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**Minutes of the Meeting of St Bees Parish Council held on
Monday 15 July 2019 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall**

PRESENT: Cllrs D Sim (in the Chair), A Kaldos, F Kennedy, A Linton, J Mellor, E Taylor & the Clerk

In attendance: Sgt G Ashbridge, British Transport Police
Cllr J Hailes, CBC Ward Councillor
Cllr C Whiteside, County Councillor Egremont North/St Bees

120/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs P Argyle, D Millington, H Monaghan, C Hale, N Bettinson, G Gilmour, J Lockie & C Robson.

121/19 DISPENSATIONS & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

122/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No items were raised.

123/19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE 2019

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 17 June be approved and signed by the Chairman.

124/19 COUNTY COUNCIL & HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Cllr Whiteside reported on a number of ongoing matters:

Some enhanced gateway features were being proposed at the north and south entrances to the village. A meeting would be organised with Parish Council representatives and Highways staff during the week commencing 20 August to look at the proposals.

The CRASH team had looked at the traffic and parking issues on Outrigg but at this stage no action was being proposed. Whilst the speed of traffic did not meet the accepted criteria for action to be required, the situation on Outrigg was complicated by the parking around the school entrance and the lack of a pavement higher up the hill. Cllr Turner, a member of the CRASH team, had offered to come to the September meeting to discuss the situation. Cllr Whiteside would continue to press the case for an extension of the pavement to improve pedestrian safety.

The County Council was continuing to review school crossing patrols across Copeland. Some patrols were funded by CCC whilst others, such as St Bees, were funded by the schools themselves. St Bees Village School was unable to fund the crossing patrol after the end of term and had enquired about the use of volunteers. CCC was in discussion with its contractor about whether this was possible. It was suggested that the Local Committee needed to review the criteria for funding and consider using discretionary funds to ensure that crossing patrols continued.

It was pointed out that the double yellow lines at the Fleatham Croft/High House Rd junction and the Seacroft Drive/Main Street junction had still not been completed. Cllr Whiteside agreed to follow this up.

125/19 POLICE REPORT

Sgt Ashbridge reported that his staff had made six visits to the village since Easter. The additional trains now meant that people stayed later in the pubs in St Bees before boarding the train to Whitehaven. The main issues were noise and nuisance behaviour which could be intimidating for residents, railway staff and other passengers. There remained a concern that some incidents were not being reported and Sgt Ashbridge reinforced the message that action could only be taken if incidents were reported.

PCSO Bragg had provided details of reports to Cumbria Constabulary during June. It was noted that there had been 9 logs including two thefts, a burglary, an assault and a report of anti-social behaviour.

126/19 CBC MATTERS

Cllr Hailes reported that he had followed up the concerns about dog fouling and had requested that stencils be painted on the pavements in appropriate locations. He had also investigated the delay in providing the new bin on Nethertown Road and was hopeful that it would be installed shortly.

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Cllr Hailes reported that he had met the licensee of the Manor to discuss the concerns about noise and anti-social behaviour. It had been agreed that live music would not be played at the rear of the pub after 9pm. Bar staff would remind customers 30 minutes before a train was due and would monitor the situation at the front of the pub to minimise anti-social behaviour. Police would carry out patrols on Friday and Saturday evenings. The Chairman reported that he had been approached by a local resident concerned about the noise and he had asked that residents put their concerns in writing to the Parish Council.

Cllr Hailes reported that CBC had received a request from a metal detectorist to dig on the beach. This had been agreed subject to certain conditions to protect public safety.

It was noted that CBC was carrying out a 5 yearly review of polling stations. Residents in St Bees and Rottington used the polling station at New College Hall and no changes were considered necessary.

127/19 ST BEES SCHOOL

The Chairman had attended the Speech Day held on 5 July. There had been musical and drama performances and the Mayor had been invited to speak. In the next academic year the school would welcome 10 Chinese students, the maximum permitted under visa regulations, and there would be an increase in the number of UK students studying in Years 7,8 and 9.

128/19 FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT

(a) Finance Report & Quarter 1 Review

Cllr Sim declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Trustee of the Pagan Trust, the owner of the Village Hall. Cllrs Kennedy & Mellor declared a non-pecuniary interest as members of the Village Hall Committee.

The summary of accounts at 30 June was received together with the notes of the Finance & Risk Advisory Group meeting on 4 July. The variance figures were discussed. It was noted that the solicitor's costs for the Village Hall leases had not been invoiced in Qtr 1 but it was likely that it would exceed the budget allocation in Qtr 2.

It was RESOLVED to vire £1000 from the Projects budget for traffic calming to cover the anticipated legal costs.

It was noted that one of the seats in Stonehouse Garden had been removed as it was beyond repair. The other seat was in poor condition. The Clerk was obtaining quotations for new seats.

It was RESOLVED to write off both seats.

(b) Risk Management

The Risk Management Policy was due for annual review.

It was RESOLVED to re-approve the policy without amendment.

The risk register had been reviewed by the FRAG group and one minor amendment was proposed.

It was RESOLVED to approve the amended risk register.

(c) Internal Audit Arrangements 2019/20

It was RESOLVED that Harry Strong be appointed as Internal Auditor for 2019/20 and that the draft Scope of Audit be approved.

(d) Contract for cleaning/opening of beach toilets

There was no progress to report.

