

NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting Held in Natland Village Hall At 7.30pm on Monday 28th April 2008

08/42 Present:

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

08/43 Public participation:

None.

08/44 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 17th March 2008 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

08/45 Matters arising:

- a. 07/48, 07/134, 08/04, 08/17 and 08/31 Taxi business operating on Long Meadow Lane. Cllr Dickinson reported that he had met Mark Balderson of SLDC and handed to him a photograph taken on site on 14th April, which showed the proliferation of vehicles outside this property. The Council awaits action by SLDC.
- b. 07/87, 07/92, 07/102, 07/121, 08/04, 08/17, and 08/31 CCC Highways. The Clerk reported his latest efforts, again without success, to obtain a reply from Nick Raymond.
- c. 08/13, 08/17, and 08/31 Helm Lane railway bridge. The Clerk reported on the recent inspection by Network Rail. They would monitor the condition of the structure but did not intend at present to put any repairs in hand.
- d. 08/11, 08/17, and 08/31 Dog-biting incident. The Clerk reported on the reply he had received from the Police concerning this. The reply had indicated the dog was out of control and would be muzzled. A further report, however, alleged that the dog was to be destroyed after the lambing season, and it was agreed to ask the Police for clarification. In the meantime, residents are warned to be vigilant.
- e. Appletree School/Treatment Centre. Following the appearance in the local press of an advertisement for a member of staff at this establishment, concern was expressed that the age range of children there had been stated as 'secondary'. The Clerk was making enquiries to ascertain what ages were catered for, in the light of previous assurances given, and asking that the Parish Council be consulted should there be any change.
- f. 08/34 Spring Litter Hunt. This had been held on 29th March, when 28 people braved the weather to take part in what was a most successful day. A full report can be viewed on the website.

- g. 08/41 Consultation on proposed Post Office closures. This is now in progress until 27th May. Natland Post Office is not scheduled for closure but in order to retain the Post Office and shop more use needs to be made of them.

.08/46 Allotments in Natland:

The report from Cllr Jackson had been circulated in the 'blue bag' and the Chair and Clerk had received a further update. It was resolved to defer the matter until a later meeting, when the way forward will be considered. The Council favoured the setting up of a working party of those interested.

08/47 Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 29th April 2008:

Final arrangements for this meeting to be held on the following evening were discussed and put in hand.

08/48 Parish Council Elections 2008:

A contested election was not required in Natland Parish. Mr John Chandler had been nominated and will replace Cllr Dickinson, who did not stand for re-election. The Council is therefore complete. Expenses claims forms were submitted to the Clerk for onward transmission.

08/49 Natland Community Website Team Meeting:

The report from the team was welcomed and discussed. It was resolved to make the 'Welcome to Natland' leaflet an agenda item for the June meeting of the Parish Council.

08/50 Planning:

- a. There were no comments sent to SLDC since the last meeting to confirm.
- b. There were no decisions from SLDC to be noted.
- c. Two new planning applications were discussed:

SL/2008/0173 Millennium House, Natland.. Retention of building as a separate dwelling. Cllr Parnham agreed to circulate this.

SL/2008/0392 Helme Park, Helm Lane, Natland. Single storey extension. The Chair agreed to consult neighbours.

- d. The proposed new storage shed to replace the Council's metal shed behind the Village Hall was discussed. It was resolved the Parish Council would, subject to acceptance by the Village Hall Management Committee:
 1. Submit the planning application
 2. Provide the shed with funding from the Village Hall Management Committee.
 3. Contribute £100 towards the project.

The business of the Council was adjourned to allow members of the public present to speak,

(The Chair and Cllr Parnham declared a prejudicial interest in this item and left the room whilst a decision was taken).

The business of the Council was resumed.

08/51 Finance:

a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

Allianz £452.36 for insurance premium
 CALC £178.50 for subscriptions
 Natland and Oxenholme Village Hall Management Committee £21.00 for hire of hall.
 Lancaster Canal Trust £8.00 for membership subscription.
 J R Nelson £105.00 for grasscutting – No 1
 Cumbria Playing Fields Association £15.50 for subscription.

b. The monthly cash and budget statements were deferred until next month.

c. *Annual Return:*

- 1 The Statement of Receipts and Payments(circulated in the Annual Report) were approved.
- 2 The Statement of Accounts was signed by the Chair and the Clerk.
- 3 The system of Internal Audit was reviewed and deemed satisfactory.
- 4 The Annual Governance Statement was signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

08/52 Reports:

- a. Church. Cllr Mansfield gave a brief report. Christian Aid week is 11th to 17th May.
- b. School. Cllr Outhwaite reported that the breakfast club is now running and a good link with Appletree has been established. The holiday play scheme functioned during the Easter break. Writing workshops had been held and an author/illustrator visit had met with two classes.
- c. Village Hall. Cllr Parnham notified the Council that the flower show is to be held on 19th July 2008. £571 was raised by the recent Art Show.
- d. Highways. Cllr Mansfield reported on a degree of success in getting work done, after involving County Councillor Bobbett.
- e. Footpaths. Cllr Dickinson reported that the footpath by the railway line has not been touched since the last meeting.

08/53 Correspondence:

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from Russell Armer, offering the Council the sum of £2,500 to deal with the maintenance of the Sedgwick Road footway for the next 25 years. It was resolved to acknowledge the letter but to state that the Council understood that CCC has taken responsibility for the footway and a reply is awaited from them as to how they propose to make it safe. It was agreed to make this an agenda item for the May meeting.

08/54 Any other business:

- a. Fly-tipping on Helm Lane. The Chair has contacted SLDC.
- b. Cllr Parnham gave notice of the AGM of the Village Hall on Wednesday 30th April at 7.30pm.
- c. The Chair thanked Cllr Dickinson for his input to the Parish Council over the past two years, especially his work with footpaths.
- d. SLDC Core Strategy Preferred Options. It was noted that Parish Councils have not received a copy of this document; only the details of where it can be viewed. It was resolved to make this an agenda item for the May meeting, so that the Council can form a collective view. A motion is on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting on 29th April.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 19th May 2008 in the Village Hall.

Signed _____ *Chair*

Dated: