

MINUTES OF 276th MEETING OF ASKAM AND IRELETH PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON 20 OCTOBER 2015 IN THE RANKIN HALL, DUKE STREET, ASKAM IN FURNESS

Present: Members of the Parish Council; Cllr Alan Mason, Denise Wilson, Sandra Hadwick, David Knight, Mike Cumming and Steven Smalley also present: Clerk Janice Cumming; County Councillor Barry Doughty; In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Cllr Mike Cumming chaired the meeting.

Cllr Alan Mason began the meeting by informing the parish council that he had represented the parish council at the funeral of Mrs Hazel Thompson, Mrs Thompson (nee Thackeray) had been a valued member of the parish council. The parish council thanked Cllr Mason.

1/10/15: DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Cllr Cumming item 15/10/15/1 Drop Zone.

2/10/15: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Parish Cllr Harry Barker and Bill Wilson; PCSO Louise Johns and Borough Councillor Ann Thurlow.

3/10/15: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions. A member of the public had contacted the Clerk regarding poor street lighting in Furnace Place. It was agreed that there is a lack of street lighting in this area and the parish council asked the Clerk to contact Cumbria County Council Highways, who are responsible for street lighting. *Action Clerk*

Concerns were expressed regarding the tree branches over-hanging the pavement near the Rankin Hall. These branches are head height and quite dangerous, especially in the dark evenings. As an emergency measure the parish council will arrange to have these branches cut back as per regulations on over-hanging tree branches. The parish council will also assist the Pensioners by cutting back the branches over-hanging the Rankin Hall, which will soon affect the guttering and roof of the hall.

4/10/15: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2015

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

Proposed Cllr Denise Wilson

Seconded Cllr David Knight

Agreed

5/10/15: PROGRESS REPORT FROM ACTION ITEMS

5/10/15/1: Public Toilet Area. Cllr Cumming reported that he had received notification that Barrow Borough Council's Agent had terminated the contract with the contractor they had employed to do the work in this area. Another contractor would be invited to complete the outstanding work. *Ongoing*

5/10/15/2: Jubilee Fountain Plaque. Cllr Smalley reported that although he had been unsuccessful in receiving a response from the person who promised to make the plaque. Cllr Smalley asked if the parish council would agree for him to look for another manufacturer. This was agreed and Cllr Smalley would come back with costs. *Action Cllr Smalley*

5/10/15/3: Coastal Erosion at Duddon Road Picnic Area. Cllr Cumming had met with representatives from Barrow Borough Council and their agent from Capita regarding this area. A cost of £18,000 had been quoted by Capita to make repairs to this area. It would seem that the Borough Council do not have the money to cover these costs, they have said that the area will be left and monitored. Cllr Cumming and the parish council felt this was not an appropriate response and will contact the Borough Council. *Action Cllr Cumming*

5/10/15/4: Meeting at Marsh Farm. This meeting with United Utilities has been re-scheduled for Thursday 12 November at 11 am, meet at Marsh Farm. *Ongoing*

5/10/15/5: Silver Sunday. Cllr Denise Wilson reported that 9 people had attended the event at Forum 28 and really enjoyed the day. The parish council thanked Cllr Wilson for making the arrangements for the visit and hoped it would be an annual occasion. *Closed*

5/10/15/6: Hedge on Ireleth Road. It was reported that ENWL had cut the part of the hedge which bordered their land. *Closed*

5/10/15/7: Hedge on Lots Road. The owner of the land this hedge borders has cut the sides of the hedge, but not the height. Complaints have been received as it is the height of the hedge which is the problem for vehicles using the Lots Road. Cllr Knight offered to speak to the owner of the land and explain the situation. *Action Cllr Knight*

6/10/15: UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM PARISH PLAN

6/10/15/1: Planting Area around Victoria Fountain and 1865 Garden. Planting scheme for this area, which was part of the Planning Application has been sourced at a cost of £2800.00. A grant of £1000.00 has been received from County Councillor Barry Doughty's local fund, the parish council expressed thanks to Councillor Doughty. It was agreed the plants should be ordered.

Proposed Cllr Sandra Hadwick

Seconded Cllr Mike Cumming

Agreed

6/10/15/2: Raised Beds for the Youths, Community Centre. Clear the area of brambles and debris and dispose of the waste, construct 6 raised 8' x 4' wooden vegetable beds, supply top soil and fill newly constructed beds, supply and spread blue slate dust to the remaining area to form a level, even surface. At a cost of £2850.00. The Clerk asked for a budget adjustment for this work.

Proposed Cllr Alan Mason

Seconded Cllr David Knight

Agreed

6/10/15/3: Repairs to Jubilee Garden Wall. Take down the remains of the existing wall and form footing and dispose of the old concrete blocks, supply and lay concrete to form a solid foundation, supply and lay concrete blocks on their backs and incorporate three pillars to a height of approx. 12 blocks high, erect a small wooden fence onto the wall area. At a cost of 1695.00. Agreement with Askam Rugby Club to do this work. . Cllr Wilson asked if the coping stones on the front of the wall could be replaced. The Clerk will speak to the contractor. The Clerk asked for a budget adjustment for this work.

Proposed Cllr Sandra Hadwick

Seconded Cllr Steve Smalley

Agreed

6/10/15/4: Re-instate Rose Bed in Memorial Garden. The over-grown shrubs have been removed and plans are now in place to plant a rose for each of the names on the war memorial. The beds will be made smaller and the soil prepared for the roses. Cost of work £650.00.

6/10/15/5: Plant Area on Turnstone Crescent. Tidy and maintain the small area on Turnstone Crescent at its junction with Wakefield Street. Waiting for a price for this work.