(e) Payments

It was RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

- Chq 002548 CBC – play area inspections Qtr 2 £329.09 + £65.82 VAT Total £394.91
- Chq 002549 Works 4 You Ltd – grasscutting June £390.86 + £78.17 VAT Total £469.03
- Chq 002550 J Donaldson – reimbursement for printer ink/postage £19.81 + £2.50 VAT Total £22.31
- Chq 002551 J Donaldson– salary July Total £659.82
- Thomas Milburn Property Ltd – toilet service July £583.33 + £116.67 VAT Total £700.00

Payments since last meeting to report

- Chq 002543 St Bees & District Garden Society – donation Total £150.00
- Chq 002544 CBC – election costs Total £160.00
- Chq 002545 Npower Ltd – electricity to beach toilets £44.84 + £2.24 VAT Total £47.08
- Chq 002546 St Bees PCC -donation to 900th anniversary events Total £500.00
- Chq 002547 Blomfields Ltd – plants (Village in Bloom) £405.00 +£81.00 VAT Total £486.00
- Answer 4 You – answering service £8.80 + £1.76 VAT Total £10.56 (to paid by direct debit on 17 July)

129/19 PROJECT REPORTS

The Chairman had prepared a summary of the current position with the various on-going projects which had been circulated before the meeting.

(a)Beach Regeneration

It was suggested that cycle racks would be a useful addition at the main beach. Cllr Kaldos agreed to investigate possible models and locations and bring back proposals for consideration.

The anchor was still in safekeeping at the Lifeboat station. Cllr Kaldos would investigate the type of fixings required to secure the anchor to the Wainwright wall.

(b)Traffic Calming/Speedwatch

Speedwatch sessions were continuing.

(c)Community Events

Cllr Mellor passed on thanks from the PCC for the donation to the community events to mark the Priory's 900th anniversary. Planning was continuing for the various events.

Detailed planning for the Santa Parade would begin in September. Volunteers would be needed to act as marshals and an application would be made for a road closure while the parade was in progress.

(d) Tree Planting

There was no further report.

(e) St Bees – Whitehaven Cycle Track

Details of the plans for a cycle track had been forwarded to the agents acting for the new owners of Abbey Wood.

(f) Priory Paddock Pond Project

There was no progress to report.

(g) Station Car Park Extension

There had been no further progress since the last meeting.

(h) Village in Bloom – New Base

Two possible locations had been identified within Barony car park. Preliminary advice was being sought from the Planning Dept to check whether a full planning application would be required.

130/19 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

There had been no meetings attended. The next Three Tier Meeting was due to take place on 24 July at Waberthwaite when the Chairman would be taking part in a discussion about the relationship between parishes, CBC and CCC.

131/19 PLANNING

(a)New Planning Applications

The Planning Advisory Group reported on one application received for comment:-

- Ref 4/19/2215/TPO Removal of dead sections and retention of healthy sections of tree within the conservation area
Belle Vue House, 34 Main Street, St Bees

It was RESOLVED that there were no objections to this application.

(b) Applications approved by CBC

The following applications had been approved:

- 4/19/2176/TPO Works to Monterey cypress & yew tree– The Retreat, High House Rd St Bees
- 4/19/2195/TPO Removal of two elm trees protected by TPO -Plot 4 Fleatham Gardens St Bees

132/19 CLERK’S REPORT

The Clerk’s report was received. It was noted that there were two vacant allotment plots. As there was now no waiting list, the plots would be advertised for rent. It was agreed that a meeting of allotment holders should be organised to discuss any issues of concern.

133/19 CORRESPONDENCE

(a)North Cumbria CCG was seeking input into plans for a new Community Cancer Nurse service for North Cumbria. A series of events were being held across the area to hear ideas and suggestions of what the service could provide. There would be sessions at the Education Centre at West Cumberland Hospital on 2 & 5 August (booking required) or suggestions could be sent by email. Noted

(b)CALC was seeking expressions of interest in possible training events for inclusion in the autumn programme. Noted

(c)Details had been received from the Friends of the Lake District of their application for an extension to the southern boundary of the National Park. Noted.

(d)Copeland Health & Well-being Forum would be holding its next meeting on 25 July at 2pm at the Copeland Centre. Noted.

(e)The agenda had been received for the next Three Tier Meeting on 24 July. Noted

(f) An email had been received from a local resident reporting that children had been heard playing around an empty property at Peck Mill. There was concern that there could be damage to the property and that the children could be at risk as the condition of the property was uncertain. It was agreed to report this to the police and to investigate further.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- CALC Newsletter June
- ACT Gazette Issue 33 Summer 2019
- NALC Newsletter 19 June & 3 July
- NALC Chief Executive’s Bulletin 21, 28 June & 5 July
- NW Coastal Access Update June
- Friends of the Lake District News & Events (July)
- Cumbria Action for Health & Mental \health Provider Forum bulletin
- Cumbria Police – West Cumbria News
- St Bees School News

134/19 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

(a)It was hoped to organise a meeting of new councillors shortly to discuss parish council procedures.

(b) Cllr Kennedy had raised the subject of the trees on the school field with the Village School Governors but they did not believe that any work was needed. As this was a matter between the school and the owners of neighbouring properties, no action was required from the Parish Council.

(c) It was noted that the field behind the Village Hall had not been cut this year. The Clerk would raise the matter with St Bees School.

(d) It was noted that the verge alongside Coach Rd and Beach Rd had not been cut and looked very untidy. The Clerk would check the position with CCC as a first step.

135/19 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was RESOLVED that the next Parish Council meeting take place on MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2019 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....