

NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
held in Natland Village Hall
at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 23rd January 2006**

06/01 Present: Cllr Peters in the Chair, Cllrs Dickinson, Duff, Outhwaite, Parnham and the Clerk, Mrs A Ireland.

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Bowley and Mansfield, and received from District Councillor Brenda Gray and County Councillor Alan Bobbett

06/02 Public Participation Colleen Harrison spoke about a stranger seen wandering the village recently knocking on doors. He appeared to be selling artwork. There was no Neighbourhood Watch alarm.

06/03 An alteration to Minute 05/129(b) to include the wording “the level of sales and” after “because of” (in reference to the reasons for the village shop ceasing alcohol sales). The **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on 28th November 2005 (*circulated*) were then agreed and signed.

06/04 Matters arising (not covered by the agenda)

- a. No progress in arranging a site visit with the Children's Society on responsibility for maintaining the boundaries of the Sedgwick Road footway.
- b. A cost estimate of £150 per linear metre had been received for the possible Natland to Kendal cycleway/footway.
- c. The Clerk had spoken to a representative of Sustrans, who were interested in the cycleway/footway but had no money.
- d. District Councillor Brenda Gray has sent an email, re the taxi situation on Long Meadow Lane; the Council needed evidence. The Clerk to contact the enforcement officer to ascertain what constituted evidence.
- e. The missing street light near the school was restored.

f. Email copy of the Electoral Roll would be transferred to a floppy disk and placed in the blue bag.

g. The Boundary Committee (October Minutes). Further information and evidence was invited. The Chairman read from the Liberal Democrat's submission which claims the Parish Council works very closely with the Residents' Association in Oxenholme. The Clerk and Chairman would formulate letters to the Boundary Committee and the Liberal Democrats to make the position clear.

06/05 Implementation of the Parish Plan

a. Spring Litter Hunt - April 1st 10 am-12 noon, 2-4 pm
The paper (*circulated*) from Cllrs Parnham and Peters, setting out details of time and place, equipment available, disposal of collected refuse and publicity was approved. The Clerk will arrange publicity in the March Parish News and mention it at a School Governors' meeting. The paper should be brought to the next council meeting for further decisions.

b. There were no Working Groups reports.

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c. Parish Website A paper from Stan O'Connor (*circulated*) was discussed and noted. His recommendations to renew the site domain name and appoint KENCOMP, instead of UKHOST4U as administrator were agreed. The Parish Plan 2006 Review has a question about the future of the Website. Councillors should also actively seek volunteers to continue Mr. O'Connor's work.

06/06 _Review of the Parish Plan

Option 2 on Cllr Peters' Draft Programme paper (*circulated*) was agreed. The wording of the Questionnaire (*circulated*) was finalised and arrangements agreed for printing and household distribution. (400 copies to be printed at the Vicarage.) Delivery to be completed by February 7th. Deadline for return of questionnaires February 24th.

06/07 George Holmes' Memorial Seat

The family had chosen a seat, Glasdon's Phoenix, in brown enviropol; their preferred site was midway up the 'face' of Helm on a flat grassy 'crossroads' area with views over Kendal. It would have a stainless steel memorial plaque. The purchase, installation and maintenance would be done by the family. The landowner has given her permission. The council agreed to the family's proposals subject to the Commoners having no objection (Clerk to ascertain).

06/08 Planning

a. Comments to S.L.D.C. since our last meeting were confirmed:

Lunesdale, Sedgwick Road - extra static caravans - no objection.

b. Comments of recent planning applications were agreed:

Higher House, Oxenholme Lane: conservatory - no objections

c. Decisions notified by S.L.D.C. were noted:

2 Wandales Lane, conservatory - permission granted.

Lunesdale - extra static caravans - permission granted.

Natland Park Farm - machinery store - (notice of intention to build)

d. Appeal re 7 Watercreek Farm (conservatory) - The appeal has been cancelled because of the late realisation by SLDC that the proposal is deemed "permitted development" and its refusal was therefore invalid.

e. South Lakeland LDF "Core Strategy - Issues and Options"

Copies of the response form completed by the Clerk had been circulated (no tele-conference had been needed as councillors' written comments were unanimous.) The response was confirmed, including the preference for Option 2, which identified Natland as one of several "local service centres".

f. Wayleaves, Natland. The Clerk confirmed that Michael C L Hodgson, the vending agents, had passed on to the owner our letter expressing concern about possible damage by construction traffic to the newly surfaced village hall forecourt.

Cllr Dickinson suggested that the letter also be sent to the owners' solicitors and to those of Mrs Clarke, whose orchard building plot is again advertised for sale, in order to increase the likelihood of the new owners being aware of their obligation. This was agreed.

06/09 Finance

a. Monthly Cash and Budget Statements were noted.

b. The following payments were agreed:

Lancaster Canal Trust - affiliation fee £8.00

Village Hall rental - 4 meetings £28.00

Heating village Hall £2.50

Open Spaces subscription £30.00

c. A request for donations from the Great North Air Ambulance had been circulated. A donation of £100 was agreed.

A request from Kendal Citizens' Advice Bureau for help during 2006-7 would be considered at a future meeting.

06/10 Reports

a. Church Cllr Mansfield reported on a meeting held on January 22, 2006, to review the Church's finances: a serious shortfall was predicted next year.

b. School The Clerk reported a serious parking problem last week. Some cars obstructed a bus and the police were called. The police have warned that any future "obstructive" parking outside the school could result in fines.

c. Village Hall Cllr Parnham reported that the shortfall in the cost of the new kitchen was only £250. The Quiz Night was Saturday February 11th.

d. Footpaths Cllr Outhwaite reported that the sign on Burton Road by the railway bridge was now pointing the right way.

Trailquest - the bridleway on Helm had been damaged by the mountain bike event, but no further representations would be made (the Chairman had taken some photos).

e. Highways The Clerk read a letter from Highways confirming that all recent requests: a grit bin and potholes on Helm, the damaged road sign, road surface defects, and footway defects would be dealt with. Kerbing outside The Bield would be included in the next financial year. The Nursery Gardens legend on the finger post opposite the Post Office would be done later in the year.

Councillors reported the south end of Sedgwick Road footway still requires maintenance and pavement defects on Long Meadow Lane are dangerous. The Clerk to report. Cllr Mansfield reported contractors' traffic had driven over the grass verge on Helm Lane. Serious damage is being caused by the 8.30 am bus which is mounting the kerb and leaving deep tracks in the Green opposite the church gates; a red car parks each morning close to the gates and narrows the road. The Clerk to check on the vehicle and leave a note or speak to the driver.

f. Crime Apart from the parking problem outside the school, there was nothing to report.

06/11 Correspondence (and phone calls)

a. Cumbria Constabulary had written to offer help, if needed, to our Neighbourhood Watch Scheme - letter to Neil Robinson.

b. Recycling - the village could be included this year, but a review of the cost effectiveness of the present scheme is underway and must be completed first.

c. Tim Farron MP had written asking for our meeting dates - the Chair had passed them to him.

d. A survey of visiting mobile services was awaiting a response - the library van is our only mobile service.

e. Neighbourhood Forum - a change of date was noted - next meeting 21st March at the Bryce Institute in Burneside.

06/12 Any Other Business

The Council had proposed some time ago the acquisition of 2 or 3 A-boards with the message that parking on the village green is illegal. The Clerk had brought internet information of lightweight A-boards. This is to be circulated in the blue bag. Joiner-made wooden boards are estimated at £100 each.

The Clerk mentioned that the notice board outside the village shop was requiring attention. She is on holiday February 9th-16th.

The meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

Next meeting : Monday February 27th 2006 - 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall