



Colton Parish Council

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Clerk: Ms Mandy Lane
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Oxen Park
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The following are the minutes of the Colton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 22nd June 2009 in Colton Church Hall at 7.30p.m..

Members Present: Cllr Barr (Chair) Cllr Cunliffe Cllr Dean Cllr Fishwick Cllr Potts Cllr Robinson
Ms M Lane (Clerk)

Also present: Cllr Wilson (CCC) Cllr Davies (SLDC) PC Diana Wilcock Mr Rob Lawley (Cumbria Highways)

65. Apologies

Cllr Watson (working) Cllr Lovegrove (ill health)

ACTION

66. Minutes of Last Meeting

It was resolved that the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 11th May 2009 as a true record.

67. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Potts declared a prejudicial interest in respect of item 8. on the Agenda concerning Finsthwaite Clock Committee.

68. To Fill a Vacancy on the Council

Mr John Taylor of Cinder Hill, Finsthwaite was co-opted onto the Council.

69. Update on Issues and Actions from Last Meeting

The following action reports were received and noted:

- Representatives on Outside Bodies: Cllr Fishwick would replace Cllr Watson as Coniston Water Association representative.

70. Public Participation

- Mr Rob Lawley (Cumbria Highways) gave a presentation on winter roads maintenance to explain the difficulties caused by the past cold winter following a series of mild winters, along with a budget overspend. Colton's main complaint had been about the lack of salt in bins for volunteer salting of roads, as most roads in Colton were not routinely salted. Mr Lawley explained that procedures for topping up salt bins had been 'on demand', rather than checking each bin. However, the policy would be reviewed at the end of July for next winter, and procedures would be aided by Colton's offer to provide a map of salt bin and heap locations in the Parish.

Clerk to remind Cllrs

Mr Lawley would propose at the July review, that the Penny Bridge to Hawkshead road (C5022) become a priority 2 road for salting.

Cllr Cunliffe asked whether volunteers salting roads were potentially liable should accidents occur. Mr Lawley thought not, but there had been some recent legal changes and he would check this.

Clerk

- Mr Lawley gave a brief update on the Highway Steward Scheme. The auto-reporting system was still under development. Colton had implemented a system of listing locations in need of maintenance on its website, with progress reports. Mr Lawley was asked if the Highway Steward could be contacted by email rather than just by mobile phone; he would find out.

Clerk

- PC Diana Wilcock: explained that she was now working jointly with PC John Baldwin as a Community Support Police Officer in Colton Parish and was also based in Ulverston. She and PC Baldwin would be working alternate shifts. There was a new 'Policing Pledge' in operation concerning increased visibility of Police, direct contact numbers, and time-limits within which a response would be received to calls. PC Wilcock was asked if she would give a presentation at a future date on the use of 'Smart Water'.

Clerk

71. Comments from District and County Councillors

- The Chairman welcomed new County Councillor, Mr Rod Wilson, and expressed thanks to Ted Walsh, former County Councillor, for his support to Colton Parish during his term of office. The Clerk would write a letter of thanks on behalf of the Council.

Clerk

- Cllr Davies: drew attention to a funding initiative 'Village SOS' which was to provide £3M for 6 UK rural village projects. Successful bids would be matched with a local entrepreneur and would be the subject of a BBC 6-part series. It was agreed that Cllr Fishwick would look at this initiative and assess whether it was appropriate for Colton; these bids took a lot of time and effort so it was important to have a clear objective that closely matched the aims of the initiative. She would discuss with the Community Plan Working Group and bring a report to the next Parish Council meeting.
- Cllr Wilson: introduced himself and thanked the Council for its welcoming letter. He explained that he was currently undergoing induction training. He was particularly keen to support local issues and Parish Councils.

**Cllr
Fishwick**

72. Accounts

Sections 1 and 2 of the Audit Annual Return for 08/09 were approved and signed

The following payments were approved:

- Cheque 000456 - Community First - Zurich Municipal Insurance Premium for 09/10: **£468.06**
- Cheque 000457 - Rusland Reading Room Hire for FY 08/09: **£28.00**
- Cheque 000458 - Clerk's salary Jan-Mar 2009: **£528.75**
- Cheque 000459 - Clerk's expenses: Stationery, cartridges, postage: **£91.42**
- Cheque 000460 - Finsthwaite Clock Committee for annual servicing of clock: **£125.00**

It was resolved to review the annual grant to Finsthwaite Clock Committee for servicing of the clock in early 2010.

Clerk

73. Planning

Noted: responses given to planning applications as follows:

- 7/2009/5163: Abbot Park Farm, Bandrake Head: New livestock building. *No objection.*
- 7/2009/5083: Penny Bridge Transmitting Station, Flass Wood: Additional satellite dish to existing tower. *No objection.*
- 7/2009/5181: Hynook, Spark Bridge: Removal of 1966 planning permission condition relating to old proposal to improve road access to Colton Hill. *No objection.*
- 7/2008/5233 (amendment): 3, New Hall Cottages, Bouth - re-positioning of agricultural building. *No objection.*
- 7/2009/5256: Low Ickenthaite Cottage, Ickenthaite: new garage and workshop. *No objection.*

Noted: the following property re-naming:

- Frazel Steps, Oxen Park to The Steps, Oxen Park.
- Springfield Depot, Colton to Springfield Quarry, Colton.
- Barn 2, Pool Foot Barn, Haverthwaite to Rainbow Barn

Noted: planning permission granted for the following:

- 7/2009/5064 - Buck Yeats Coach House, replacement building and garage; demolition of existing building. Cllr Dean noted that despite representations from the owner that the large size of the replacement house was required for his growing family, the proposed development was now on the market for £2m advertised as being 'free from any local occupancy restrictions'. This underpinned Parish Council concerns about large and lucrative developments at Lakeside that seemed to have no grounding in local housing need as enshrined in LDNPA Local Planning policy. It was resolved that the Clerk should write to the LDNPA expressing these concerns and asking for further explanation of how this development fitted within the Local Planning policies.
- 7/2009/5083: Penny Bridge Transmitting Station, Flass Wood: Additional satellite dish to existing tower.

