

NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

held in Natland Village Hall
at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 24th May 2005

05/51 Election of Chair Cllr Peters was elected to office and signed the deed of acceptance.

05/52 Present: Cllr Peters in the Chair, Cllrs Bowley, Mansfield, Outhwaite, Parnham, Williams and the Clerk, Mrs A Ireland. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Duff, (Truro).

05/53 Election of Officers

The following were elected to Office:

Vice-Chair Cllr Outhwaite
Highwayman Cllr Bowley, Cllr Parnham to deputise
Footpath Officer Cllr Outhwaite
Village Hall Committee rep. Cllr Parnham
Reporter for School Cllr Duff
Reporter for Church Cllr Mansfield

05/54 The **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on 24th April 2005 (*circulated*) were agreed and signed.

05/55 Matters arising (not covered by the agenda)

- a. Sedgwick Road footpath - A Mr Dauncey, Children's Society in Manchester had sent all agreements to their lawyers and would write when there was any definite news of responsibility for maintenance for boundary hedges.
- b. Kerbing Cllr Peters had had a site meeting with Joanne Powley (Highways Maintenance technician) and shown her the proposed kerbing. The present policy is kerbing for road safety only. The Clerk had spoken to Helen Brooks, Crosby Lodge, who did not want kerbing outside her house. The Clerk to write to Chris Baines of Capita requesting kerbing on specified areas. She would also speak to Guy Weller whose letter had not been acknowledged.
- c. Dog fouling sign The Clerk to place a stick-on warning on the reverse side of the 30 mph sign at the north entrance to the village on the C5071.

05/56 Implementation of the Parish Plan

- a. Web site There had been no volunteers since the Parish Meeting. Mr O'Connor's paper (circulated) was discussed. The Councillors were not willing to undertake to provide articles for the site on a rota basis. Some felt they might be able to provide material at times.
- b. Working Groups
 - i. The Helm Group would meet on Thursday 26th May and report at the next meeting.
 - ii. Pub Group Cllr Williams stressed the far reaching effects the revised Licensing Laws, due in November, would have. Courses to explain the effects are being held.

She suggested the Village Hall be aware (if not already) of the likely changes. S.L.D.C. should provide clear guidelines.

iii. Support your Post Office - all suggestions are very welcome. The Clerk suggested named shopping bags (possibly fabric) to deliver with flier (to Sedgwick as well as Natland). Likely cost to be reported at the next meeting. Some possible printers suggested by Cllr Williams.

05/57 Maintenance of seats and bus shelters owned by the Parish Council

Sam Inglefield seat (on Village Green near the oak tree) was purchased by the Parish Council in July 1988 and installed in January 1989 - memorial plaque also. It should be on our insurance. Ronnie Holmes to be consulted about maintenance.

Two seats on the A65 (between Oxenholme Lane and the Railway Bridge). Cllr Bowley would investigate ownership.

Bus Shelter (Village Green) The Clerk had spoken to the manufacturers who recommend “any good wood preservative”. Cllr Parnham would purchase Algon and Preservative - budget up to £30. Cllr Peters to help with painting. Cllr Parnham to see Ronnie Holmes. Bus timetables - Clerk to chase these up.

05/58 Taxi Business, Park Close

The two minibuses are registered; Clerk to check whether 3 Park Close has a licence to run a business from the house.

The minibuses and at least three other cars are contravening traffic law by parking partly on the footway of the C5071. The Clerk to put a note from the Parish Council on each vehicle to ask that they discontinue the practice.

05/59 Review of Annual Parish Meeting 19.5.05

1. All the organisational requirements specified in Minute 01/63(1) had been met.
2. There had been some comments on the formal seating arrangements making hearing difficult. Next year the seats will be arranged in curved rows along the length of the hall.
3. Draft Minutes would be circulated to councillors with the June agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

The well attended meeting had carried by a clear majority an unsolicited motion from David Mellor, “that Natland Parish Council puts the provision of a footway and cycleway along Natland Road as one of its priorities.” The Clerk to write to Ralph Howard, the County Council's Director of Economy, Culture and Environment (copies to Nick Raymond and Alan Bobbett) stressing the community support for the footway/cycleway. The Clerk to speak to David Mellor about a possible petition.

05/60 Horse Warning Signs

The Council had no objection, provided they did not lead to a proliferation of such signs. The only sign in our parish would be at the top of Oxenholme Lane.

05/61 Planning

(a) The Clerk had seen, on the full planning list, an application for making a dwelling from farm buildings at Newlands. She would remind SLDC to consult the Council.

(b) Full planning permission had been received for 2005/0348, the new access road to Crow Park from Hawes Lane.

05/62 Finance - Annual Return 31.3.05

- a. The Council approved the Statement of Accounts (based on the Report and Interim Accounts recently sent to each household). An error by the Clerk in copying figures from the rough draft was corrected. This was signed by the Chair with agreement of the Council. The Clerk also initialled the alteration.
- b. The Council authorised the Chair to sign the Statement of Assurance (circulated) , this would be done when the internal auditor, Richard Hewlett, had signed the relevant section of the Annual Return. (Chair on holiday May 31 to June 22)

05/63 Finance - routine

- a. Balances at 24.5.05
Business Bonus Account £5,622.16
Petty Cash £9.87
- b. Monthly cash and budget statements (circulated) were noted.
- c. The following payments were agreed:
John Nelson - grass cutting £105.00
New cash book £21.99
Cumbria Playing Fields Association £13.30
Natland School (photocopying for Annual Report/Parish meeting) £36.84
- d. The request for funding from St. Mark's School for trial of extended school day (letter circulated) was agreed - £200 to be sent (Section 137 donation).

05/64 Reports

- a. Church
Cllr Mansfield reminded the Council that the Vicarage garden was open on Thursday 25th May from 10 am to 12 noon. The Church Garden Fête will be held on Saturday, June 11th. (theme - the Forties)
- b. School No report.
- c. Village Hall No report.
- d. Highways
 1. Cllr Bowley reported that most damaged signs had been repaired/replaced. The 30 mph signs near Appletree and at the top of Helm Lane need attention
 2. A letter from Edward Lawton asked the Council to arrange for a salt bin near Helm Gate. The two piles of salt provided for winter road conditions simply wash away and destroy surrounding flora. The Clerk to write to Highways and also mention the dangerous wall at the Burton Road Cattle grid, and the deep potholes.
 3. Cllr Peters had pointed out the uneven surface at the south end of the Sedgwick Road footpath when Joanne Powley was in the village.

e. Footpaths Cllr Outhwaite reported that Heather Gardner had responded to our letter and would have the footpath in the ploughed field rolled as soon as ground conditions allow.

The uneven and dangerous footpath area at the Oxenholme Lane/Long Meadow Lane corner was to be reported.

05/65 Correspondence and phone calls

a. Mrs Heap had phoned to report that S.L.D.C. had now agreed to fell the tree causing problems at 10 Park Close. She thanked the Council for their support and persistence.

b. An e-mail from Don Shore enquired about the ownership of the two grass verges leading into St. Mark's Close, which were very untidy. The Clerk to enquire.

c. A letter from Mrs Lawson of Greenside complained about constant football playing in the school playground at weekends. She also pointed out that nearby trees block her light and shade the street light. The Clerk to pass on the letter and photographs to John Chandler for his comments before the Council decides how to respond.

d. A parishioner had commented that strimming around the Wellingtonia near Green Tree House could be causing damage to the already dangerous tree. The Clerk to speak to Mr. Nelson.

The meeting closed at 10.07 p.m.

Next meeting :

Monday June 27th 2005 - 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall