

Claife Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at High Wray Village Hall
Tuesday 19th September 2023

Attendees: Parish Councillors A Brodie (Chair), S Hilton, K Keighley & J Whitworth, Parish Clerk L Prescott & 5 members of the public.

102/2023 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from A McGowan and R Tanner of the National Trust.

103/2023 **Requests for Dispensation**

None received.

104/2023 **Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of Interest were made by Councillor A Brodie in respect of Planning Application 7/2023/0124 and Councillor S Hilton in respect of Planning Application 7/2023/0103.

105/2023 **Minutes**

Resolved The Council approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 29th August 2023.

106/2023 **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 during July 2023.

ii) Unitary Councillor

None.

iii) National Trust

Two written reports have been received from the National Trust, one from Paul Farrington and one from Richard Tanner. Both were read to meeting by the Clerk. A meeting regarding the management of Harrowslack lakeshore is taking place on 20th September. Minor maintenance works will be taking place at Moss Eccles Dam and the Bridleway between Sawrey and Hawshead will be cut back. The Trust's surveys on Ash dieback have taken place and some will be felled. Phytophthora disease is also present, requiring felling under the Statutory Plant Health Notice, including sites at Belt Ash Coppice and Tanner Brow. An application has been submitted to the Forestry Commission to restock affected woodland. Timber collection along the west shore track has been completed and repairs to the track will be completed over the winter.

b) Members of the Public

A member of the public reported that a width restriction sign has fallen off near Howe End at Far Sawrey. They suggest that it be replaced with a sign with the junction of the B5285 at the top of Chapel Hill to prevent large vehicles driving down. The Clerk will investigate what section of road the restriction relates to in relation to what signage locations would be appropriate. A member of the public asked for details regarding the Wilfin Bridge Beck weight restriction consultation, this is being considered at item 110/2023d).

107/2023 **Councillor Vacancies**

Two applications have been received for the 2 Councillor Vacancies in the Upper Ward of Claife Parish Council from Matthew Stanton and Susan Denyer.

Resolved To co-opt Matthew Stanton and Susan Denyer as Parish Councillors for the Upper Ward..

108/2023 **Councillor Matters**

a) Councillor Brodie made the following statement:

The Parish Council regrets the news of the death, on 4th September, of former Councillor Chris Lewis. Chris served as Councillor for the Upper Ward of Claife Parish Council from July 2018 to February 2021. In February 2021, whilst on duty with Patterdale Mountain Rescue Team, Chris fell and sustained life changing injuries. We extend our condolences to his widow, Carol.

b) Councillor Whitworth reported on a very informative meeting with Harriet Hayle at Wray Castle. The suspected sewage discharges are actually surface water from the car park, which includes aggregate and clay. The National Trust are planning to take action on the issue.

c) Councillor Brodie reported that a parishioner has reported grass cuttings from Hawkrigg are being dumped on the opposite roadside verge. Councillor Brodie will speak to the landowner.

109/2023 **Updates on Ongoing Issues and Actions**

a) Windermere Ferry

Councillor Brodie reported that ferry services were still being suspended during staff breaks. Councillor Hilton reported that the closure of the road at Newby Bridge has exacerbated the travel situation. Councillor Keighley reported that Westmorland & Furness Council are now posting service updates on their Facebook page.

Resolved To add a Westmorland & Furness Council Facebook link to the Parish Council website.

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

Councillor Keighley reported that Richard Tanner of the National Trust has offered to undertake a survey of the trees on Parish Council land in relation to ash dieback.

Resolved To contact Richard Tanner and ask him to undertake a tree survey.

e) Environmental & Water Quality

Councillor Brodie reported that the Freshwater Biological Association completed another survey in August 2023 and information is now available. She attended a meeting with the South Cumbria Rivers Trust who will be providing water monitoring training, more information will be available shortly.

f) Unauthorised Tree Felling and possible Tree Preservation Order

The Clerk reported that the LDNPA Tree Officer has provided a report on the site on the west shore of Lake Windermere, where unauthorised tree felling has taken place, which concludes that a Tree Preservation Order is not required as the Forestry Commission are investigating the site. The Forestry Commission have advised they will notify the Parish Council when a decision is made in relation to this site.

g) Improving Footpath Signage

Councillor Brodie reported that she hasn't heard anything further from the LDNPA ranger in relation to the relocation/improvement of the footpath signage. She is to meet with LDNPA and the National Trust in relation to the type and location of footpath signs. Councillor Stanton advised that the National Trust Countryside Manager is Simon Hill.

h) Potential relocation of the Parish Council Noticeboard at Near Sawrey

Councillor Brodie reported that no further information has been received from the National Trust about their proposed relocation of the Noticeboard at Hill Top.

