

**MINUTES OF 267th MEETING OF ASKAM AND IRELETH PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER IN THE RANKIN HALL, DUKE STREET, ASKAM**

**Present:** Members of the Parish Cllr Harry Barker, Bill Wilson Vice Chairman, Sandra Hadwick, Mike Cumming and Steven Smalley also present: Clerk Janice Cumming; Borough Cllrs Barry Doughty and Denis Bell, PCSO Louise Johns and 2 members of the public

**1/12/14: DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None

**2/12/14: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Parish Cllr David Knight and Alan Mason, Borough Councillor Ann Thurlow.

**3/12/14: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**3.12.14.1:** A number of residents and land owners have made representation to the parish council regarding their concerns about the proposed route of the pylons planned by National Grid. Some landowners have been visited by National Grid's agents asking them to sign if they would be prepared to sign an agreement to allow the new pylons to be sited on their land. They explained to the parish council the favoured route and this was a surprise to the parish council, who had not been consulted as a parish council. Some members of the parish council had attended the consultation event in Askam, but felt that the full extent of the route had not been fully explained to them, in fact quite the opposite. They had been told that the new route would follow the route of the existing pylons. This seems not to be the case and it would seem that the proposed, much larger pylons, would be closer to homes in Ireleth and have an enormous visual impact on the village. The parish council will contact National Grid immediately with these concerns.

**4/12/14: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2014**

These were agreed as a true and accurate record and duly signed and dated by the Chairman.

**Proposed Cllr Harry Barker**

**Seconded Cllr Bill Wilson**

**Agreed**

**5/12/14: PROGRESS REPORT FROM ACTION ITEMS**

**5/12/14/1: Broadband.** Cllr Cumming reported that the ducting at the crossing on A595 had not been done, and BT reported that it was not related to the Broadband anyway. Ireleth is definitely off the Commercial Roll-out programme and BT are providing the Parish Council with costs to look at possible cost sharing. They have also been asked to look at costs to enable Greenscoe for Broadband. Ongoing

**5/12/14/2: Ramp at Whinfield Place.** The Clerk has spoken to the Housing Department at Barrow BC and they will look at the area. They were most helpful and thanked the parish council and Mrs King for pointing out this issue. Closed

**5/12/14/3: Sign for Greenscoe Quarry.** PCSO Johns has received no response from Highways, which is disappointing. The suggestion is that a sign is purchased and erected by the parish council with permission of the residents of Greenscoe Action Clerk

**5/12/14/4: Damage to Street Light Columns near Ireleth Church.** The columns have been renewed and now need the lamps fitting. The limited parking sign outside the Co-Op will be replaced by Highways in the next few weeks. Ongoing

**5/12/14/5: Sellafield Parking.** Cllr Cumming had written to the CEO of The Energy Coast asking for possible financial support in creating a car park for workers in the Energy Coast. Initially a negative response in that Askam is outside the boundaries (ends at Millom). However the PC has asked to consider Askam as a special case given that the village is used as a parking lot for the workers travelling to the Energy Coast Projects. Ongoing

**5/12/14/8: Public Toilet Area.** Cllr Cumming reported that the tenders for demolition had been sent out with a response date of the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2014.

Ongoing

**5/12/14/9:** Hedge on Lots Road. Highways had cut the hedges on the Lots Road and were to be complimented on doing a good job

Closed

#### **6/12/14: TO REPORT AND DISCUSS ANY PLANNING ISSUES**

B18/2014/0793 – Resubmission of planning permission B18/2014/0470 Creation of a field access track to include feed area for livestock and agricultural/kennel building to replace partial side clad/block with all block walls, to allow internal fixing and to improve external sound proofing of the building at Far Old Park, Ireleth Brow, Ireleth.

No objections have been received or expressed from the floor or by the parish council.

6/14/9007 – Resubmission of application for wind turbine at Bennett Bank, Hawthwaite Lane. Height of turbine has been reduced from 75mtrs to 61mtrs. The parish council object to this development and believe the turbine is still too high and their original objections still stand. Clerk to respond.

#### **7/12/14: REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE - PCSO LOUISE JOHNS**

There were 3 reports of anti-social behaviour, none youth related. 2 reports of harassment and 1 incident relating to a taxi fare. 1 report of damage to a vehicle. An incident regarding damage to a caravan on John Street was being dealt with during the Police Community Resolution Scheme. No reports of theft or drugs. Police Speed checks were being carried out on Ireleth Road and the SID would be deployed in the village to remind people that Askam village is 20 mph speed zone. The new Laser Speed Gun will also be deployed around the parish.

#### **8/12/14: CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET CONSULTATION**

The parish council discussed the consultation document and agreed that it was almost impossible to comment when the document only showed the cuts they were proposing to make and no details of the overall budget. The idea of a Unit ary Council is one the parish council feel the County should seriously consider as it could save between 16 and 22 million pounds which could mean that some of the cuts they are proposing need not go ahead i.e. Children Services and Adult Social Care, which are extremely important as well as the Highway budget which the parish council felt was of immense importance to the County. The Clerk was asked to respond.

**Proposed Cllr Mike Cumming**

**Seconded Cllr Steve Smalley**

**Agreed**

#### **9/12/14: PARISH POLLS**

Cllr Cumming gave a report on a CALC circular on proposed changes to the way parish Polls can be raised. It was agreed that a response supporting these changes be sent to CALC.

**Agreed**

#### **10/12/14: CHRISTMAS STORY TIME AT ASKAM LIBRARY**

Cllr Steve Smalley gave an update on the event which he is organising with Karen Allanson, our Saturday librarian. The event will take place on Tuesday 23 December between 6 and 8pm in the library. There will be guest story tellers, refreshments for the children and adults. It was agreed that an amount of £100.00 would be allocated, as this event would be to promote and showcase the library and hopefully get more library users.

**Proposed Cllr Bill Wilson**

**Seconded Cllr Mike Cumming**

**Agreed**

#### **11/12/14: REMOVAL OF HISTORICAL BUILDING RUBBLE FROM ASKAM BEACH**

Members of the parish council visited the beach to have a good look at the area. Cllr Barker came up with some good suggestions and Cllr Cumming offered to draw up a plan. This could be then discussed with relevant land owners and Natural England. Cllr Bill Wilson offered to carry out a Risk Assessment.

Ongoing

#### **12/12/14: UPDATE FROM BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Doughty said he was working with Cumbria Highways on issues around the parish including Moor Road and the public footpath on Saves Lane. The work on Dalton Road had been completed and it was hoped that this would be successful with issues of road safety and flooding to some homes on Dalton Road.

**13/12/14: REPORT FROM CLERK (INCLUDING FINANCES)**

The monthly expenditure sheet was made available to all parish councillors.

**Proposed Cllr Bill Wilson**

**Seconded Cllr Steve Smalley**

**Agreed**

**14/12/14: CORRESPONDENCE (to check appendix of items)**

**14/12/14/1:** Grant form completed and return from Askam Village School for help with funding for their new school playground surface. This was discussed and it was agreed to fund £1,000.00 from S137 Grants.

**Proposed Cllr Mike Cumming**

**Seconded Cllr Harry Barker**

**Agreed**

**14/12/14/2:** Correspondence received from Millom TC regarding joining a committee to lobby to provide a bridge to cross the Duddon Estuary. The parish council are in agreement that this would be a very worthwhile scheme, but felt that funding would be a major stumbling block. They felt that a good media for these discussions would be at the Duddon Estuary Partnership meetings and ask the Clerk to respond.

**15/12/14: SANCTIONS FOR PAYMENT**

Redsyke Ground Care and Landscaping laying concrete bases and fitting seats, removing turf, supplying and laying blue slate, tree work at the Memorial Garden £860.00, copying paper £5.00, Files £7.49, 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps £6.36, ink cartridges £28.73, Rankin Hall Rental Youth Project Work and Parish Council Meetings from July to December £305.00.

**16/12/14: CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON**

The Chairman said he would like to thank Askam and Ireth Events Committee and Duddon Inshore Rescue for the event which took place on Sunday 7 December. Everyone agreed it was a wonderful afternoon and very well attended and the fireworks were a spectacular end to the afternoon. He also thanked Barrow BC for providing the tree and fixing the lights. For a relative small village, the Chairman said he thought it was a wonderful event and that 'it did the village proud'.

**17/12/14: DATE, PLACE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 20 January 2015, Rankin Hall, Duke Street at 7.15 pm**

**The Chairman closed the meeting by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**

Signed ..... Dated .....