

## **Parish Council of St Johns Castlerigg & Wythburn Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting of the St John's Castlerigg & Wythburn Parish Council held at Thirlmere Recreational Hall on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017 at 19:00

Present: Mr I Hartland (Chairman), Mrs C Archbold, Mr M Cockbain, Mrs P Darrall, Mrs S Hope, Mr B Vidler, Mr D Lamb, Mr L Walton, Ms B Carter (Clerk), 12 members of the public

### **60/17 Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies were received from C/Cllr T Lywood, PCSO Todd Stuart.

### **61/17 Approval of meeting minutes held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

**Resolved** by all present that the minutes of the bi-monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017 subject to one minor alteration be signed as a true and accurate record and the Chair be authorised to sign a copy.

**Action: Clerk to upload the minutes to the website & circulate to all.**

### **62/17 Declarations of Interest & Requests for dispensations**

Cllr M Cockbain declared an interest in planning application ref 7/2017/2217

### **63/17 Public Participation**

12 members of the public were present a number of questions were raised:

Q: Will there be a formal public consultation about the Tree Top Treks Proposal led by the Parish Council?

A: At this stage prior to a planning application being submitted it is not an appropriate time for the Parish Council to hold a formal 'consultation' event. However the Parish Council are considering different options to canvas parishioners opinions.

Q: We didn't know anything about the proposal/consultation until very recently, was there a mail drop to all residents within the Parish?

A: This was a consultation ran by Tree Top Treks and the Parish Council are not aware if such a mail shot was undertaken. Other parishioners in the room confirmed they had not received anything in the post.

Q: Will there be a Parish Council meeting regarding this proposal if a planning application were to be submitted?

A: Yes it would be the subject of a parish council meeting at the appropriate stage. This would be publicised via the Parish Council agenda one week prior to the meeting and information will be sent to the Keswick Reminder.

Q: How long would a planning consultation be if an application were submitted?

A: The standard planning timescales are 8 weeks from submission to decision normally. However it is understood that the LDNPA can in certain instances extend the consultation window up to around 12 weeks for 'major' applications.

Q: This application would be contrary to many of the UNESCO principles of World Heritage Site Status of which a number were listed during the meeting.

This was noted by the Council.

Q: Which planning authority would deal with any planning application?

A: Lake District National Park Authority

1 member of the public attended to raise concerns regarding planning application reference 7/2017/2217

During a recent roadside meeting on Nest Brow regarding this United Utilities Planning Application and the possible access routes at which UU, local land agents, residents and contractors were present it was noted that the differences between the access route exiting on to the A66 or A591 would only be approximately 500m. The resident raised serious concerns about road safety with the entrance/exit to the tunnelling compound being off the A591. In addition concern was raised regarding the practicalities and safety of in excess of 4500 HGVs going down the A591 into Keswick and then right up the Hawthorns to join the A66 (empty lorries to becoming in the same way and passing on route). This works out at around 120 HGV movements per day, plus the light vehicle traffic & contractor vehicles etc.

Q: Why does the 'no HGV's' on the A591-A66 St John's in the Vale Road only apply during the A591 road works?

**Action: Clerk to request clarity on this from Highways.**

**Action: Clerk to request that Highways undertake a diversion sign check for the 'no HGV's' sign on the A66- Only visible from the Keswick direction not approaching from the Penrith direction.**

11 members of the public left the meeting.

#### **64/17 Update from visiting councillors/other bodies.**

None received

#### **65/17 Report on Matters Arising/Clerks Report**

**Resolved** that the Clerks written report be noted as received and unless mentioned below no further actions were required/or updates received.

#### **66/17 Highways & Transport matters**

*Keswick-Barrow Charity Walk* – The Clerk informed those present that photos were required of the damage to this fingerpost so that the organisers can look to address it.

**Action: Cllr S Hope to provide photos to the Clerk.**

#### *Repairs to Castle Lonnin & Yew Tree-Dalebottom*

It was noted with disappointment that both of these areas have been considered by Cumbria County Council as no action required but on-going monitoring will be undertaken.

#### *Thirlmere Dam*

The Clerk informed the meeting that following a site assessment by CCC Highways after the UU works were completed on the Dam road it has been deemed by CCC that the works have narrowed the carriageway to a point where it can't be viewed as a two way road any more. Therefore to allow the road to be re-opened to vehicular traffic CCC Highways were proposing a Temporary Road Order (TRO) with one way traffic eastwards over the Dam. Once this TRO was in place a consultation would be held to look into this matter.

**Resolved** by all present that this was very disappointing that this had not been identified by CCC Highways until after the works had been completed.

**Resolved** by all present that opening the if the road is closed from east to west there would be no access for people driving south from the Keswick direction until they arrive at Steel End. In the event of an accident on the Thirlmere stretch of the A591 there would be no access at all (except from Steel End). In effect this would mean that the western road would become 'one way' in a northerly direction only. If the dam road would be open from east to west then there would be access to the west side of the lake from both north & south.

**Resolved** by all present that the best solution in the opinion of the Parish Council would be to place traffic lights at either end of the Dam road to allow for controlled two way traffic. Or that a vehicular width restriction be considered and two way domestic traffic be allowed (and access).

