw Parish Council relating to ABC issues. ABC are trying to work towards being more in touch with their area geographically and so have agreed that a senior ABC officer will attend Parish Council meetings on a regular basis. Mr A Seeking was standing in for Mr G Wilson who will commonly attend going forward (he is currently on sick).

A robust round table discussion was held during which the following matters were raised by councillors present.

Parking Charges

Concern was raised regarding the apparent dis-proportionate nature of the pricing structure for car parking in Keswick compared to elsewhere in the Borough- Mr Seeking responded stating that the charges were being reviewed for the first time in 5 years. The pricing structures are determined based upon the demand, use & utilisation of the car parks. The more people that use it the higher the charges become. In addition modifications were being made to improve the 'flow' around the relevant towns.

Underskiddaw Parish Council noted concern regarding the disproportionate nature of this nature (normally scales of economy have things getting cheaper based on demand).

Mr Seekings noted that concerns regarding impact on locals had been taken into account, the first ½ hour price had been reduced from 65p to 50p.

Underskiddaw Parish Council noted concern regarding the impact of these changes on local businesses in particular the Theatre By the Lake. Mr Seekings informed the council that the grant given to TbTL in the past was given with an aim of supporting the business to become sustainable. In addition modifications have been made to the final parking proposal that is

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going to the ABC Executive on the 16th March 2016. (Reduces the overnight charge and modifies the evening charging period).

Decision making

Underskiddaw Parish Council noted concerns regarding the decision making process at ABC, that a decision regarding Parking Charges will taken by the Executive, and not by full council, meaning that currently U/S don't have a representative on the Executive.

Mr A Seekings confirmed that the full council (all elected members) had voted to adopt the policy framework that included the ability for decisions to be taken by an Executive which is elected by the governing party.

Mr A Seekings confirmed to those present that the decisions relating to which type of parking rests with which authority (E.g. On Street/Off Street etc) is governed by national legislation (Local Government Act 1974). This is not a decision that is taken locally.

Disc Parking

Mr A Seekings confirmed this was the responsibility of CCC.

Toilet Provision

Underskiddaw Parish Council noted that the current public toilet provision in Keswick is appalling.

Mr A Seekings confirmed that ABC are currently involved in transferring the toilet assets (Bell Close, Central, & Lakeside) to Keswick Town Council. Along with the asset transfer ABC will be providing a £75k capital investment to help with the refurbishment of the facilities. KTC are planning to immediately planning to transfer the asset & investment to a community trust.

Parks/Flood Recovery

Concern was raised by Underskiddaw Parish Council that ABC are currently cutting grants to parks at a time when the parks (certainly in Keswick) need the funding the most.

Mr A Seekings confirmed that ABC, CCC & CCF are working to try and come up with a method of helping public green spaces like Fitz Park.

Mr A Seekings informed the meeting that he currently sits on a strategic recovery group which is running across the county, and he can raise issues at this forum if necessary.

Resolved that Mr A Seekings be copied into concerns relating to flooding from Underskiddaw Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to send copies of the recently raised concerns to Mr A Seekings.

All present thanked Mr A Seekings for his attendance and time.

Action: Clerk to send a formal thanks to Mr A Seeking for his attendance.

2016.29

Clerks Report

- A. *Cumbria Deal*- Clerk informed the meeting that no further updates had been received on this matter- **Action. Item to remain on the agenda for future meetings**
- B. *Broadband*- An update has been received from Dr G Davies stating that the cabinet is hoping to be 'live' by the end of this month
- C. *Flooding*- The Clerk informed the meeting that the Derwent 7 are looking to collate local information/knowledge on possible causes/mitigations that could help prevent or reduce the impact of future flooding.

Resolved that the Council felt that the following should be included in the list:

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- Culverts have been long neglected and not cleared maintained resulting in additional flooding
- Farmers should be encouraged/supported to go back to the clearance of on farm watercourses/dredging/culvert management to prevent issues. The current levels of paperwork are to high resulting in large amounts of watercourses not being cared for/managed.
- Flood defences have resulted water being forced/funnelled to places that in the past have never flooded- The impacts/results of this need to be carefully calculated and mitigated appropriately
- Water courses (including some main ones) should be regularly managed & dredged and consideration should be given to straightening/removing obstructions on water courses to encourage uninterrupted flow of water to the sea
- The water levels in Thirlmere should be reduced significantly at the end of EVERY summer to allow for greater capacity when the winter storms hit. The levels need to be reduced much further than currently.

2016.30

Finances

i) *Bank Balances*

Resolved that these were noted as:

Current Account	£3155.00 on 1 st March 2016
Money Manager	£2624.32 at 31 st December 2015

ii) *Cheques*

Resolved that the following cheques were approved by all present and signed by Cllrs Wilson & Bulman

Becc Carter	Expenses	£87.97
Crosthwaite Church Rooms	Jan & Feb Hire	£40 (Signed between meetings)
Becc Carter	Salary	£402.15
HMRC	PAYE	£100.60
Cumbria Payroll Services	Payroll Services	£14.00
Crosthwaite Church Rooms	March Hire	£20.00

Action: Clerk to process the above payments

iii) *Approval of financial reports*

Resolved by all present that the bank reconciliation and spend against budget were a true and accurate reflection. These were signed as such by Cllr J Wilson

iv) *Signing of a Standing Order Mandate for payment of the Clerk*

Resolved by all present that a standing order be created for the payment of the Clerks Salary on a quarterly basis. This mandate was signed by Cllr J Wilson & Cllr B Bullman.

Resolved that a mandate change regarding signatories & purchase of leaflet dispenses be deferred until the May meeting.

Action: Clerk to agenda these too matters for the May Meeting.

2016.31

Review of Parish Plan

Resolved by all present that no issues had arisen since the last meeting.

2016.33

Calvert Way Welcome Pack

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Resolved by all present that the welcome packs should be delivered by councillors, Cllr J Wilson, Cllr T Ryan & Cllr T Gibbs volunteered to undertake this role when necessary.

Resolved by all present that the Welcome Pack should include information on the polling stations for the new residents (Millbeck Village Hall), and associated other methods of voting.

Action: Clerk to prepare a draft of the welcome pack and circulate to all in advance of the May meeting.

2016.34

Lake District National Park Authority

i) Decisions:

No decisions had been received since the February meeting.

ii) Sewage Works

The Clerk informed the meeting that Julie Birkett of the LDNPA had met with UU and had confirmed that the two kiosks would remain the colours they are (willow green & dark green), with regard to the Shower Kiosk, UU are consulting with H & S to see what colour options were available. In addition Julie confirmed the Landscaping plan had been approved by the LDNPA.

Resolved by all present that the above response be noted and a response be submitted to the LDNPA stating that the existing 'Willow Green' Kiosk is unacceptable and stands out on the horizon far too starkly, especially in the Winter when there is no screening at all. This issue needs to be addressed to provide a more appropriate landscape solution. In addition the white shower kiosk needs to be a far more camouflaged colour.

Action: Clerk to response to the LDNPA with these issues and circulate the response to all councilors via email.

iii) Keswick School

Resolved that it be noted that on-going concerns continue to be raised by residents of Underskiddaw over the visual impact of the Keswick School Drama theatre, not only the large 'black' box, but over the winter the impact of the almost perpetual light pollution emanating from the building.