Resolved To await a response from the National Trust.

i) Harrowslack Lake Shore

Councillor Keighley reported that it has been very busy with lots of large groups including fly campers at Harrowslack. She used the help@lakedistrict.gov.uk email to report one evening and they responded very promptly including liaising with the Police and the Safer Lakes Team for litter picking.

Resolved To publicise the help@lakedistrict.gov.uk on the Parish Council noticeboards.

110/2023 **New Agenda items**

a) Notice of continuing trespass to trespassers 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 with a statement of outstanding rent.

b) Designating a bathing water location within the Parish

Councillor Keighley proposed that Claife Parish Council apply for a designated bathing water location within the parish, possibly near Wray Castle. Sites require appropriate facilities and surveys must be undertaken of visitor numbers in the summer to justify the designation which, if designated, would result in regular testing of the water quality.

Resolved Councillor Keighley to research.

c) LDNPA Visitor Management Parish Survey

Resolved To respond to the Survey as follow:

Local challenges (in order of importance): Fly camping, motorhome parking, human waste, campfires, litter, dog poo, dogs out of control, traffic volumes, motorhomes traffic issues, inconsiderate parking.

Other issues: Field gates left open and more fisherman camping and parking overnight.

Tactical actions (in order of importance): help@lakedistrict.gov.uk, engaging fly campers, maintaining PROWs, sustainable transport, litter picking, visitor signage, ranger patrols, volunteer groups, engagement and education events.

Visitor management priority: develop strategy for motorhome management.

Greatest benefits of visitor management: managing campers at Harrowslack.

Parish actions: improving footpath signage in conjunction with LDNPA and National Trust.

- d) Statutory Consultation C5028 High Cunsey Bridge, Near Far Sawrey (Prohibition of Heavy Commercial Vehicles Over 7.5 Tonnes Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight)
Resolved No objections.
- e) Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Consultation on Local Plans
Resolved To not submit a response.
- f) Westmorland and Furness Council Grant Funding Survey
Resolved To respond to the Survey as follows:
Grants applied for from: South Lakeland District Council
Found out about grant funding: from local district councillor
Considered apply to Westmorland & Furness Grant?: No – as no advance notice and very short timescales eg Climate & Partnership Grant notification to closing date was less than a month so unable to consider as no scheduled Parish Council meeting held within that time period.
How to make grant application more accessible: advance notification.
How could grant process be improved: longer timescales.
What difference did grant make: earlier grant very helpful in supporting development of an off road path.
- g) Declaring a Climate & Ecological Emergency
Resolved To defer consideration to the next meeting.
- h) Cumbria wide call for sites - Biodiversity Net Gain and other Habitat restoration
The Clerk reported that the Council land on the shore of Esthwaite is within the Esthwaite Water RAMSAR Catchment area, so can be considered.
Resolved To submit an expression of interest.
- i) CALC training courses
The Clerk reported that CALC training dates in relation to Planning have now been released until the end of 2023. Councillor Brodie proposed an in-house in-person training alternative.
Resolved To request details of in-house/in-person training from CALC.
- j) LDNPA Dog Poo Campaign
The Clerk advised that LDNPA have undertaken a comms campaign and have dog fouling signs available.
- k) Unauthorised skip placement on land at Tarn Hill Playground
Councillor Brodie reported that a skip has been placed without permission on Parish Council land at Tarn Hill Playground for several weeks.
Resolved To make enquiries with the Skip Permit department.

111/2023 **Planning Applications**

- a) The following Planning Applications were considered:
- i) 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.
Resolved No objections
- ii) 7/2023/5433. Linden Cottage, Colthouse, Ambleside, LA22 0JU. Replacement of bedroom, kitchen and living room windows and frames. Replacement of living door to garden and shed door. Repair of external render/drip sills. Making good internal damp plaster. Slate over porch roof.
Resolved No objections
- Councillor Brodie left the meeting and Councillor Hilton took the Chair.
- 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.
Resolved No objections.
- Councillor Brodie returned to the meeting and Councillor Hilton left the meeting.
- iv) T/2023/0103 at Howe End, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LQ. Removal of leaning stem on Sycamore tree.
Resolved No objections.
- Councillor Hilton returned to the meeting.