**Action: Clerk to submit these comments to CCC Highways.**

### **67/17 Newsletter**

It was noted by the meeting that the Tree Top Treks proposal has significant strength of feeling attached to it from local residents. It was agreed by all that the distribution of a questionnaire was necessary to ensure that the Parish Council were acting on the behalf of the Parishoners on this matter, and it was acknowledged that not everyone is comfortable attending meetings.

It was further noted by those resent that these proposals by Tree Top Treks appear to be contrary to the objectives of the original Manchester Corporation who built the dam and flooded the valley to support & preserve the land.

**Resolved** by all present that a short questionnaire as circulated to all by the Clerk be included in the next Newsletter to canvas parishioner opinion on the Tree Top Treks Zip Wire Proposal. It was agreed that the questionnaire be modified to include that newsletter distributors will collect completed questionnaires 1 week after delivery, and to include 'number of residents' to ensure an accurate numerical representation is received.

**Resolved** by all present that the questionnaire be printed in black ink on coloured paper, and that each questionnaire be uniquely numbered to prevent duplication of the forms.

**Action: Clerk to send the questionnaire to Mr G Darrall for printing and inclusion with the newsletter.**

**Action: Clerk to submit a post meeting report to the Keswick Reminder confirming that contrary to recent media coverage (not requested or approved by the Parish Council) that the Parish Council agenda did not include the Tree Top Treks proposal, and that it would be re-agenda'd if a Planning Application was received. The Clerk to confirm in the article that the Parish Council were preparing a questionnaire to canvas local opinion on this proposal to strengthen the position of the Parish Council if any plans were to be submitted.**

### **68/17 Planning Applications for Consideration**

Cllr M Cockbain declared an interest in this item and played no part in the discussions or the decision making.

**Ref:** 7/2017/2217  
**Location:** Bridge End Water Treatment Works  
**Proposal:** Amendments to an approved water supply connection from Thirlmere to West Cumbria (Bridge End Thirlmere)

**Resolved** by all present after a robust discussion that the majority of those present had no objections however it was requested that a comment be submitted to the planning authority regarding the on-going concerns of the Parish Council regarding the highways safety of the access/egress on to the A591 and the wider issues of the HGVS accessing the A66 via driving down into Keswick and up the Hawthorns.

**Action: Clerk to submit this comment.**

**Resolved** by all present that consideration be given after the results of the Zip Wire survey to writing to the chief executive of UU raising the ongoing and serious concerns of the council about the dismissive and destructive way UU look at the environment in this area e.g. with the management of the dam and flooding, the pipeline scheme, the possible lease to Tree Top Treks for a Zip Wire.

**Action: Clerk to agenda for the November meeting.**

### **69/17 Planning Decisions**

**Resolved** that the below decision be noted:

<u>Ref No</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Decision</u>
7/2017/2173	Ghyll House, Lonsties, Keswick	Addition of a bathroom and dressing room over existing garage	Approve with Conditions
7/2017/2144	Stybeck Farm, Thirlmere	Siting of shepherds hut (retrospective)	Approve with Conditions
7/2017/2153	Bram Cragg Barn, St Johns in the Vale	Application to modify the S.106 agreement on application approval ref 7/1985/2001	Withdrawn
7/2017/2114	West Head Farm, Steel Head, Thirlmere	EE telecommunications apparatus, ancillary equipment	Approve with Conditions

### **70/17 Correspondence received**

**Resolved** that all correspondence be noted as received unless otherwise mentioned below.

- 1) Cumbria Design Guide- **Resolved** that no comments be made due to the complexity of the document
- 2) Cumbria Constabulary Public Consultation- **Resolved** that no comments be made as the questionnaire was more appropriate to individual households.

### **71/17 Finance & Accounts**

#### *I. Invoices for Approval*

**Resolved** by all present that the below invoices be approved & the cheques signed by two signatories (Cllr S Hope & Cllr M Cockburn).

<b>Invoice Received from</b>	<b>Works/Services undertaken</b>	<b>Amount</b>
G Darrall	Newsletter Expenses	£61.91
Becx Carter	Expenses	£33.06
Becx Carter	Salary	£604.32- Via SO
HMRC	PAYE	£151

**Action: Clerk to process the above invoices for payment.**

#### *ii. Approval of Bank Reconciliation & Spend Against Budget Report.*

**Resolved** by all present that the bank reconciliation for September be approved as a true and accurate record and was signed as such by Cllr L Walton

#### *iii. External Audit Year Ending 31-3-17*

**Resolved** by all present that the unconditional audit from BDO be noted as received.

### **72/17 Councillor Matters**

It was noted that there is a growing problem of people parking on the road side to climb in the Quarry just past Bram Crag. Cllr I Hartland agreed to mention this to the local climbers to try and improve matters. If not Clerk to be asked to report the matter to CCC.

### **73/17 Date of Next meeting**

**Resolved** that the next meeting time be 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 19:00

Meeting Closed 20:30

Signed..... Cllr I Hartland (Chairman)