

Claife Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at Braithwaite Hall, Far Sawrey
Tuesday 31st October 2023

Attendees: Parish Councillors S Denyer, S Hilton (Vice Chair), M Stanton & J Whitworth & Parish Clerk L Prescott.

116/2023 **Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors A Brodie & K Keighley & Unitary Councillor S Pender.

117/2023 **Requests for Dispensation**

None received.

118/2023 **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

119/2023 **Minutes**

Resolved The Council approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 19th September 2023.

120/2023 **Public Participation**

a) Reports were received as follows:

i) Police

The Clerk reported that no incidents had been reported to the police within the Parish.

ii) Unitary Councillor

No report received but Councillor Pender has offered to arrange an online meeting with a Highways Officers in relation to the outstanding issues of contractor gritter training and a grit bin in near Sawrey.

iii) National Trust

A report has been received from Paul Farrington of the National Trust in relation to Harrowslack Lakeshore advising that meetings will be taking place within the National Trust as part of their Land Choices process. Councillor Stanton reported that all options are currently being considered. Councillor Denyer suggested they involve the Parish Council in their deliberations.

Resolved To invite Paul Farrington to attend the next Parish Council meeting to provide an update on the proposals

b) Members of the Public

None.

121/2023 **Councillor Matters**

Councillor Keighley submitted a written report in her absence raising two concerns – the construction of a building by Ash Landing track and the information in a letter from the Primary School in relation to pupil numbers. These will be included in the next meeting Agenda.

122/2023 **Updates on Ongoing Issues and Actions**

a) Windermere Ferry

Councillor Brodie submitted a written report advising that Ferry has been off frequently this month due variously to mechanical faults, high water or wind. Currently the cables are at different tensions which is affecting the ability to land. Service continues to be curtailed for Staff breaks once a day, either mid morning or early evening. Advertisement of break times are only available at the ferry slipway which is not satisfactory for visitors or residents. A second meeting about the ferry service has been arranged by Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council for businesses owners on 7th November 2023 and Claife, Hawkshead and Bowness and Windermere Councils have also been invited. Councillor Brodie will attend on behalf of Claife and Hawkshead Parish Councils.

b) Road gritting/snow ploughing arrangements

No further information received.

c) Requested new Grit Box at Near Sawrey

No further information received.

- d) Council Land
The Clerk has contacted a local contractor who is willing to undertake repairs to the lakeside path near Waterside. She has also issued an invoice for the rent of Parish Council land at Chapel Cottage.
- e) Environmental & Water Quality
Councillor Brodie submitted a written report advising that a Windermere Science Evening with the Freshwater Biological Association will be held on 15th November at the Old Laundry Theatre in Bowness from 6 pm in relation to water quality monitoring in the Windermere catchment.
The Clerk reported that United Utilities are holding online 'Your Water, Your Say' events in early November 2023, providing an opportunity to ask questions of Louise Beardmore, United Utilities CEO and her team about the United Utilities 2025 – 2030 business plan. Questions can be submitted in advance.
Resolved The clerk will circulate booking details.
- f) Improving Footpath Signage
Councillor Brodie submitted a written report advising that LDNPA have moved the wooden finger post sign to behind the defibrillator at Tarn Hill playground.
- g) Harrowslack Lake Shore
Councillor Keighley submitted a written report advising that there is continued anti-social behaviour at this location, including cars driving fast at night along the lane and crashing into a gate and overnight camping. This has been reported to the National Trust. Fishermen are also parking inappropriately in passing places and camping overnight. Her daughter reported evidence of fires when litter picking as part of a Duke of Edinburgh Award.
- h) Designating a bathing water location within the Parish
Councillor Keighley has advising that no further information is available. Councillor Stanton advised that declaring a bathing water location can result in United Utilities being able to get permission from OFWAT for increased permissions/funds for improvement works.
- i) Declaring a Climate & Ecological Emergency
Resolved To not declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency because as a small parish it would be unable to effectively act individually.
- j) Cumbria wide call for sites - Biodiversity Net Gain and other Habitat restoration
The Clerk reported that she had submitted an expression of interest and was then advised that the deadline has been extended to late November due to the lack of responses.
- k) CALC training courses
The Clerk reported that she has requested an in-person training session from CALC in relation to responding to Planning Applications and has not yet received a response.
- l) Unauthorised skip placement on land at Tarn Hill Playground
The Clerk reported that she had reported the skip to the Unitary Council who stated that a permit was not required as it was on private land. She then contacted the skip company (JJC) and they arranged for it to be removed within days.

123/2023 **New Agenda items**

- a) Westmorland & Furness Council's draft Statements of Licensing and Gambling Policies consultation
The Clerk reported that the policies specify that Parish Councils are consulted on applications, objections to existing licences can be submitted by the Parish Councils and where Planning Permissions and Licencing hours conflict, the earlier of the closing times will be applied.
Resolved No objection to the policies.
- b) Telephone service change to Voice Over Digital Protocol
Councillor Hilton reported that he has been notified of this planned change which would result in no landline telephone service being available during a power cut, unlike the current situation where landlines can still be used. During Storm Arwen there were power outages for several days and a lack of mobile phone facilities due to the lack of backup power for the local mobile masts. He has contacted Tim Farron MP in relation to his concerns who is pursuing the matter. The Market Hall at Hawkshead now has facilities for a generator to be connected in case of a power cut.

124/2023 Planning Applications

- a) The following Planning Applications were considered:
- i) 7/2023/5615. High Wray Bank, High Wray, Ambleside, LA22 0JD. Erection of part replacement stone faced boundary wall; and metal estate railings (part retrospective).
Resolved To strongly object to the application as the proposed 'stone facing', rather than approved stone walling, is totally out of keeping with the local character within the Lake District National Park. The walls would be highly visible, adjoining a well-used Public Footpath (FP510032) from High Wray to High Wray Bay (Lake Windermere). The approved Planning Permission granted on 24 February 2021 (7/2020/5815) stated 'landscaping including new planting, new sections of dry-stone walling and erection of metal estate type fencing'. The Design and Access Statement for this application also stated 'Use of local building materials that reflect local character and distinctiveness.' This application is contrary to the approved Planning Permission.
 - ii) 7/2023/5616. High Wray Bank, High Wray, Ambleside, LA22 0JD. Erection of a potting shed; and re-siting of chicken coop approved under application 7/2022/5399 (part retrospective)
Resolved No objections as within the site and not externally visible.
 - iii) 7/2023/5614. Rose Cottage, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LF. Construction of outhouse to form WC and utility room to rear garden of dwelling.
Resolved To object to the application as it is an overdevelopment of the site and an inappropriate development in a sensitive location within a rural village.
- b) The following Planning Decisions were noted:
- i) 7/2023/5507. High Wray Bank, High Wray, Ambleside, LA22 0JD. Non-material amendment to planning application 7/2021/5236. Refused.
 - ii) 7/2023/5509. Nos 1 & 2 Wayside Cottages and Claife View, High Wray, Ambleside, LA22 0JD. Replacement of existing shared septic tank installation with sewage treatment plant installation. Granted with conditions relating to plans.
 - iii) T/2023/0124 at The Glen, Cuckoo Brow Lane, Ambleside, LA22 0LQ. 1 - Cherry - crown raise lower branches; 2 - Cherry fell; 3 - Hawthorn crown reduce by one metre, prune branches overhanging drive and calor gas tank; 4 - Irish Yew crown raise branches; 5, 6 and 7- English Yews crown raise by 0.5 metre; G1 - Damsons, group of 4 – prune. No objection.
 - iv) T/2023/0103 at Howe End, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LQ. Removal of leaning stem on Sycamore tree. No objection.

