

BOTHEL AND THREAPLAND PARISH COUNCIL

At the Virtual Meeting of Bothel & Threapland Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th March, 2021 commencing at 7.30p.m.

Present:

S. Austin
G. Bowe (for part of the meeting)
K. Nelson
R. Teasdale
N. Todhunter (Chair)
R. Watson

Also Present:

A Bowness, Cumbria County Councillor (for part of the meeting)
M. Jenkinson MP (for item 2 on the agenda)
W. Miskelly
J. Rae (Clerk)

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed members and those in attendance. The Chairman relayed his thanks to the MP for advice provided with the consultation and implementation of the 50mph speed limit on the A595 at Bothel.

67. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from J. Lister, Allerdale Borough Councillor.

68. PLANNING REFORM

Mark Jenkinson MP addressed the meeting and provided a summary of the proposals for reform of the planning system in England. The Planning for the Future consultation proposes reforms to the planning system to streamline and modernise the planning process. The Chairman requested that Members submit any questions to the Clerk to forward to the MP. One question raised at the meeting was how the National Park Planning Authority fit in and whether local government reorganisation will have any affect on the proposals. The MP agreed to provide answers to any questions and to circulate the link to the white paper.

The MP left the meeting at 19.47.

69. MINUTES OF THE MEETING 12 JANUARY 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the virtual meeting held on 12th January, 2021 were agreed as a true record.

70. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that there has been an increase in dog fouling incidents, particularly on the bridleway near Beck House in Bothel. The Clerk was asked to contact the Borough Councillor to request additional signage for this area.

71. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

72. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

NHS Update - William Miskelly, Public Governor for Allerdale was in attendance. Prior to the meeting Mr. Miskelly had provided a briefing note which included an update on the current situation with Covid 19, the West Cumberland Hospital, NHS weight management services and information on how to become a member of your local NHS Trust. The Chairman requested that if Members had any questions on the contents of the update to forward these direct to Mr. Miskelly.

Cllr Nelson reported that a parishioner had raised concern that the double yellow lines outside the school have worn away and people are now parking in this area. Cllr Bowness advised this should be reported on the Highways Information Management System (HIMS).

73. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING 12 JANUARY 2021

50mph speed limit A595 Bothel – The Parish Council had not received an update as to when this will be implemented.

74. REPORTS

(a) Allerdale Borough Councillor: Apologies were received from Cllr Lister.

(b) Cumbria County Councillor: Cllr Bowness reported on the following matters: there had been approximately 80 responses to the consultation on the improvements to the Greyhound/Torpenhow junction, the Local Government Reorganisation consultation is now open, and any highway issues should be reported on the HIMS.

Cllr Bowness was made aware that the landowners affected by the proposals on the A595 had received a draft copy of the plans but the parish council have not been kept up-to-date. Cllr Bowness advised that the Infrastructure Planning Team had been invited to attend the next meeting of the Highways Working Group and he would raise this with them.

Cllr Bowness left the meeting

(c) Cumbria Police – No matters were raised. The newsletter for the Wigton/Aspatria area had been circulated.

75. COMMUNITY FUND

The Chairman reported there had been no new applications received since the last meeting.

76. FINANCE

(a) The financial report as at 28th February, 2021 had been circulated with the agenda.

Bank Balances at 28th February, 2021

HSBC £ 5,337.13
CBS £70,654.19

(b) Payment of Accounts

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Clerk's account Quarter 4	£562.57
HMRC PAYE Quarter 4	£107.40
Bothel Village Hall Room Hire 10.3.20	£ 8.00

Payment from the Community Fund

Wigton Baths Trust	£100.00
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(c) Appointment of Internal Auditor/Review of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit

RESOLVED that P. Wilson be appointed to carry out the internal audit of the accounts for financial year 2020/21. It was agreed that the internal auditor is sufficiently competent to carry out the role and the internal audit function is completely independent from the council's management of financial control.

77. CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence received since the last meeting had been circulated by email.

