

NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting Held in Natland Village Hall At 7.30pm on Monday 17th March 2008

08/28 Present:

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

08/29 Public participation:

None.

08/30 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 25th February 2008 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

08/31 Matters arising:

- a. 07/48, 07/134, 08/04 and 08/17 Taxi business operating on Long Meadow Lane. Cllr Dickinson reported his recent contact with Mark Balderson of SLDC. There was not much progress at present but it was noted that a minibus is still parked there.
- b. 07/87, 07/92, 07/102, 07/121, 08/04, and 08/17 CCC Highways. The Clerk reported that he was still awaiting a reply from Nick Raymond, but because of the short period since the last Parish Council meeting, this was not surprising.
- c. 08/13 (b) and 08/17. Helm Lane railway bridge. A report on the recent inspection of this structure is still awaited from Network Rail.
- d. 08/11 (d) and 08/17 Dog-biting incident. A reply is still awaited from the Police concerning this.

08/32 Allotments in Natland:

Cllr Jackson reported on the recent survey carried out to ascertain if there is a need for allotments in Natland. 12 electors have indicated their interest. A detailed report will be considered by the Council next month; in the meantime this is to be circulated to Councillors via the 'blue bag'. The Clerk reported he had recently completed a survey from CALC on allotments.

08/33 Bus shelter on A65 opposite Oxenholme Lane:

The Clerk reported that the application for this is now finalised and will be submitted to CCC.

08/34 Natland Spring Litter Hunt 2008:

The fliers announcing this event, to be held on Saturday 29th March, have been distributed, and the Chair has requested the supply of the necessary equipment from SLDC. All publicity has been completed and it is hoped there will be an announcement in 'The Westmorland Gazette'.

08/35 Dog fouling on the Village Green:

Comment has been made on this matter in the Annual Report and it was resolved to take no further action at present and assess what effect the Council's comments have on alleviating the problem.

08/36 Annual Parish Meeting:

The draft Annual Report which had been circulated to Councillors was discussed and adjustments made. It was agreed to remove references to the Canal as it had not featured on the Council's agenda. The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th April at 7.30pm. The Clerk agreed to finalise the Annual Accounts by 31st March and the Annual Report and Interim Accounts will be photocopied at the school if possible.

08/37 Planning:

There were no comments to confirm or to be formulated, nor were there any decisions notified to the Council by SLDC during the past three weeks.

08/38 Finance:

- a. The monthly cash and budget statements were received.
- b. *It was resolved to pay the following account:*
Cllr D Peters £26.87 for Chair's expenses.

08/39 Reports:

- a. Church. Cllr Mansfield reported that there is to be a Songs of Praise Service on the Village Green on 6th July and the Council are invited to attend.
- b. School. The Chair reported on the recent success in the Cross Country Under 10 boys race at Elleray by Nicholas Carlton.
- c. Village Hall. It was reported that the Art Exhibition on 8/9th March had been a great success and had raised £588 for Village Hall funds.
- d. Footpaths. Cllr Dickinson reported that further trees had been cut down on the footpath by the railway line.

- e. Highways. Cllr Mansfield reported on the frustration experienced in trying to get highways matters attended to. Some of the problems had also been posted on the cyclists' website. It was agreed that, in future, the Council would copy all highways defects reports to County Councillor A Bobbett.

08/40 Correspondence:

The Clerk reported that there would be a CALC Conference on 29th March at Newton Rigg. As this date clashes with the Natland Annual Spring Litter Hunt, no Councillors are available to attend.

08/41 Any other business:

- a. The Chair reported that there would shortly be the following matters to discuss:
 - i. *Canal restoration*
 - ii. *CALC Planning advice*
 - iii. *Local Development Framework*
- b. Parish Council Elections are to be held on 1st May. Cllr Dickinson indicated he would not be seeking re-election. The Clerk had not yet been notified by SLDC of the Election timetable.
- c. The consultation on the proposed Post Office closures is due to take place from 18th March to 27th May.
- d. The Chair read a letter he had received from Mrs B N Toft, requesting that the Council consider kerbing on the south side of Helm Lane between The Anchorage and the Village Green. He had replied declining this request as the matter had already been discussed by the Council as recently as 2006 and it had been agreed not to support the request.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 28th April 2008 in the Village Hall.

Signed _____ Chair

Dated: