

## NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING held in Natland Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Monday May 22nd 2006

**06/47 Election of Chair** Councillor David Peters was elected and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**06/48 Election of Vice Chair** Councillor Outhwaite was elected.

**06/49 Present:** Cllr Peters in the Chair, Cllrs Bowley, Dickinson, Mansfield, Outhwaite, Parnham and the Clerk, Mrs A Ireland.

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Duff (away working)

Two members of the public were present and District Councillor Brenda Gray.

**06/50 Appointment of Officers etc.**

The following appointments were agreed:

Highwayman Cllr Mansfield (Cllr Bowley thanked for her previous work)

Footpath Officer Cllr Dickinson (Cllr Outhwaite thanked for her previous work)

Village Hall Committee Rep Cllr Parnham

Kendal & District Bus Users Rep Cllr Parnham

School Reporter Cllr Duff - (Cllr Outhwaite to deputize)

Church Reporter Cllr Mansfield

**06/51** The **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on 24th April 2006 (*circulated*) had omitted an item:

“The inaugural A.G.M. of the Kendal and District Bus Users was to be held on Tuesday April 25th; the Council agreed to take out a £10 Corporate Membership. Cllr Parnham had expressed an interest in attending; in her absence the Clerk would attend.”

With this noted, the Minutes were agreed and signed.

**06/52 Matters arising** (not covered by the agenda)

a. Sedgwick Road footway - No progress. A site meeting of all parties is still required. The Clerk to speak to County Councillor Alan Bobbett..

b. The taxi business on Long Meadow Lane: Cllr Dickinson reported that Dave Pilkington of SLDC will write to the Council when they have investigated the legal position in relation to the keeping of a minibus on domestic premises.

c. Parish Notice Board - it was agreed that a notice should be posted asking for a volunteer to re-varnish the notice board - the Council to supply all materials.

d. Dog Fouling - a response was read from the recipient of our letter of complaint. The Clerk to respond appropriately.

**06/53 Implementation of the Parish Plan**

a. Village Green parking A boards. are now stored at the back of the Church with the agreement of Canon Tim Evans.

b. The Chair hoped the Litter Group would continue to make a contribution; Cllr Parnham will talk to them.

#### **06/54\_Review of the Parish Plan**

a. Parish Council Web site: Don Shore and his group will arrange a viewing at Cllr Duff's home when the web site is ready - this will be in time to allow the Group's proposals to be discussed at the June meeting. The present domain name is due for renewal; Stan O'Connor is seeking a better deal than £99.99 for two years. The name could be discussed at the viewing evening (.gov.uk gives the Parish Council control).

b. Recommendations from the Review - the following were agreed:

- Footway lighting - Cllr Duff to be consulted with a view to asking SLDC's footway lighting design service to provide the Council with a costed scheme for extra footway lighting at the top of Oxenholme Lane. Cllr Bowley recalled that a power supply has already been provided to the telegraph pole outside "Copper Coins"

- Kerbing policy - to continue

- Parking working group - the Clerk would ask the two other members if they wished to disband.

- Pub working group - to be thanked and disbanded.

- Council's performance - to note the comments (some adverse) and try to improve.

#### **06/55 Review of Annual Parish Meeting - May 3rd, 2006.**

a. The organisation of the meeting with the new seating arrangement had been satisfactory. Production and delivery of Annual Report and papers had been on time.

b. Draft Minutes to be available for discussion at the June meeting, after which they should be published on the web site and in the shop porch and again a month before the 2007 Parish Meeting. They would include a covering request for any comments on the accuracy of the Draft Minutes to be sent to the Clerk.

c. The following Resolution from the Parish Meeting was considered:

"That the Parish Council should rescind its policy of requesting the County Council to provide a footway/cycleway along Natland Road, and should instead concentrate on obtaining a footpath."

The Parish Meeting had also supported the idea of a foot / cycle path in the fields east of Natland Road, along the back of the wall and replacing the existing footpath. Cllrs Outhwaite and Parnham would approach Mr Gardner and Mr Hayhurst, the farmers owning the relevant fields.

Speed monitoring along Natland Road is due to take place in June/July; the resulting advice will help the Council to decide whether a 40 mph limit is desirable. Both these matters could affect the footway / cycleway question.

Further consideration of the Resolution was therefore deferred until more information is available.

#### **06/56 Planning**

a. Comments to SLDC on the following recent planning applications were agreed:

- Removal of a chimney at Appletree - no objection.
- Dwelling on the Wayleaves garden plot - (*There was a ten minute adjournment for a site visit.*)

The Clerk to write requesting refusal on the following grounds:

- (i) This is over intensive use of a small site which is detrimental to the character and appearance of the village.
- (ii) There appear to be completely inadequate parking arrangements for this house and for Wayleaves itself whose previously agreed parking arrangements (SL/05/1136) will be considerably reduced by this new application. This could cause overspill parking on the Village Hall access area, a much needed parking area for Village Hall users. Such parking would be highly contentious and difficult to control.
- (iii) The Council expressed concern that there would be additional traffic over the Village Hall access area, recently resurfaced by the Parish Council at a cost of over £7,000.
- (iv) The Clerk would also question the veracity of the applicants' statement that no trees would be removed. It appears that trees have been removed from the Wayleaves bungalow site.

The Chair and the Clerk had heard that United Utilities intend to install an electricity sub-station by the Village Hall and connect it by underground cable to the Abbey Drive sub-station. The Clerk will write to United Utilities asking what they propose and advising them that the Parish Council has the management of the Village Green and an interest in the Village Hall access area and should be approached in the first instance to agree any work and reinstatement.

- b. The following decisions by SLDC were noted:
  - Extensions at the Bungalow, Watercrock - permission granted.
  - Dwelling on land adjacent to The Orchard - approved with conditions (more detailed plan of access to be submitted for further approval).

#### **06/57 Finance**

- a. Monthly Cash and Budget Statements (*circulated*) were noted.
- b. The following payments were agreed:
  - Kendal and District Bus Users - annual subscription £10.00
  - J R Nelson - grass cutting No. 2 £105.00
  - Allianz Cornhill - Insurance Premium June 2006-07 £425.47
- c. Requests for donations from The Open Spaces Society and the 'Pride of Cumbria' Air Ambulance will be circulated in the blue bag.
- d. The Annual Return had been approved by the Audit Commission and returned. The Clerk to post the appropriate notice for two weeks.

#### **06/58 Reports**

- a. Church - Cllr Mansfield reminded the Council of the forthcoming Church Garden Fete on June 17th
- b. School - The Clerk reported that School numbers will rise from 150 to 164 in September; the School Garden Fete last weekend raised £1,500; and seven staff appointments were needed for September .

