

Claife Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at High Wray Village Hall
At 7.30 pm on Tuesday 20th August 2024

Attendees: Parish Councillors A Brodie (Chair), S Hilton (Vice Chair), S Denyer, M Stanton & J Whitworth, Parish Clerk L Prescott, 2 representatives from Fibrus & 9 members of the public.

080/2024 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Unitary Councillor S Pender.

081/2024 **Requests for Dispensation**

None received.

082/2024 **Declarations of Interest**

None received.

083/2024 **Minutes**

Resolved The council approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 9th July 2024.

084/2024 **Public Participation**

a) Reports were received as follows:

i) Police

The Clerk reported that the following reports were made to the Police in June 2024: a violent incident at Colthouse, a violent incident at Ferry Landing, a public order incident at Wray Castle, and a theft at Claife Heights.

ii) Unitary Councillor

Unitary Councillor S Pender sent the following written report:

Wilder Arts Exhibition – to 29th September at William Heelis Building, Hawkshead.

LDNPA BBQ - another meeting is planned just a round table with Parishes.

Has been chasing up Parish Council contribution to the Winter Gritting review, also

Ferry – was doing well, seems to be in decline again. Working on Harrowslack issues with

visitors. Had a meeting with Fibrus about impact of their work and need for better community engagement and improved signage.

iii) National Trust

No report.

b) Members of the Public

Members of the public raised concerns in relation to the environment and water quality, in particular relating to the new drainage proposals for a development at Pearsall House. They consider that the new proposals are not adequate and will cause sewage overflows to be discharged into Lake Windermere. They would support the installation of a new pumping station to pump waste water to an existing or new treatment works elsewhere.

Members of the public had questions in relation to the planned works by Fibrus in relation to whether all properties will be connected, notification to residents, whether property connections will also be fibre, whether the supplies will be symmetrical.

A member of the public advised that there continue to be external lights left on overnight at High Wray.

085/2024 **Councillor Matters**

Councillor Brodie reported that a resident has raised the issue of parking on the track opposite Braithwaite Hall. Will be added to a future Agenda.

086/2024 **Fibrus**

Two representatives from Fibrus, Libby Bateman & Andrew Lee, outlined the Fibrus project. The Government has provided £5 billion to support Project Gigabit in the UK. Fibrus started work on the project in 2023 and aim to complete works by 2026. They will be providing a network using existing infrastructure where possible (eg poles/ducted wires) currently used by Openreach but they will also need to install some new infrastructure. Surveying is currently taking place by Vibroptics, including wayleave agreements. Some road closures are required during this process but Fibrus will always allow access for residents and businesses. All road closures are shown on One Network website

Initialled Date

(<https://one.network/>). The final designs will be prepared once all the surveys have been completed and costs considered and then the network will be installed. Fibrus are not connecting to individual properties, that will be done once residents/businesses request a service from an ISP and this will be done using fibre. The speed of the network will not be symmetrical. Not all properties will be connected as it may be too expensive if the infrastructure is not in place, also some may be deferred if there are practical reasons to delay. There is a Postcode Checker on the Fibrus website (<https://fibrus.com/>) to check whether a service is available at a particular location. Libby will provide details to the Parish Council regarding how many properties can be connected in the Parish. There are also contact details for any queries or raising any issues on the website. A public meeting was held on 17th October in Grasmere which outlined the project in this area (OLT 02). The Government undertakes a rolling open market review on the project every 4 months. Openreach are now switching off the copper phone connections, replacing it with phones plugged into a router, however as the service will be lost in a power cut vulnerable people will not be forced to undertake this change. Fibrus are also undertaking staff training and pollinator improvement, including free flower seed distribution.

Councillors advised that there are currently some connections installed by B4RN which may be utilised and they are also able to provide local information which may be useful to the surveyors.

087/2024 **Updates on Ongoing Issues and Actions**

a) Windermere Ferry

Councillor Brodie reported that due to staffing issues there is a reduced service on the Ferry, with later starting and early finishing times.

b) Road gritting/snow ploughing arrangements

See Unitary Councillor's report (084/2024)

c) Management of Council Land

i) Councillor Brodie advised that she has visited Ash Landing, Esthwaite and Tarn Hill sites with Richard Tanner of the National Trust. He has advised that 2 trees at Ash Landing and 10 trees at Esthwaite need felling or cutting back due to ash dieback. The process will be as follows: 1) Apply for permission from Natural England 2) Apply for permission from the Forestry Commission 3) Obtain quotes for the works. Richard Tanner is assisting with information/contacts in relation to all these steps.

Resolved To proceed with the process outlined.

ii) Councillor Brodie reported that Mathew Keighley is unable to undertake the lengthsman tasks but has recommended another potential contractor.