Cumbria County Council - A595 Bothel Strategic Improvement - EIA scoping opinion request

CALC - Request to ask Member Councils to complete HMLR Land Survey

West Cumbria Friends of the Earth - Trees and nature recovery

Wigton Baths Newsletter/Donation request

MP/CALC Planning Reforms - EPC2-21 - Model Design Code - NALC consultation briefing

CALC - Note of the Allerdale 3 tier meeting January 2021

Plumbland PC - Cumbrian Toxic Landfill Petition

Census 2021 - Your Questions Answered

Cumbria Highways - Highways Customer Feedback Survey

CALC - Face to Face Meetings

CALC - Nature Recovery event 25th February

CALC – Local Government Reorganisation Consultation

CALC - Virtual Local Government Reorganisation Event - 18 March

78. PLANNING

(a) Applications received:

HOU/2021/0012 - Stonehaven, Threapland, CA7 2EL

Single storey side extension to form utility room No objections

Notification of/Consultation on an EIA Scoping Opinion Request

Ref No. SCO-2/21/05

Proposal: A595 Bothel Strategic Improvement

A response had been submitted raising three points relating to the EIA carried out by UU for the pipeline, the possibility that a protected wildlife species may be living in the hedge and the potential costs of the project.

(b) Decisions:

ADV/2020/0014 - Old Chapel Close, Bothel

Siting of temporary marketing suite with associated parking and advertising GRANTED

79. HIGHWAYS

The following matters were discussed:

Cllr Nelson reported that the culvert at the bottom of Bank Lonning had been cleared but the culvert mid way up the lonning was still blocked. Cllr Nelson was requested to report this on the HIMS.

Wall on Park Road – In response to concerns raised with the Parish Council the Clerk was requested to report this to Highways as the wall is now becoming a danger.

Cllr Bowe left the meeting

80. VILLAGE MAP

Cllr Austin reported that a revised estimate had been received amounting to £450.00 for two maps. Arlosh Graphics had advised they would check the measurements of the existing map before proceeding. Once lockdown restrictions are eased Cllr Austin agreed to check on the progress.

81. GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT 2021

The grass cutting contract for 2021 had been advertised and contractors invited to submit tenders. Two tenders had been received:

Messrs Hunt – Cutting of Threapland Village Green £90.00 + VAT per cut.

I. Steel – Cutting of Pinfold Green, Bothel - £55.00 per cut.

RESOLVED to accept the tenders submitted. The contractors would be notified accordingly. All terms and conditions of the contract would remain unchanged.

82. TREES AND NATURE RECOVERY

The correspondence received from West Cumbria Friends of the Earth was considered. The correspondence advised that in response to climate change the aim is to increase tree cover in Allerdale and encourage the planting of trees. The correspondence enquired whether the parish council has any land in their ownership where trees could be planted. Members discussed possible locations and agreed there are no suitable sites in the parish.

83. CUMBRIAN TOXIC LANDFILL – PETITION

Plumbland Parish Council had submitted a request for support against Cumbria County Council's proposals to reopen the limestone quarry at High Close, Plumbland which is adjacent to a toxic landfill site. Members resolved to support the request and agreed to sign the petition.

84. DONATION REQUEST – WIGTON BATHS TRUST

A newsletter together with a request for financial assistance towards the running costs of the baths had been circulated. This was considered by members. Following a discussion whether parishioners and the school use the facilities it was agreed to support the request. RESOLVED to grant £100 from the Community Fund.

85. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION CONSULTATION

The consultation on local government reorganisation had been circulated. Four options had been put forward for Cumbria. The consultation runs until 19th April.

A query was raised whether parish councils will be affected by any changes and if parishes are combined how this might affect the community fund monies. It was proposed and agreed that if the boundaries are altered and parishes are combined that the funds held by the parish council on behalf of the community fund should be transferred to an account in the name of the Community Fund Committee. Monies would only be released by agreement with the councillors on the parish council as of today's date.

86 DATE OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

Provisional meeting dates had been circulated with the agenda.

Members noted that the regulations that allow local authorities to hold meetings remotely apply to local authority meetings that are to be held before 7th May 2021. Without any further action from the government local councils must return to face to face meetings from May.

It was agreed to monitor the situation and wait until mid April to decide on the date for the May meeting. This will depend on whether it is safe to return to face to face meetings or whether the regulations to allow virtual meetings are extended

The meeting closed at 8.26 p.m.

Signed.....Date.....