

Claife Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at The Braithwaite Hall, Far Sawrey
At 7.30 pm on Tuesday 1st October 2024

Attendees: Parish Councillors A Brodie (Chair), J Whitworth, M Stanton, S Denyer, Unitary Councillor S Pender

102/2024 **Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Cllr S Hilton (Vice Chair).

103/2024 **Requests for Dispensations**

None Received

104/2024 **Declarations of Interest**

None Received

105/2024 **Minutes**

Resolved The council approved the minutes of the last meeting held on the 28th August 2024

106/2024 **Public Participation**

a) Reports were received as follows:

i) Police

No report received

ii) Unitary Councillor

In attendance.

iii) National Trust

National Trust Amy McGowan has invited council to visit Hilltop in week beginning 18th November.

Resolved Cllr A Brodie to propose November 19th at 10:00 am.

b) Members of the Public

None

107/2024 **Councillor matters**

None

108/2024 **Updates on ongoing issues and actions**

a) Parish Clerk/ Responsible Financial Officer vacancy

Cllr Brodie reported that an initial expression of interest has not led to an application.

i) A Brodie phoned neighbouring Parish Council Clerks to see if there is any interest in taking on this additional role. Clerks of Hawkshead and Coniston have offered to help out with advice but cannot commit to the extra work.

ii) The post has been advertised on Parish Council website and noticeboards, CALC (Cumbria Association of Local Councils) Website and in the The Esthwaite Link.

iii) **Resolved** Cllr A Brodie and Cllr S Pender to explore with other Parish Councils the reasons for difficulty in recruiting clerks. Cllr S Pender to raise issue with Unitary Council and CALC.

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- iv) **Resolved** Cllr A Brodie to place advert with Windermere Town Council and to engage with Head Teacher at Hawkshead Esthwaite School to see if an advert for the job could be given to pupils to take home.
- v) **Resolved** Cllr S Denyer to advertise via a charity website.
- b) Lower Ward Parish Councillor vacancy
A vacancy remains.
- c) Windermere Ferry
Cllr S Pender reported negative feedback from Cumbria Tourism, Cumbria Business Forum and the Local economic partnership to the Unitary Council Cabinet. The response from Cabinet has been there will a service delivery review. Parish Council reported that the communication on service availability has been much better.
- d) Road Gritting/ Snow Ploughing arrangements
 - i) Unitary Council Highways Meeting use of volunteers and lengthsman 24th September 2024
Councillor S. Of particular interest are new winter arrangements and the potential for not only ploughing but also gritting.
Resolved Cllr S Pender to explore possibility of Claife and Hawkshead becoming a Pilot area
 - ii) Grit bin levels
 - (1) Low Wray grit bin is ½ full
 - (2) Top of Ferry Hill grit bin is ½ full
 - (3) Far Sawrey Grit bin ½ full
 - (4) Near Sawrey grit bin ½ full
 - (5) **Resolved** Cllr Denyer to check Colthouse and High Wray bins and report to the Acting Clerk.
- e) Management of Parish Council Land
Lengthsman is dealing with the strimming of footpath at Esthwaite and cutting back shrubs around directional highways signs.
- f) Environment and Water Quality issues around the Parish
The river sampling of Wilfin Beck by South Cumbria Rivers Trust (SCRT) has received another 6 months of funding so sampling will continue to February 2025
- g) Footpath signage
To be reviewed when on site visit to Hilltop
- h) Training
 - i) Cllr A Brodie to go on Clerk 1 on 27th November and Clerk 2 on 4 December to help fill in on Clerk role and support new Clerk when role is filled.
 - ii) Cllr M Stanton will do Finance module on 4th November and Year End module on 11 November to also fill in and support new Clerk.
 - iii) Cllrs J Whitworth and S Denyer will go on Councillor Module 2 on 16th October.
- i) Registering of Parish Council Land
Cllr S. Denyer reported a response from David Towler of the National Trust: that he has contacted NT's Solicitors in regard to correcting the OS map showing the boundaries between Parish land and National Trust land at Ash Landing. Cllr Brodie to contact Parish Council's Solicitors to see if there are cost implications if the other pieces of Parish Land are registered prior to the Ash Landing land.

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j) Emergency Plan

No Progress since last meeting

k) Permanent Bus stop at Ash Landing

A Highways sign warning of pedestrians walking on road has been placed half way down Ferry Hill but is considered inadequate by Councillors

Resolved Cllr J Whitworth will informally talk to Mountain Goat to highlight our concerns and issues raised in previous meetings to see if we can come to an arrangement.

109/2024 **New Agenda Items**

a) Unitary Council Highways Meeting, use of volunteers and lengthsman 24th September 2024

Unitary Authority, sought to understand what Parish Councils wanted of Highways Authority. Parish Councils raised concerns about gritting and ploughing C and U roads, placement of grit boxes, hedge cutting, verge strimming, and the Highways maintenance reporting system. Councils sought clarity on where responsibility lies for work on, and next, to the highway. The highways department spokesperson expressed his intention that having understood what Parish Council's wanted, his shortstaffed department would work to provide clarity on working practices over the next year.

b) Changing Parish Council Website Domain from org.uk to gov.uk

We had just renewed our current domain at a cost of £50. The cost of changing to gov.uk has been quoted at £150.

Resolved to wait till the renewal of the domain in Sept 2026 unless CALC advises otherwise.

110/2024 **Planning Applications**

a) The Following planning applications were considered:

i) 7/2024/5453 Satter Knotts, Far Sawrey, Ambleside LA22 0LW.

Amendments to dwelling scheme planning application 7/2022/5376

Resolved No Objections

ii) 7/2024/5498 1, Crabtree Cottages, Cunsey, Ambleside LA22 0LX

Approval of details reserved by condition 3 (tree protection) on planning permission.

Resolved No Objections

b) To note the following Planning decisions by Lake District National Park Authority:

iii) 7/2024/5410 Pepperyeat, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LH Listed building consent, granted.

iv) T/2024/0124 Pepperyeat Fold, Far Sawrey, Ambleside LA22 0LH removal of 8 trees, no objections.

v) T/2024/0130 and iv) T/ 2024/0133 Scutcheon House, Far Sawrey, Ambleside LA22 0LQ, no objections

vi) 7/2024/5343 Church Cottage, Far Sawrey, Ambleside, LA22 0LH approved with conditions.

vii) E/2024/0086 High Greengate, Near Sawrey, LA22 0LF removal of chimney from Grade II listed property. Enforcement order closed- no breach, not development.

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111/2024 **Financial Matters**

To note the bank balance on August 31st 2024 was £24,521.63

112/2024 **Highways**

c) Highways items to be reported

None

d) Highways items reported

Cllr Brodie to ask our previous clerk how to access the Highways Agency website to receive reports already submitted.

113/2024 **Correspondence (for information only)**

The circulated correspondence was noted.

114/2024 **Date of next meeting**

Noted that the next meeting will take place at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 12th November 2024 at High Wray Village Hall.

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Signed and Approved by (Chair)

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Date

Initialed..... Date.....