**UNDERSKIDDAW PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING held in the Underskiddaw Church Rooms on Tuesday 12th November 2019 at 14:00**

**PRESENT:** Mr J Wilson (in the Chair), Mr Tony Gibbs, Mr Chris Corder, Mr David Lake, Mr Ian Hall, Becx Carter-Parish Clerk, 6 members of the public

With five councillors present the meeting was quorate.

# 2019.57 Apologies for Absence

Mrs J Boniface, Mr David Horsburgh

# 2019.58 Minutes of the 10th September 2019

**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.**

# 2019.59 Declarations of Interest & request for Dispensation

None

# 2019.60 Public Participation

1. A number of street lights were reported as not working. It was noted to the member of the public that reported this that the correct way to report such issues is via <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/roads-transport/highways-pavements/reporting-problem-on-highway/WDM/default.asp>

**Action: Clerk to report these lights being out on HIMS**

1. Remembrance Sunday. It was requested that Underskiddaw Parish Council notify the Keswick Reminder that there is a Remembrance event within the Parish as well as in other neighbouring villages.

**Action: Clerk to pass this information on to the Keswick Reminder in advance of 2020.**

# 2019.61 Update from other bodies (if present)

## Police

The Clerk read out the Police report and the four incidents within it were noted.

## Lake District National Park Authority

It was noted that Keswick Town Council have recently passed a vote of No Confidence in the Lake District National Park Authority regarding the Keswick to Threlkeld Railway Line footpath surface treatment.

# 2019.62 Clerks Report

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

## Applethwaite Hedges

This issue had been agenda’d as the Hedges hadn’t been cut at the September 2019 meeting. It was noted that these hedges have now been trimmed. However concern was noted that possibly during the cutting of these hedges the Cast Iron Fingerpost at the bottom of Applethwaite Lane has been damaged.

**Action: Clerk to email the distribution list to ask if anyone knows where the damaged finger has been stored.**

# 2019.63 Finances

### Bank Balances

**Resolved** that these were noted as:

Current Account £9,543.85 at 5th October 2019

Money Manager £2633.77 at 6th September 2019

### Consideration of Draft Budget 20-21

The Clerk presented a draft budget for the forthcoming year. Key points highlighted were:

* 1. Website- There is a legal requirement to make alterations to all local government websites on accessibility grounds prior to Sept 2020 as such an increased website budget has been suggested
  2. Parish Maintenance- This budget has been increased to recognise the increased amount of work that is being done locally with the austerity measures in the high authorities
  3. Parish Clerk Salary- As agreed at the Sept 19 meeting, the approved salary increase has been reflected in the budget.

**Action: Clerk to finalise the budget for the January 2020 meeting.**

**Action: All to let the Clerk know of any errors/omissions in the draft budget.**

### Approval of Cheques

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

Crosthwaite Church Room Hire £25.00

Andrew Wilson Parish Maintenance £610.68

Becx Carter Expenses £102.89

CPRE Subscription £36.00

Data Protection Annual Fee £40

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

### To approve & sign the Bank Reconciliation and Spend Against Budget Report up to 5th November 2019

**Resolved** by all present that this be signed as a true & accurate record.

### Consideration of S.137 Donation to Keswick & District First Responders

**Resolved** by all present that a donation of £60 be awarded to this local charity for the purpose of funding a pager for this life saving service.

**Action: Clerk to process this donation**

### Consideration of a S.137 Donation to the Great North Air Ambulance

**Resolved** by all present that a donation of £100 be awarded to this charity in recognition of its life saving works.

**Action: Clerk to process this donation.**

### Approval of Request for Read Only Internet Banking Access

**Resolved** by all present that Underskiddaw Parish Council apply to HSBC for read only access to internet banking to enable more timely financial reports to be prepared. The appropriate bank mandate was signed by Cllr I Hall & Cllr J Wilson with the Clerk being nominated as the Principle Officer.

**Action: Clerk to process this mandate form.**

### Approval of revised Financial Regulations

**Resolved** by all present that the revised Financial Regulations be adopted and uploaded to the website with immediate effect.