125/2023 Financial Matters

- a) Noted that the bank balance at 30 September 2023 was £16,431.05
- b) The Clerk outlined the Quarterly Financial Statement including Budget Comparison and Bank Reconciliation.
Resolved To approve the Quarterly Financial Statement
- c) Payment of Accounts
Resolved To authorise payment of the following accounts:
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| Clerk's Salary (01/07/2023 – 30/09/2023) | £697.58 |
| Clerk's Travel (20/06/2023, 8/08/2023, 29/08/2023 & 19/09/2023) at NJC rates | £58.50 |
| Parish Online Subscription | £24.12 |

126/2023 Highways

- a) Highways items to be reported
None.

b) **Highways items reported**

Cumbria Highways Reported Faults			
Date	Reference	Details	Response
07/06/2021	EI/23846	Road junction markings faded / washed out . Junction of Stones Lane, Near Sawrey with B5285	Assigned to Highways Team
06/07/2021	EI/23783	Road surface deteriorating with multiple potholes developing. B5285 near Sawrey House Hotel	Assigned to Highways Team
06/07/2021	EI/23796	Road surface from Belle Green to the entrance to the last house on the left of the lane.	Assigned to Highways Team
06/07/2021	EI/23823	Passing place sign broken off post and other one unreadable, B5285 between Near and Far Sawrey.	Completed
06/07/2021	EI/23831	White lines at road junctions on B5285 in Near and Far Sawrey are faded / washed away and need replacing.	Assigned to Highways Team
01/11/2021	EI/70844	White lines faded at junction with B5285, half way up the ferry hill road.	Assigned to Highways Team
19/01/2022	EI/84443	Edge of road disintegrating - Cuckoo Brow Lane	Completed
07/07/2022	EI/119690	Blocked grid near High Wray Farm	Assigned to Highways Team
06/09/2022	EI/131765	Tarmac infill eroded - B5285 from Hawkshead to Sawrey East side of Pool Bridge	Assigned to Highways Team
06/09/2022	EI/131767	Grit bin empty - B5285 at bottom of Cuckoo Brow Lane, Far Sawrey LA22 0LQ	Assigned to Highways Team
06/09/2022	EI/131768	Grit bin empty - B5285 Top of Ferry Hill, Far Sawrey near junction with road to Cunsey	Completed
19/12/2022	EI/131782	Drain blocked with debris. B5285 at Far Sawrey	Assigned to Highways Team
30/12/2022	EI/147750	Pothole B5285 Close to West Vale, Far Sawrey	Completed
30/01/2023	EI/147748	Edge of road and potholes B5285 between Near and Far Sawrey	Assigned to Highways Team
03/02/2023	EI/148768	Grit bin requested for Near Sawrey	Refused
09/03/2023	EI/156272	A pipe has been installed by a resident which discharges directly onto the B5285 Road.	Householder contacted
09/03/2023	EI/161952	Spoil from Brant Howe dumped on B5285 ferry hill	Assigned to Highways Team
09/03/2023	EI/163163	Large pothole on Ferry Hill	Completed
09/03/2023	EI/163172	Deep Pothole on Ferry Hill	Completed
09/03/2023	EI/163175	Deep pothole near Ash Landing Car Park	Completed
27/04/2023	EI/164654	First drain blocked after leaving B5285 On right hand side of Cuckoo Brow Lane , Far Sawrey.	Completed
27/04/2023	EI/164653	Deep culvert on B5285 by water trough on right hand side of road if travelling from Near Sawrey .	Closed but further works required
27/04/2023	EI/164624	Fence alongside the road has collapsed due to the posts being rotten adjacent to Chapel Cottage, LA220LQ.	Assigned to Highways Team

127/2023 **Correspondence (for information only)**
The circulated correspondence was noted.

128/2023 **Dates of the 2024 Meetings**
The dates of the scheduled 2024 meetings were noted:
23rd January 2024 – Braithwaite Hall
5th March 2024 – High Wray Village Hall
16th April 2024 – Braithwaite Hall
28th May 2024 – High Wray Village Hall
9th July 2024 – Braithwaite Hall
20th August 2024 – High Wray Village Hall
1st October 2024 – Braithwaite Hall
12th November 2024 – High Wray Village Hall

129/2023 **Date of Next Meeting**
Noted that the next Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at High Wray Village Hall

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

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Date