

NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING held in Natland Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Monday April 24th 2006

06/35 Present: Cllr Peters in the Chair, Cllrs Bowley, Dickinson, Duff, Outhwaite, and the Clerk, Mrs A Ireland.

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Mansfield and Parnham and received from District Councillor Alan Bobbett.

Four members of the public and PC Jane McInerney were present.

06/36 Public Participation

PC McInerney reported that fly posting was unlawful and therefore Colleen Harrison's concern that her removing such posters could be considered illegal, was unnecessary. The Clerk had also ascertained that there were no bye-laws traceable by the SLDC Legal Dept. with reference to fly posting in Natland.

PC McInerney was invited to give the monthly Crime Report at this point. Another crime free month with some small incidents being reported and investigated, including a traffic accident on Hawes Lane. She reminded people to be aware of garage and garden contents as Summer approaches. Motor bikes on Helm were discussed. These are a punishable offence unless given permission by the landowner. She emphasised that a new number - 0845 3300247 - should now be used when reporting incidents. The Clerk would post this on the Parish Notice Board.

06/37 The **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on 27th March 2006 (*circulated*) were agreed and signed.

06/38 Matters arising (not covered by the agenda)

a. Sedgwick Road footway - The Children's Society had written to Cumbria Highways to ask that they trim the boundary hedge next to the road. The Clerk read a letter from Mr Horridge of Cumbria Highways stating that the footway is not formally adopted and that he has asked Russell Armer (the developer) to cut the hedge. A long-term solution is still not clear - the Clerk to continue to press.

b. The taxi business on Long Meadow Lane: Cllr Dickinson had spoken to Dave Pilkington of SLDC who would review the log when two months have elapsed and decide on further action.

c. Parish Notice Board - a volunteer was needed to maintain the box as advised by Mr Charnley.

06/39 Implementation of the Parish Plan

a. Spring Litter Hunt - This had been a successful and effective exercise. The Chair proposed that it become an annual event; this was agreed unanimously. The Chair hoped that

the Litter Working Group would continue to function (both reps from the Parish Council were absent). People were encouraged to use the Litter Hotline..

b. Village Green parking A boards. One was available for councillors to view. The facility to hold A2 posters was considered very useful. Storage at Church still to be finalised. The Council approved the spending of £360+ £63 VAT for the four A boards.

c. Working Groups - The Chair reported that the Helm Working Group was awaiting the result of the Commons Bill and also access arrangements for the Right to Roam on the two parcels of land adjacent to Helm. The Council has sent its proposals to the Highway Authority and negotiations with landowners could begin in late Spring / early Summer. The Group will meet again in October.

06/40_ Review of the Parish Plan

a. Parish Council Web site: A paper from Don Shore on behalf of the group of volunteers considering the future of the website, had been circulated. This contains an interim set of proposals.

There was concern that the Open Forum could produce problematic material. Don explained a two tier entry system. Bona fide parishioners with a registered e-mail address could be given a password - all other entries would be through a moderator.

The Site would become broader and less dominated by Natland Parish Council business. It was hoped that there would still be space for an increase in Parish Council information.

Don explained that a .pdf file is like a photographic reproduction of a document making it difficult to alter and therefore much more secure.

Councillors' e-mail addresses were discussed - these would not be their private e-mail addresses.

The strap line would be reconsidered as some councillors were not comfortable with "with its heart of green".

Don requested an opportunity to show the councillors an on-screen version of the proposed web site. Cllr Duff offered to host such a meeting when the revised version was ready; this would be open to all councillors who wished to be present.

The Council confirmed that it was content with the broad recommendations in the paper. Don and his group were thanked. They will present a detailed prototype, with costings, for approval in due course.

06/41 Annual Parish Meeting - Wednesday May 3rd, 2006.

Final arrangements were agreed including the new seating arrangements, curved rows along the length of the Hall. Councillors were encouraged to help set out the Hall from 7 pm.

06/42 Planning

a. Comments on recent planning applications were agreed:

- extension to The Bungalow, Watercrock - no objections.

- extension to Higher House Farm - recommend refusal on the grounds that this is a poor design with a fibreglass roof not in keeping with the 16th century building, therefore the proposed design would be un-neighbourly and obtrusive.

b. - It was noted that Lewis Horn has started work at The Orchard and the corner of the wall has been removed to allow vehicular access for deliveries (this area belongs to United Utilities and is leased to the Village Hall Committee). The Clerk and the Chair confirmed that

Mr. Horn had told them that the limestone gate post and the wall will be reinstated. The Clerk to check with Planning that the Council's recent concern about the access layout has been understood. It is anticipated that at least two services will need to be laid under the Village Hall access area.

- "Wayleaves" - this appears to have been sold recently - the Clerk to continue to attempt to contact the new owners' solicitors to gain reassurances about the restoration of any damage to Village Hall access area during alterations.

06/43 Finance - Annual Return for year ended 31st March 2006

a. Statement of Accounts (based on interim accounts sent to each household) - this was already signed by the Clerk (the Responsible Financial Officer). The Council authorized the Chair to sign.

b. Statement of Assurance (*circulated*). The Chair was authorized to sign. The Clerk also signed.

The Chair pointed out that the completion date for this Annual Return was three weeks earlier than last year. The Clerk had complained to C.A.L.C. who reported being overwhelmed by complaints from Parish Councils. They would be sending a letter of protest.

06/44 Finance - routine

a. Monthly Cash and Budget Statements (*circulated*) were noted.

b. The following payments were agreed:

Village Hall rental	£28.00	
Windermere St Anne's School (photocopying Annual Meeting)		£6.00
Natland PCC (photocopying Annual Meeting)	£36.00	
Aztec Signs for 4 A boards	£423.00	
J R Nelson - grass cutting x 1	£105.00	

It was noted that Mr. Nelson's bill included a note complaining about dog dirt on the grass at the entrance to the village from the north. He was able to identify the offending owner. The Clerk had also been informed about a dog allowed to run free on the grass.

S.L.D.C. is unable to supply any notices or stickers (lack of finance). The Clerk to write to the dog owner requesting that the dog be exercised on a lead and that any deposits be removed.

06/45 Reports

a. Church - no report.

b. School - Cllr Duff spoke of the certainty of an OFSTED inspection during the Summer Term. A new, very modern, photocopier was to be delivered to school. The School Kitchen is in negotiation with Heversham and Milnthorpe Primary Schools to start supplying their school lunches. The next Governors' Meeting is on Wednesday 26th April, when Cllr Outhwaite becomes a Governor.

c. Village Hall Cllr. Peters reported a profit of £444 from the Art Exhibition and Sale. He would take an A-board to the next meeting. The A.G.M. will be on Monday May 8th. The Clerk added that more gardens are needed for the Open Gardens weekend.

d. Footpaths It was reported that the stile on the old canal bank entering Larkrigg Wood required attention.

e. Highways Cllr Bowley again spoke of the crooked 30 mph sign at the top of Oxenholme Lane. Potentially dangerous pot holes had appeared along the edge of the