Clerk

74. Insurance Cover

- Colton PC's insurance cover was now with Zurich Municipal, through a Parish Council's scheme called 'Community First'. This policy allowed formal Playground inspections to be carried out monthly, rather than weekly. Volunteers were covered for Public Liability.

75. Additional Parish Council Meeting on Unclassified Country Roads

The Agenda for the forthcoming 'additional' Parish Council meeting on 6th July at Rusland was approved.

76. Consultations

- Cllr Barr's response to LDNPA: Local Development Framework - draft Core Strategy policies on behalf of the Council was noted.

77. Reports of Meetings

The following meeting reports were received:

- Coniston Housing Project Meeting 15th May - Cllr Barr attended. The meeting was interesting but there was not much applicable to Colton at present.
- Second Community Plan (CP) Meeting, 28th May - Clerk and Cllr Fishwick reported. Julia Wilson from Action for Communities in Cumbria (ACT) had attended to provide practical advice on funding and how to proceed. There were still no offers to Chair or provide secretarial support for the CP Working Group; Cllr Fishwick would investigate funding opportunities to pay for the latter. It had been suggested that the CP would be forward looking as possible asking 'What do Colton residents want their parish to look and feel like in 10 years time?'. A focus on a sustainable future would allow bids to the Sustainable Development Fund. A sub-group had met to draw up an action plan.
- CALC South Lakeland District Association, 18th June - Cllr Dean had attended: A presentation was given by Laurence Conway, SLDC Corporate Director for Communities. A Corporate Plan booklet for 2009-2012 had been produced focussed on a 'needs-led service'. SLDC re-structuring using a top-down approach was in progress. The feedback from Parish Councils on Local Area Partnerships had been analysed and letters would be sent out to Parish Councils shortly. There would be eight LAPs and 4 coordinators and implementation would start in September.
- SLDC Conference: 'Communities at the Heart of Health and Well-being' - Cllr Barr had been asked to give a presentation on LAPs under 'celebrating success' which seemed to be well received. John Dyer of SLDC explained that each of the eight LAP would have a senior member of staff as its coordinator, working three days per week. This seemed to be at odds with the report from the recent CALC meeting (see above). There would also be 2 full-time administrative posts for the eight LAPs. Cllr Barr had asked that SLDC clarify what issues would be negotiable by local decisions at LAPs and which would be determined by the principal authorities.

78. Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

CALC

- South Lakeland District Association, Agenda and papers for 18th June, Kendal Town Hall.
- Notes on meeting of Lake District Parish Councils, 27th April
- Army Cadet Force tree-planting scheme
- CALC Circular for June 2009
- Invitation to Climate Change Workshops, 14th July
- South Lakeland District Association Meeting, 18th June - papers

CCC

- 'Access Mobile Library' 1st June to 1st Sept - drawing up time-table and asking PCs if they have an event they could attend before 1st June.
- Cumbria Highways - response re. Penny Bridge Hall wall end. Referred to LDNPA (PROW responsibility).
- Resource Cumbria - Recycling News May 09
- Cumbria Landscape Character guidance workshops (Ulverston 25th June)
- Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework - invitation to comment on site allocations policies - identification of sites (outside the Park)

SLDC

- Agenda for Council meeting 19th May - for info
- Conference invitation: 'Communities at the Heart of Health and Wellbeing'
- Governance Toolkit for Town and Parish Councils (117pp). Also on standards board website: www.standardsboard.gov.uk
- Invitation to apply for Parish Council rep. on SLDC Standards Committee

LDNPA

- Poster for notice board on 'Consultation on draft policies'

Cumbria CVS and ACT

- Cumbria CVS News May/June 2009

Other

- Clerk and Councils Direct - NL May 2009
- Satterthwaite PC - Agendas for Annual Parish Council, Parish Meeting and Parish Council on 18th May
- Coniston PC: Agenda for PC meeting on 18th May & mins of last meeting.
- Open Spaces Society - membership information
- Tim Farron - confirmation that he has sent on our questions on UCRs to the acting Chief Exec of County
- Overhead Wires Project (Friends of the Lake District) - Spring Newsletter

- Rural Services Network: Sustainable Rural Communities Seminar - Braintree, Essex. 26th June.
- Digital Switchover folder and Help Scheme info.
- Friends of the Lake District Annual Report 2008
- Lakes Training Services - info about courses
- Coniston Parish Council - minutes of 18th May meeting
- Coniston - new website: www.conistonlocal.co.uk
- Tim Farron MP - letter urging PCs to respond to Striber's wind-farm planning application when it gets submitted.
- Resolve Mediation Service - Annual Report for 2007. (conflict resolution service for community and neighbourhood disputes).
- Coniston Parish Council - minutes for 8th June
- Friends of the Lake District - E-message for June

79. Date of Next Meeting

The next two meetings were confirmed as:

- i) An additional Parish Council meeting on Monday 6th July 2009 in Rusland Reading Room at 7.30 p.m.
- ii) A Parish Council meeting on Monday 3rd August in Rusland Reading Room at 7.30p.m.