- b) The following planning application (for information, not consultation) was noted:
7/2023/5507. High Wray Bank, High Wray, Ambleside, LA22 0JD. Non-material amendment to planning application 7/2021/5236
- c) The following Planning Decision was noted:
7/2023/5431. Land where existing driveway from Wraymires Cottage meets B5285, Near Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0JX. Widening of access for forestry operations and maintenance of existing forestry track. Granted with conditions.
- d) Development Control Committee meeting - 7/2023/5255 Pearsall House
Councillor Brodie reported that a total of 5 minutes is allocated for objectors to speak and a representative from Friends of the Lake District and a resident of Ferry House have advised they wish to speak. The Parish Council originally submitted detailed objections to the Planning Application, together with a request to speak.
Resolved A representative Parish Councillor to attend the meeting in support of the objectors but not speak given the limited time and that the objections raised by the Parish Council will already be included.

112/2023 Financial Matters

- a) Noted that the bank balance at 31 August 2023 was £16,518.25
- b) **Resolved** To authorise payment of the following accounts:
Postage Stamps (2nd class) £6.00
- c) Lakes Parish Council request to contribute to an e-bike for the local Cumbria Police PCSO.
Resolved To not contribute as due to the distances involved it would visit Claife infrequently and the suggested contribution represents 5% of the annual Parish Council budget.

113/2023 Highways

- a) Highways items to be reported
None.
- b) Highways items reported

Date	Reference	Details	Response
01/11/2021	EI/23846	Road junction markings faded / washed out . Junction of Stones Lane, Near Sawrey with B5285	Assigned to Highways Team
01/11/2021	EI/23783	Road surface deteriorating with multiple pot holes developing. B5285 near Sawrey House Hotel	Assigned to Highways Team
01/11/2021	EI/23796	Road surface from Belle Green to the entrance to the last house on the left of the lane.	Assigned to Highways Team
01/11/2021	EI/23823	Passing place sign broken off post and other one unreadable, B5285 between Near and Far	Assigned to Highways Team
01/11/2021	EI/23831	White lines at road junctions on B5285 in Near and Far Sawrey are faded / washed away and	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
06/09/2022	EI/84443	Edge of road disintegrating - Cuckoo Brow Lane	Assigned to Highways Team
30/01/2023	EI/119690	Blocked grid near High Wray Farm	Assigned to Highways Team
03/02/2023	EI/121178	Drain blocked, filled with debris.	Completed
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/131767	Grit bin empty - B5285 at bottom of Cuckoo Brow Lane, Far Sawrey LA22 0LQ	Assigned to Highways Team
09/03/2023	EI/131768	Grit bin empty - B5285 Top of Ferry Hill, Far Sawrey near junction with road to Cunsey	Assigned to Highways Team
09/03/2023	EI/131778	Drain blocked, full of debris -B5285 Far Sawrey. Next to grit bin at junction with Cuckoo Brow Lane	Completed
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	Assigned to Highways Team
03/05/2023	EI/148768	Grit bin requested for Near Sawrey	Refused
10/06/2023	EI/156272	A pipe has been installed by a resident which discharges directly onto the B5285 Road.	Householder contacted
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	Assigned to Highways Team
19/07/2023	EI/163172	Deep Pothole on Ferry Hill	Assigned to Highways Team
19/07/2023	EI/163175	Deep pothole near Ash Landing Car Park	Assigned to Highways Team
31/07/2023	EI/164654	First drain blocked after leaving B5285 On right hand side of Cuckoo Brow Lane , Far Sawrey.	Assigned to Highways Team
31/07/2023	EI/164653	Deep culvert on B5285 by water trough on right hand side of road if traveling from Near Sawrey .	Closed but further works required
19/08/2023	EI/166424	Fence alongside the road has collapsed due to the posts being rotten adjacent to Chapel Cottage, LA220LQ.	Assigned to Highways Team

- 114/2023 **Correspondence (for information only)**
The circulated correspondence was noted.

- 115/2023 **Date of Next Meeting**
Noted that the next Parish Council meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 31st October 2023 at Braithwaite Hall.

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Signed & Approved by (Chair)

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Date