# 2019.64 Lake District National Park Authority

### Decisions

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **Address** | **Proposal** | **Decision** |
| 7/2019/2173 | Gale Cottage & Norton, Applethwaite | Alterations & extension to outbuilding & insert two windows to Gale Cottage | Approved with conditions |
| 7/2019/2161 | Old Windebrowe & adjoining barn | Confirmation of compliance with conditions | Compliance confirmed |
| 7/2019/2196 | The Old Mill, Applethwaite | Revised proposal for extension to dwelling to provide new entrance hall & conservatory | Approved with conditions |
| T/2019/0139 | The Old Coach House, Underskiddaw | Fell 1 Robina | No objection subject to conditions |
| 7/2019/2255 | Land near to Crag Side, Millbeck | Agricultural building for the storage of hay, machinery and implements (For information not a consultation) | Notification of Intention |
| 7/2019/2228 | Low Briery Holiday Village | Amendment to permitted occupancy period, condition 2 on planning permission 7/2009/2249 (use as a caravan site) | Approved with conditions |

### Planning applications for consideration

**Ref: 7/2019/2283**

Location: Calvert Trust, Little Crosthwaite, Keswick

Proposal: Replacement Water Supply Tank

**Resolved** by all present that the Parish Council have no comments or objections to this proposal.

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

**Letter of intent for proposed planning application for 11 Dwellings (6 affordable units & 5 local needs units) Keswick Garden Centre**

The owner of the site was present at the meeting and at the discretion of the Chair answered queries that those present raised.

Two members of the public present are direct neighbours of the site and they noted they had not received letters regarding this proposed planning application.

The owner of the site confirmed that this proposal has been led by the LDNPA, following previous applications to them for other uses on the site (most recently an application for two semi-detached properties for self-catering holiday lets) which the LDNPA would not support.

The plans are mainly finalised now with some final remaining aspects to be completed before formal submission of the planning application in the coming weeks.

Q: Have you established the need for these types/number of houses?

A: The planning consultant the applicant has employed has completed a viability assessment including local & parish need which will be submitted with the planning application (Allerdale Borough Council have also been asked for input at this stage).

Q: Is the land not agricultural?

A: The site is circa 10acres, 4 of these are agricultural with a covenant on them protecting them from any development. The old Garden Centre is a brownfield/previously developed site of circa 2 acres and this is the area that is being developed as part of this application. The applicant is not looking at moving into any agricultural/green field area.

A member of the public raised concerns that if this development were to be approved by the LDNPA that it might set a precedent for further development on the site. Additionally the member of the public noted that in a previous planning inspectorate decision the inspector had noted that ‘the land between the bypass and the high fells is of exceptional quality and should be regarded as such’.

Underskiddaw Parish Council noted that they are aware of these concerns however currently it doesn’t appear to matter what comments the Parish Council submit to the LDNPA in response to planning consultations the LDNPA don’t often listen to local concerns, and where they do apply planning conditions, they then don’t hold developers/applicants to the conditions. This has been causing frustration amongst Parish Councils for a number of years now.

The applicant confirmed they were aware of the sensitive nature of the area and this will be dealt with by the look and feel of the development. The current site is derelict and something needs to be done to improve the site. In terms of future development the covenant on the agricultural land would prevent any further development.

**Action: Clerk to speak to the LDNPA about an extension to any consultation deadline on an application submitted in late November/early December to ensure the Parish Council and the public have an opportunity to consider the application and respond.**

It was noted that there seems to be a growing push from the LDNPA to build houses in all rural settlements, with limited consideration for the need or the impact of these developments. The applicant confirmed that the LDNPA had steered them towards affordable housing on the site.

Q: Will the houses be for sale or for rent?

A: The LDNPA will provide the steer for this. The applicant confirmed that they didn’t mind if the properties were for sale or for rental. They were hoping to preserve housing stock for young people.

# 2019.65 Members Reports

## Village Hall

Mr J Hayes confirmed that there had been a number of successful events recently including a pub night and a soup & sandwich lunch. Mid week bookings for events are doing wel.

# 2019.66 Councillor Matters

## Distribution list

Cllr T Gibbs noted concern once again that the Parish Council distribution list wasn’t extensive enough to cover all parishoners. The clerk confirmed there were circa 45 email addresses on the list.

**Action: Another form to be issued to all parishoners with the next Village Hall Mailout.**

## Local Works

It was noted with thanks that a resident from Raven Lane, Applethwaite has been doing some works around the parish as a volunteer and that these are greatly appreciated.

# 2019.67 Date & Time of the Next Meeting

**Resolved** by all present that the next meeting date be:

Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 14:00

Meeting closed 14:50