Action: Clerk to speak to Cllr J Boniface regarding her actions on this and if necessary write to the school regarding this issue.

iv) Keswick Garden Centre

The Clerk informed the meeting that a response had been received from the LDNPA with relation to the proposed Keswick Garden Centre development breaching condition 4 of 7/2013/2029. The LDNPA stated in response that "The condition to which you refer is part of the planning history of the site and was complied with at the time. It is a fundamental premise of the planning system that a given planning permission and its conditions does not stop someone applying to do something different at some point in the future or lock land or buildings into a particular use forever. It is only therefore possible to be in breach of this condition if it was currently being used as a dwelling"

Resolved by all present that Underskiddaw Parish Council were very disappointed and confused by the response provided by the LDNPA. Condition 4 currently states that '...shall cease use as a dwellinghouse and shall not thereafter be used as such' which appears to impose a binding nature on the future use of the site. Underskiddaw Parish Council continue

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to strongly object to the use of more than one building on this site as a dwelling. If the LDNPA are stating that Condition 4 of 7/2013/2029 is not going to be enforced would appear to call into question the entire consultation process of planning applications and the inclusion of conditions from the outset.

Action: Clerk to submit this response to the LDNPA and copy it to Dr G Davies LDNPA Member for the area.

Action: Clerk to circulate any response from the LDNPA to all councilors.

v) Planning Applications for Consideration

Ref: 7/2016/2040

Location: Plots 32-41 Calvert Way, Brundholme Road, Keswick

Proposal: Amend condition no 2 of approval ref 7/2014/2300 to alter the positions and house types of plots 32-41 including alterations to floor layouts and elevations

Resolved that Underskiddaw Parish Council had no comments relating to this application, and in addition were not clear on the proposed alterations from the documents provided.

Action: Clerk to submit these comments

2016.35 Allerdale BC

A/BC Cllr M Grainger informed the meeting that ABC had approved its budget & council tax rise at a meeting last week.

2016.36 Cumbria County Council

a. Highways Update

Resolved that Underskiddaw Parish Council were pleased to see the installation of double white lines on the A591 across the Applethwaite Lane junction.

Action: Clerk to send a letter of thanks to the relevant personnel at CCC.

Resolved that there is a dangerous drain/gully/hole that needs to be reported. It is circa 20m above the new Underscar Gates and is a large hole that could cause harm to a pedestrian or vehicle. It needs to be protected.

Action: Clerk to report this to the Better Highways Team.

Resolved that the dangerous branches/broughs overhanging the A591 at the Oakfield House Gates (to nowhere) be reported. If they were to fall they would cause a serious and significant risk to the highway.

Action: Clerk to report this matter to the relevant authorities

Resolved that the Clerk look into if the footpath through Underscar is a Right of Way as the pedestrian access has now been blocked following the installation of the new Underscar gates.

Action: Clerk to look into this and circulate the relevant definitive rights of way map to all councillors and agenda the issue for the May meeting.

Resolved that there are on-going concerns regarding the condition of Gale Road to Latrigg Car Park. It has been re-surfaced as far as the water treatment works but is in an appalling condition afterwards. It is a dangerous road surface.

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Action: Clerk to report this to CCC and ask for guidance on how to proceed.
Action: Clerk to raise this matter with the land/forestry agent.

2016.37 **Cumbria Association of Local Councils**

- a) The Council noted the receipt of the monthly circulars from CALC
- c) The Council noted the next meeting date of the 24th March 2016

2016.38 **Consultations for Consideration**

- a) LDNPA Consultation on Community Involvement
Resolved by all present that they would like to ensure a commitment from the LDNPA going forward that consultation with Parish Councils will still take place via hard copy plans.
Action: Clerk to submit these comments.

2016.39 **Derwent 7**

Resolved that it be noted that the next meeting date is the 25th April 2016 at 19:00

2016.40 **Members Reports**

Village Hall Committee

Resolved that it be noted that no reported had been received and the minutes were not appearing on the Village Hall Section of the Parish Website.

Action: Clerk to contact Ms M Climie to ask if the minutes should be appearing on the website.

2016.41 **Date & Time of the Next Meeting**

Tuesday 10th May 2016- AGM & Annual Meeting

Meeting Closed at 15:54