6/10/15/6: Common Hest, Saves Lane, Ireleth. The parish council will work with Barrow BC to tidy this land, which belongs to Barrow BC. Visited the area with an Officer from Barrow BC, it is a large area and would be very expensive to clear the whole area. Barrow BC will look at getting some of the area cleared with the help of Community Payback and we will evaluate what the parish council could do after this work has been completed.

6/10/15/7: Enhance Lots Road Area. A raised bed has been made at the entrance to Lots Road. Cllr Knight will purchase bulbs, at his own expense, and plant this area for the spring. Negotiations are on-going with the owner of the banking near the old Lots Bridge to tidy this area.

6/10/15/8: St Peter's Churchyard. The parish council would like to tidy and maintain as much as they can of the churchyard to make it more accessible to people. The Clerk met with Officers of Barrow BC to discuss the churchyard. They are maintaining the part where they have permission from the church for re-burials. Quote from Barrow BC for cutting the remainder of the churchyard £435.00 per month. This does not include the hedges or the back of the war graves where it is very over-grown. Barrow BC will do two cuts of the whole of the churchyard at the end of the season and at the beginning. The suggestion is that we see what the Borough Council do with the churchyard in the next couple of weeks and decide if we want to use their contractor or use our contractor.

7/10/15: TO REPORT AND DISCUSS ANY PLANNING ISSUES – CLLR DAVID KNIGHT

Applications to be discussed at this meeting

B21/2015/0697 Rear kitchen and dining room extension and conversion of bedroom to bathroom at 96 Duddon Road, Askam.

No objections received or expressed.

B13/2015/0561 Erection of a Dormer Bungalow, John Street, Askam

Discussions took place regarding John Street which has always been problematic because of it being an un-adopted road in a poor condition. The applicant will be well aware of the problems concerning John Street. There were no objections received or expressed by the parish council, only comments regarding the poor condition of the access road to the proposed development and concerns about the mains sewers. The Clerk was asked to respond accordingly.

Proposed Cllr Sandra Hadwick

Seconded Cllr Denise Wilson

Agreed

8/10/15: REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE - PCSO LOUISE JOHNS

PCSO Johns forwarded the report and it was given by the Chairman.

Anti-social behaviour – 2 recorded, both neighbourly disputes. 4 reported attempted burglaries, where small jemmy marks were made at the residential dwellings, no entry was gained. 1 report of criminal damage to a fence. Theft of an insecure trailer and quad bike whilst parked at Roanhead. No reported incidents of drugs or violence.

In relation to speeding vehicles, laser speed checks were carried out on 9 March and 3 male drivers were prosecuted for speeding in the early hours. They were each given 6 points on their licence. Further laser gun speed checks will be carried out over the coming months within the village.

A member of the public had contacted the parish council regarding concerns about speeding drivers entering Ireleth from Askam Road (Black Dog Road). The parish council would ask that the SID be deployed in the area and ask the police monitor this area.

Action Clerk/PCSO

9/10/15: SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE – SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2015

A discussion took place regarding preparations for the Service of Remembrance. Cllr Cumming and Smalley would organise the march and the laying of the wreaths. The Royal British Legion will lead the march, Revd David Jackson will take the service and the scouts and cub have kindly agreed to help with collecting and handing out the order of service. Invitations have been sent to local dignitaries, local groups, local councillors and community police. We will meet at the Rankin Hall at 2 pm.

10/10/15: BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2016/17

The Clerk asked if a meeting could be scheduled to discuss and set both the budget and precept for year 2016/17. Tuesday 3 November at 7 pm was agreed.

Action All

11/10/15: REPORT FROM CLERK

The monthly expenditure sheet was made available to all parish councillors. This was accepted as a true record.

Proposed Cllr David Knight

Seconded Cllr Steve Smalley

Agreed

12/10/15: UPDATE FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The County Council have now completed yellow lines in the village. It was noted that vehicles were marking on these yellow lines at certain times. Cllr Doughty said this would be monitor and the County Council would send Traffic Wardens to the village and fines would be issued.

The County Council Cabinet meet on Thursday to discuss proposals for next year's budget. There will be a consultation period, when residents can comment on these proposals.

Cllr Doughty is working with the County's footpath Officer regarding footpaths in the area. He asked that we help by reviewing the footpaths in Askam and Ireleth and reporting back to Cllr Doughty.

13/10/15: CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence received was made available for all the parish councils to view.

13/10/15/1: Letter from Drop Zone. A letter had been received from Drop Zone regarding the work they do with the young people in Askam and Ireleth. Cumbria County Council have removed funding for the independent work that Drop Zone does both in Barrow and the out-reach programmes in Dalton and Askam and Ireleth. Drop Zone are working tirelessly to try to find funding from outside agencies and have secured a grant of the lottery, but they will not get this grant until January 2016. Drop Zone asked if the parish council could help fund the 2/3 youth workers who come to Askam on a weekly basis from 1 October until end of January. It was agreed that an amount of £1300 be granted to Drop Zone on satisfactory completing one of the parish council grant application forms. (Cllr Cumming expressed an interest in this item and left the room while it was discussed).

Proposed Cllr Steve Smalley

Seconded Cllr Sandra Hadwick

Agreed

14/10/15: SANCTIONS FOR PAYMENT

Copying paper £5.00, Wood stain for painting seats £19.29, Transport for Silver Sunday £56.00, Storage Box for archives £7.99, Christmas Event, Askam & Ireleth Community Events £250.00, Redsyke 2nd instalment Annual Maintenance & landscaping £1641.25, Work to rose garden in Memorial Garden and Raised Bed at Lots Road £650.00.

15/10/15: DATE, PLACE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 17 November 2015 in the Temperance Hall, Saves Lane, Ireleth at 7.15 pm.

Signed by Bill Wilson, Vice Chairman

Dated 17 November 2015