

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL MILLBECK on
WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH 2011 at 7.30 pm**

PRESENT : Mr J Wilson (in the Chair) Mrs J Boniface Mrs B Bulman Mr T Gibbs Mrs E Helme Mr D Roberts Mr J Wood

In attendance : Dr T Donaldson

2011.15 **Apologies** None required from members. Clerk absent through illness and Mrs E Helme was invited to take the Minutes.

2011.16 **Minutes** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 January 2011 were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

2011.17 **Declarations of Interest** Members were invited to declare any interest in any Agenda item and no such declaration was made.

2011.18 **Opportunity for Public Participation** Dr. T. Donaldson highlighted the problem of the culvert next to the Village Hall which at times of heavy rainfall keeps flooding. He had found out that a 5" water pipe ran through the culvert, this possibly being one of the reasons why it is so prone to flooding. United Utilities and the Highways Authority have agreed to re-route this pipe under the culvert. Dr. Donaldson suggested one other proposal to help solve this recurring problem that a channel could be made so, once the water reached a certain level, the water could be diverted into the stream. It was proposed by Mr. T. Gibbs and seconded by Mr. D. Roberts that the Clerk write to the National Trust seeking their support for this proposal.

2011.19 **Finances**

- (i) Balances at Bank noted : Current account £2,254.40; Deposit account £1315.66
- (ii) It was resolved to approve the signing of the following cheque : Mr. Andrew Wilson for grass cutting £84
- (iii) Mr. John Wood brought to the attention of the other councillors that the recently issued Council Tax Notification indicated that the Underskiddaw Precept had gone down by 7.5% when in fact our precept had actually gone down by 10%. Clerk to investigate.

2011.20 **Lake District National Park Authority**

- (i) The Minutes of the Planning Committee dated Thursday 3rd March 2011 were received and signed by Mr. J. Wilson after being proposed by Mr T Gibbs and seconded by Mrs J Boniface.
- (ii) **Applications** were considered : **7/2011/2057** Sewage Works – new Outfall. It was noted that there were 4 pipes in total going in about 450 metres west of the existing outfall pipe. As there was no visual structure, the decision reached was to **support**.
- (iii) **Decisions** **Osprey Cottage 7/2010/2324 extension** – Approval noted.
- (iv) **Appeal Crosthwaite Meadow** The Parish Council had been informed that Mr. Bill Murray was putting together a precise letter as to why the Enforcement should stand and we had been invited to make a contribution by 6th April 2011. It was agreed that the Parish Council should send a short letter strongly supporting the action and stressing the Parish Council's involvement

from the start. Mr. Wilson volunteered to contact Mr. Bennett to see whether a neighbouring parish council, following their previous interest, would also write supporting the Enforcement Notice.

- (v) **Underscar** : Refusal noted for Garden complex building, also garage and workshop buildings, the main reason given for refusal being the effect on character of the area. Approval noted for new gates.

2011.21 **Cumbria County Council**

X4 Bus Service : Mr. Wilson reported that he had attended the recent meeting at Bassenthwaite where the future of this service was under discussion following the announcement that the X4 Service was to cease. Here Stagecoach revealed that **both the X5 and X4 Services** are profitable! So why cancel the X4 Service? Mr Wilson informed the Councillors that he is to attend a further meeting on 24th March. Various suggestions were made for him to put forward to this meeting such as an improved service passing directly through the villages, a Hail & Ride Service, alterations to the fare structure to accommodate a student rate or simply a smaller bus.

2011.22 **Cumbria Association of Local Councils**

Clerks Direct circulated.

2011.23 **Annual Parish Meeting** to be held on 6 April 2011 in Millbeck Village Hall at 7:30p.m. Mr John Spedding had kindly agreed to speak at the meeting on "Trees in Underskiddaw". Other arrangements were finalised.

2011.24 **Election**

Nomination Packs were distributed to Parish Councillors. It was at this point that Mr David Roberts and Mrs Edith Helme advised the Parish Council that they did not wish to stand for re-election. Mr Wilson thanked both councilors for their hard work and for generously giving up their time.

2011.25 **Website**

Mrs Boniface said she had nothing to report.

2011.26 **Members' Reports**

Neighbourhood Forum : Mrs B. Bulman had attended a Forum meeting on Monday 21st March 2011.

The Police Station in Keswick will be manned in the day 7 days a week; there is a team of 11 officers and 10 support officers for North Allerdale Cockermouth and Keswick. Inspector Kelly is in charge. They will visit Council meetings occasionally. Will give Clerk an electronic up-date once a month. They are scrutinizing Farm Watch arrangements.

The Community Housing Trust suggested Ravensfield be used for affordable housing upstairs, and the downstairs which was subject to flood threat to be used for offices.

Road repairs to be reported to Highways Hotline.

Mrs Bulman had expressed to the meeting the concern the Parish Council had about Planning Matters including lack of support from LDNPA.

Grants totaling £2,441 were made to local organizations.

Underskiddaw Village Hall Committee : Mrs E. Helme attended a meeting on Friday 18 March 2011.

A number of maintenance matters were considered. Advice to be sought regarding the Mill Race, and its tendency to block. A Lottery Award of £2268 had been received to be used for a sound system and induction loops.

A screen had been bought to be used for talks. Investigations to be made about getting a projector and wiring at the same time as the sound system. Future events included the AGM with a talk (25 March 2011) Royal Wedding Celebrations (29 April 2011). Next meeting 20 May 2011.

2011.27

Date of next meetings

Annual Parish Meeting to be on April 2011; AGM to be on 25 May 2011.

In its deliberations the Council took into consideration the provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000, and Equality and Inclusiveness legislation.

Other matters raised after the meeting for investigation or for future agendas

New map for Notice Board – the general feeling of the Councillors was that this was probably the responsibility of the National Park Authority but Clerk to approach Ordnance Survey to see if it were possible for them to provide a map with Millbeck as the centre and at the same scale as the old map.

First Responders approach - Mr. Gibbs reported that a First Responder from Braithwaite had made enquiries to him wondering if there was a map of Underskiddaw showing the names of all the properties. Mr. Gibbs to make further enquires. Mr. Wilson volunteered that they could ring him if necessary and he would try to help.

Affordable Housing & Local Needs Questionnaire – To investigate the possibility of the Parish Council putting together a questionnaire about the future housing needs of local residents.