

# NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Council Meeting Held in Natland Village Hall At 7.30pm on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2008

### 08/01 Present:

Cllr Peters in the Chair, Cllrs Dickinson, Jackson, Mansfield, Outhwaite and Parnham, District Councillor B Gray, three members of the public and the Clerk Mr K M Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr Bowley and the Police representative.

### 08/02 Public participation:

- a. Cracalt Lane. The Council was informed that there is a footpath notice here, whereas it is a bridleway.
- b. Review of procedure for public participation. It was unanimously resolved that each member of the public wishing to participate should be allowed a maximum of five minutes to speak (previously two minutes) and that the total time allowed for public participation should be 30 minutes (previously 20 minutes).

### 08/03 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> November 2007 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

### 08/04 Matters arising:

- a. 07/48 and 07/134. Taxi business operating on Long Meadow Lane. The Clerk reported on recent correspondence with SLDC, who were investigating. Further reports had since been received of a taxi and minibus causing congestion over the recent holiday period. District Councillor B Gray had received telephone calls from members of the public and the Police had been involved. Councillor Gray agreed to contact the Enforcement Officer to ascertain what action was being taken.
- b. 07/51, 07/64, 07/78, 07/92, 07/108, and 07/121. Litter bin on the road over Helm. Nothing further had been heard from SLDC and it was resolved to remove this item from future agendas.
- c. 07/124. Dog fouling. The Chair reported that he was waiting for work to be completed on the path by the railway line before erecting the dog fouling notices.
- d. 07/136 Helm Open Day. There had been an enquiry about the possibility of holding orienteering events on the fell. The Chair had requested that the Parish Council be kept informed of any proposals.
- e. 07/87, 07/92, 07/102 and 07/121. CCC Highways. The Council still awaits a reply from Nick Raymond. The Clerk had followed this up several times and had today been promised an early reply.

### **08/05 Bus shelter on A65 opposite Oxenholme Lane:**

CLlr Outhwaite reported on her recent investigations. She had spoken to families whose children use the bus service and the general feeling was that a bus shelter would help reduce the danger presently experienced at this junction. A letter from Midge Fairhurst was read, expressing an opposite view, feeling that a bus shelter at this location would be intrusive in such an open position. After discussion it was resolved that Cllr Outhwaite would continue her enquiries into the possibility of using the Helm Lane lay-by instead for a bus stop and shelter.

### **08/06 Natland Spring Litter Hunt 2008:**

A plan had been circulated to Councillors by the Chair and Cllr Parnham and this was agreed upon. This will take place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March, in two sessions, from 10am to 12 noon and from 2 to 4pm. The Village Hall foyer and toilets have been booked.

### **08/07 Parish Council's metal shed behind Village Hall:**

After discussion, it was agreed the Council has no use for this structure and therefore relinquishes any further claim upon it.

### **08/08 Parking on the Village Green:**

A letter had been circulated from Mr and Mrs D Gaulton expressing concerns and highlighting problems connected with parking on the Village Green. Councillors agreed with these concerns and those expressed by other residents about the increasing damage being caused to the village green, usually as a result of illegal or inconsiderate parking. It is illegal to drive on to any part of the green, which includes all the surrounding verges. Demand for parking at the village hall, church or school causes other vehicles to drive over the green to get past. It was resolved that the Council would take up most of the suggestions contained in the letter:

- publicising the issue on the website and notice board;
- drawing the attention of the School, Church and Village Hall bodies to the growing problem, including requesting better communication with parents, churchgoers and hall users, and more consistent use of the "no parking" A-boards (stored just inside the church) during events;
- placing appropriate notices on the windscreens of offending drivers and recording the incidents.

### **08/09 Planning:**

- a. *The Council confirmed the following comments made to SLDC on recent planning applications:*

SL/2007/1341 Tann Hills, Oxenholme Lane. Conservatory. No objection.

*b. The following applications were considered and recommendations made:*

SL/2007/1427 Natland Park Farm. Extension to opening season of existing caravan site. No objection.

SL/2007/1431 Natland Park Farm. Change of use of land to form sites for caravans, motor homes and camping for period 1<sup>st</sup> March to 25<sup>th</sup> January. This is to be circulated to Councillors before a decision is formulated.

SL/2007/1358 Stone Gables, Newlands. Change of use of land to garden and erection of double garage. No objection.

*c. The following decisions made by SLDC had been notified to the Council:*

SL/2007/1185 Pentlands, Oxenholme Lane. Extension to form double garage. Granted.

SL/2007/1314 Highfield Lodge, Barrows Green. Single storey extension and change of detached equipment store to garage and store. Granted.

SL/2007/1315 5 Highfield Hall, Barrows Green. Front porch. Granted.

SL/2007/1341 Tann Hills, Oxenholme Lane. Conservatory. Granted.

d. The Clerk reported on recent contact with SLDC Planning concerning Yew Lodge, Helm Lane (SL/2006/0122). There had been no breach of planning permission at this point and the situation would be monitored by SLDC as the work reached completion.

**08/10 Finance:**

a. The monthly cash and budget statements were received.

b. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Broken Windows £47.00 for two years' registration of domain name.

Natland and Oxenholme Village Hall £21.00 for hire of hall

**08/11 Reports:**

a. Church. Cllr Mansfield reported that there would be a Songs of Praise Service on 6<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm. On 5<sup>th</sup> April there was to be a Jumble Sale and on 19<sup>th</sup> April a walk around the five parishes.

b. School. Cllr Outhwaite reported that a new teaching assistant had been appointed and the Easter Play Scheme had been planned. The school was very popular.

c. Village Hall. Cllr Parnham reported that there was to be a quiz night the following Saturday.

d. Footpaths. Cllr Dickinson reported on the recent incident (21<sup>st</sup> January) on the canal footpath where a resident had been badly bitten by a dog. It was resolved that the Council asks the Police what action is being taken on this matter.

- e. Highways. Cllr Mansfield reported that the highways team had visited Natland on 7<sup>th</sup> January. Some of the road defects had been repaired but it was felt this was done rather crudely. Further details of roads requiring attention were passed to Cllr Mansfield who agreed to make a further report and the Council thanked her for performing this task.
- f. Police. The Police representative had reported that there had been little crime in the area in recent weeks. As the staffing levels at Milnthorpe are poor it was not possible at present to send a representative to the Parish Council meetings.

**08/12 Correspondence:**

- a. A letter from Ingrid Beattie was read concerning flooding and the amount of water flowing down Oxenholme Lane and the entrance to Holmes' Growing Fields. It was resolved that the Council contact Nick Raymond and request a site visit with a technician under the Highwayman Scheme to consider maintenance and drainage problems.
- b. The Chair was to attend the Steering Group meeting of the Lancaster Canal Restoration Partnership on 28<sup>th</sup> February.

**08/13 Any other business:**

- a. It was noted the 'Welcome to Natland' leaflet is now out of date and inaccurate.
- b. The Clerk will again write to Network Rail about the leaking railway bridge on Helm Lane.
- c. It was resolved to consider if there is a need for allotments in the parish at the next Council meeting.

*The meeting closed at 9.45pm.*

*The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008 in the Village Hall.*

*Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair*

*Dated:*