# Underskiddaw Parish Council Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Underskiddaw Annual Parish Council held in Underskiddaw Church Rooms at 14:00 on the 28th September 2021.

**Present:** Jan Boniface, Joe Saxton, Jana Lambert, David Horsburgh, Diane Griffiths, Ellen Barker,

**In Attendance:** Becx Carter (Clerk), 5 members of the public,

**Apologies**: A/BC Cllr S Lansbury,

With 6 councillors present the meeting was quorate.

# 32/21 To elect a Chairman & Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year and for the appointed Chair to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

## Election of Chairperson

Cllr J Lambert nominated Cllr Joe Saxton

Cllr E Barker seconded the nomination.

**Resolved** with 1 abstention that Cllr J Saxton be elected as Chairperson of Underskiddaw Parish Council for the forthcoming year.

Cllr J Saxton signed the Chair’s declaration of acceptance of office and this was witnessed by the Clerk & RFO.

**Action: Clerk to update the website**

## Election of Vice Chairperson

Due to no councillor being elected to the role of Vice-Chair for the forthcoming year this will become the first agenda item of any future meeting.

**Action: Agenda election of Vice Chair as first item of business on any forthcoming meeting.**

# 33/21 Apologies for absence

None

# 34/21 Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4th May 2021

**Resolved** by all present that the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th May 2021 be signed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Joe Saxton.

**Action: Clerk to upload the minutes to the website and circulate to all.**

# 35/21 Request for Dispensations & Declarations of Interest

None received

# 36/21 Exclusion of Press & Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960).

None

# 37/21 Public Participation

*Planning application ref 7/2021/2213.* A number of members of the public attended the meeting to raise objections to planning application ref 7/2021/2213 a summary of the reasons for objection provided by the members of the public are provided below:

* There is no rationale within the planning documents regarding why the landowner requires this diversification?
* Approval of this planning application could be the start of development ‘creep’ on the site.
* The proposal will have a negative impact on the woodland itself, which has already been partially destroyed.
* If approved the development would have negative impacts on the wildlife that is native and resident to the woodland (red squirrels are resident in the woodland)
* Any increase in traffic on Gale Road is concerning, given the already identified issues with traffic volume and flow on this road.
* Concern was raised regarding if the applicant is indeed a ‘farm’ and would qualify for the criterion as a farm diversification.
* Local residents are disappointed that the permissive footpath through the woods has been closed now for a number of years and there doesn’t appear to be any indication that this will be re-opened.
* What benefit does this application offer to the Parish of Underskiddaw? As there no local services

The Clerk confirmed that it is unlikely that the proposed development would pay council tax as they are not a domestic dwelling.

*Written question regarding Village Green Registration*- There is a parcel of land outside Elder Cottage in Applethwaite and a member of the public has raised queries about if this is common land, who owns it, and if it could be registered as a village green.

**Action: Clerk to establish if the land is owned and if so by whom**

**Action: Clerk to establish if the land is common.**

**Action: Clerk to agenda this for a future meeting.**

The clerk gave a summary of the differences between a village green, common land and adverse possession.

# 38/21 Application for Co-option (1 Vacancy)

None received

# 39/21 Update from other bodies

None present

# 40/21 Clerks report

The Clerk Report had been circulated to all prior to the meeting. The receipt of this report was noted by all.

## Repairs to Community Use Defib

The Clerk informed those present that the Applethwaite Phone Box Community use defibrillator is currently offline due to it requiring new batteries.

The cost of the new batteries would be £186 + VAT.

**Resolved** by all present that these new batteries be ordered and the defib restored to use as soon as possible.

**Action: Clerk to take this action forward.**

## Cumbria Transport Infrastructure Plan Consultation

The Clerk had circulated this to all councillors prior to the meeting.

It was **resolved** that no response be submitted following the meeting, however if any councillors have any comments to make they be passed to the Clerk by the 10th October 2021.

# 41/21 Finance & Accounts

## To receive note of the Bank Balances

**Resolved** by all present that the bank balance be noted as

Current Account £10,547.03 at 31st August 2021

## Invoices for approval

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **To** | **For** | **Amount** |
| HMRC | PAYE | £220.80 |
| Becx Carter | Expenses | £251.15 |
| Andrew Wilson | Parish Maintenance | £229.75 |

**Resolved** by all present that these invoices be paid.

**Action: Clerk to organise the payment of these accounts.**

## Approval of Bank Reconciliation & Spend against Budget Report

**Resolved** by all present that the Bank Reconciliation & Spend against Budget report be accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

# 42/21 Lake District National Park Authority

## Decisions

**Resolved** by all present that the below decisions be noted as received.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **Location** | **Proposal** | **Decision** |
| 7/2021 | The Old Sawmill Tearoom, Dodd Wood | Extension of canopy to the Old Sawmill Tearoom to provide rain cover for existing out door seating area | Approved with conditions |

## Planning Applications for Consideration

**Ref: 7/2021/2213**

Location: Underscar Manor, Applethwaite.

Proposal: Installation of 6 shepherds huts (holiday accommodation) as farm diversification.

It was noted that a number of emails of objection regarding this application had been copied into the Parish Council from considered parishioners.

Concerns were raised regarding the environmental implications of this proposal, the potential over development of the site, and potential traffic congestion caused by this proposal.

Councillors questioned if this is a valid farm diversification application?

The Clerk noted that the LDNPA are very low on resources and staff and that things are taking time to be processed.

**Resolved** by all present that Underskiddaw Parish Council object to this proposal on the grounds:

* Impact of lighting on the site on the dark skies of the Parish
* Environmental impact on the woodland (both in terms of flora & fauna)
* Is it a farm?
* The potential implications of the additional vehicular traffic on the already congested Gale Road.
* Hut 1 is in a very open area and is very close to a PROW and would be difficult to screen which would mean it would have a very visual impact.
* Concerns were raised about the 24 hour site management and implications of this in terms of impacts on local residents (noise etc).

**Action: Chair to draft a response for the LDNPA and pass to the Clerk for submission by the 4th October 2021**

# 43/2021 Members Reports

## Village Hall

Mr J Hayes had submitted a brief written report on the Village Hall confirming that classes have now restarted at the Village Hall, and that it is now booked Monday-Friday until the end of the year.

The AGM for 2021 is likely to take place in October 2021.

It was noted that it is likely to be next Spring before the first Community event takes place.

The Village Hall Committee are looking into seeking professional advice on how to improve the building to extend its longevity e.g. insulation.

# 44/21 Dates of next meeting.

**Resolved** by all present that the next meeting of Underskiddaw Parish Council will be held on the 30th November 2021 at 14:00 in Underskiddaw Church Rooms.

Signed……………………………………………………………………………. (Dated) ………………………….

Meeting Closed 14:42