Resolved To proceed with works with contractor as previously outlined, provided agreement can be reached and adequate insurance cover is confirmed.

d) Environmental and Water Quality

Councillor Brodie reported that SCRT have not yet provided the report on the Wilfin Beck sampling findings after 6 months of testing has taken place. They have also not yet obtained funding to continue so the surveys may not continue.

e) Footpath signage

Councillor Brodie reported that the Tarn Hill signage is not in the agreed location. The Clerk reported that the National Trust has suggested a meeting onsite at Hill Top on 13th September, which is not possible for Councillors. Alternative dates the following week will be considered.

Resolved To arrange a date for a site meeting at Hill Top once Councillors have confirmed availability.

f) Training

Councillor Stanton reported that he has attended Module 2 of the Effective Councillor and would recommend it to Councillors. Councillors Denyer and Whitworth have not yet completed this training.

Resolved To book Councillor Denyer on Module 1 & 2 and Councillor Whitworth on Module 2. The Clerk reported that it had not yet been possible to arrange a Planning Training date with LDNPA.

Resolved To recirculate details to Councillors and submit suggested dates to LDNPA.

g) Registering Parish Council Land

Councillor Denyer & The Clerk reported that they have not yet received a response from David Towler of the National Trust in relation to Ash Landing.

Resolved To proceed with Land Registration with Napthens (solicitors).

- h) Parish Council Emergency Plan
Defer to October meeting.
- i) Permanent bus stops at Ash Landing.
Councillor Brodie reported that the Traffic Team have decided to go ahead with their original plan for 2 bus stops and have declined to attend a Parish Council meeting. Councillors have observed Mountain Goat buses being stopped on the wrong side of the road with passengers departing into the middle of the road at Ash Landing and the bus not visiting the Ferry stop.
Resolved To contact Mountain Goat regarding these concerns and if not addressed contact Highways.
- j) Lakes Parish Council's 'Vote of no confidence in the LDNPA' & meeting with LDNPA.
Defer to the October meeting.

088/2024 **New Agenda items**

- a) Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer vacancy
The Parish Clerk has given notice for the end of August 2024. Vacancy notices have been published via CALC, the website, Esthwaite Link and the noticeboards. Councillor Brodie reported that one expression of interest has been received.
- b) Lower Ward Parish Councillor vacancy
The Lower Ward Parish Councillor Vacancy can now be filled by co-option. Notices have been published on the noticeboards and website.
- c) Response from LDNPA regarding works at High Wray Bank, High Wray, Ambleside, LA220JD (case reference: E/2024/0146)
The Clerk reported that the LDNPA has decided not to pursue enforcement as the security lights have been removed and the minimal impact of the access changes. Councillor Brodie reported that since receipt of this email the owner has been contacted and agreed to relocate the grit bin to its original position and this has now been done. There are still lights being left on all night, despite the security lights being removed.
Resolved To arrange a meeting with the owner in relation to the lighting issues.
- d) Works being undertaken at Wray Cragg Wood
The Clerk reported that she contacted Nick Thorne of LDNPA regarding potential new paths in this wood and he advised that it is open access land owned by the National Trust and has no official footpaths onsite. The National Trust Claife & Wray Woodland Management Plan (2018-2028) sets out a plan to thin trees in this area by 30% and this appears to be the reason for the trees being marked
Resolved To advise the resident that raised the query.
- e) Financial Regulations
The Clerk reported that NALC had issued new Model Financial Regulations, she has aligned them with the previous Financial Regulations and they now comply with current legislation.
Resolved To adopt the New Financial Regulations.
- f) Concurrent Extinguishment and Creation Orders - Footpath 510032. High Wray, Claife Parish
Noted.
- g) Notice of continuing trespass to trespasser occupying land at Waterside registered to Claife Parish Council (Land Registry CU315570) with a statement of outstanding rent.
Resolved To issue a Notice of Continuing Trespass together with a statement of outstanding rent accrued since 2018.

089/2024 **Planning Applications**

- a) The following planning applications were considered:
 - i) 7/2024/5410. Pepperyeat, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 0LH. Internal and external alterations.
Resolved No objections.
 - ii) T/2024/0130. Scutcheon House, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LQ. Fell 4 ash trees.
Resolved No objections.
 - iii) T/2024/0133. Scutcheon House, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LQ. Remove 1 mature, non-native fir tree.
Resolved No objections.

- iv) T/2024/0124. Pepperyeat Fold, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LH. T1 to T8 - fir trees - removal of 8 trees.

Resolved No objections.

- v) T/2024/0137. The Love Shack, Cunsey, Ambleside, LA22 0LT. : T1 Ash - Remove 2 lower branches overhanging entrance walkway and 1 branch over access track to woods (T1 on map); T2 Oak - Fell (T9 on map); T3 Oak - Crown lift lower epicormic growth and minor branches and 1 larger limb above decking area at approx 5m (T14 on map); T4 Oak - Crown lift lower epicormic growth and minor branches and 1 larger limb above main building (T15 on map); T5 Oak - Crown lift lower epicormic growth and minor branches and 1 larger limb above main building (T19 on map); T6 Silver Birch - Fell (T21 on map); T7 Sycamore - Fell (marked as *T7a on map); Restocking: a Hazel to replace the Sycamore and a group of trees in the area of the Oak (T2) - 2x Birch, 2x Hawthorn, 1x Oak

Resolved No objections.

b) Planning Decisions

The following Planning Decision was noted:

- i) 7/2024/5189. High Cunsey Farm, Cunsey, Ambleside, LA22 0L. Stationing of 2 static holiday caravans within the field OS 690. Refused.

090/2024 **Financial Matters**

- a) Noted that the Bank Balance on 31 July 2024 was £24,609.90.

b) Accounts for payment

Resolved To authorise payment of the following accounts:

Clerk Salary (1/7/2024-31/8/2024)	£500.00
Clerk's Travel (19/7/2024 & 20/8/2024) @ NJC rates	£29.25
CALC (Effective Councillor Training – Module 2)	£30.00
A2A (Domain Name Registration)	£36.00

091/2024 **Highways**

a) Highways items to be reported

None.

b) Highways items reported

Date	Reference	Details	Response
01/11/2021	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
07/07/2022	EI/70844	White lines faded at junction with B5285, half way up the ferry hill road.	Assigned to Highways Team
30/01/2023	EI/119690	Blocked grid near High Wray Farm	Assigned to Highways Team
09/03/2023	EI/131765	Tarmac infill eroded- B5285 from Hawkshead to Sawrey East side of Pool Bridge	Assigned to Highways Team
09/03/2023	EI/131782	Drain blocked with debris. B5285 at Far Sawrey	Assigned to Highways Team
27/04/2023	EI/147748	Edge of road and potholes B5285 between Near and Far Sawrey	Temporary Repair
03/05/2023	EI/148768	Grit bin requested for Near Sawrey	Refused
10/06/2023	EI/156272	Road.	Householder contacted
23/06/2023	EI/158556	Deteriorating roadside walls nr Ash Landing car park	Landowner instructed to repair
12/07/2023	EI/161952	Spoil from Brant Howe dumped on B5285 ferry hill	Assigned to Highways Team
19/07/2023	EI/163163	Large pothole on Ferry Hill	Completed
19/07/2023	EI/163172	Deep Pothole on Ferry Hill	Completed
19/07/2023	EI/163175	Deep pothole near Ash Landing Car Park	Completed
31/07/2023	EI/164654	Sawrey.	Completed
31/07/2023	EI/164653	Near Sawrey .	required
19/08/2023	EI/166424	Chapel Cottage, LA220LQ.	Assigned to Highways Team
20/11/2023	EI/178650	A large slab of rock has fallen from rock face on B5285 near Ash Landing.	Landowner instructed to repair
04/12/2023	EI/178712	Grit heap requested for road from Near Sawrey down to bottom of Esthwaite.	Refused
17/01/2024	EI/185625	Grit bin requested for Stones Lane, Near Sawrey	Refused
31/01/2024	EI/188656	Cuckoo Brow Inn	Assigned to Highways Team
31/01/2024	EI/188672	3 interconnecting drains blocked with grit and leaves at Near Sawrey.	Completed
31/01/2024	EI/188695	Drains blocked near Far Sawrey Post Box	Assigned to Highways Team
05/02/2024	EI/189687	Deep pothole which is widening, passing place near Far Sawrey.	Completed
05/02/2024	EI/189694	Side of road disintegrating and extended pothole developing near West Vale.	Completed
05/02/2024	EI/189699	Vale/Cuckoo Brow Lane.	Completed
07/02/2024	E/190183	Near Sawrey - Edge of road washed out. 2 and half metre stretch.	Completed
19/02/2024	EI/192508	Stone Wall between B5285 and Lake Windermere collapsed in several places.	Landowner instructed to repair

Initialled Date

092/2024 **Correspondence (for information only)**
The circulated correspondence was noted.

093/2024 **Date of Next Meeting**
Noted that an Extra Ordinary Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.00pm on Wednesday 28th August 2024 at Braithwaite Hall

.....
Signed & Approved by (Chair)

.....
Date

Initialed Date