

**MINUTES OF THE 333rd MEETING OF ASKAM AND IRELETH PARISH COUNCIL, HELD
TUESDAY 20 APRIL 2021 AT 7.15PM VIA ZOOM**

Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic the parish council are unable to hold a public meeting. A meeting of the parish council was again held via Zoom. Members of the public are invited to attend.

Present: Members of the Parish Council: Harry Barker, Chairman, Bill Wilson, Vice Chairman, Parish Councillor Mike Cumming, Alan Mason, Steve Smalley, Susan Orrell and Trevor Hughes; Clerk Mrs Janice Cumming; Borough Councillor Daniel Edwards; Borough and County Councillor Ben Shirley; Police Sergeant Joanne Smith, Police Officer Hannah While and PCSO Louise Perry, St Peter's Ireleth Headteacher Rachael MacFarlane; 4 members of the public. Guest: Simon Derbyshire, Manager North West Child Care, Ireleth House.

1/04/21: DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None

2/04/21: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Sandra Hadwick, Eve Mulholland, Dynamic Dunescapes.

3/04/21: NORTHWEST CHILD CARE, IRELETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME

Simon Derbyshire, Manager of Ireleth House Children's home gave an update on the home which is to open on Ireleth Road. At the present time there is no set date for welcoming children to the home as they are awaiting visits from Ofsted. The home has been extensively renovated and is the process of being furnished. The home will be able to provide what is hoped to be a homely environment for up to 3 children aged between 10 and 17. It is not possible to say what type of children they will be living at the home, but NWChild Care endeavour to match children within their age group and the local environment. Children will be mainly from the local area – Cumbria, Lancashire and North Yorkshire, but they could be from other areas of the country. Simon was keen to have the support of the local community and hoped that the children would be welcomed and be able to integrate into village life and take advantage of local facilities and activities. Questions were asked of Simon regarding the education of the children, and we were informed that, if possible, they would attend local schools, but if this was not possible because of any special educational needs the children would attend other educational establishments. It was asked what provision would be made for the children's leisure; Simon was keen for the children to join in with village activities if it was felt that the children were trustworthy enough to do this. Staffing at the home would be one to one and staff would be there 24/7. Ireleth House would be a long-term home for these children until they were 17 years old. Simon gave an open invitation to anyone who wanted to knock on the door at Ireleth House as he is there most days and have a look around and a chat with Simon, obviously before the home is officially open. He hopes that they will be able to have an open day too. The Chairman thanked Simon for attending the meeting and answering questions from the public and the parish councillors.

4/04/21: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

4/04/21/1: Steel Street/Sharp Street Park. It was reported to the parish council the bollards had been damaged. Councillor Trevor Hughes had been to look at the damage and said that the welds have broken, he has agreed to try to repair these bollards.

Action Cllr Hughes

5/04/21: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 16 MARCH 2021

These were approved and agreed as a true and accurate record and will be signed and dated by the Chairman.

Proposed Cllr Bill Wilson

Seconded Cllr Steven Smalley

Agreed

6/04/21: PROGRESS AND UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6/04/21/1: Coastal Erosion. Cllr Shirley reported that he and Simon Fell MP and working with different agencies to try and get support to deal with the whole issue of coastal erosion, particularly at Marsh Street. It seems that United Utilities do not have immediate concerns, which no-one at the meeting was in agreement with. Defra are making money available for coastal erosion issues and it was hoped that Askam would benefit from this.

Action Cllr Shirley

6/04/21/2: Parking Issues at Ireleth School. Headteacher Rachael MacFarlane confirmed that the yellow parking bollards and the banner had been delivered to school by Cumbria County Council but was disappointed that the yellow zig zag lines had not been refreshed as promised. Cllr Ben Shirley would contact Cumbria

Highways to ask them to do this work as soon as possible. Cllr Steven Smalley said that now lockdown restrictions were easing he would contact the police officer to come to Askam and Ireleth and carrying out speed gun training which would then be utilised at Ireleth School and other areas of concern in the village.

Action Cllr Shirley/ Cllr Smalley

6/04/21/3: Keep Clear markings at Askam Station. This work has been completed. Closed

6/04/21/4: Access through Askam Pier. The Clerk contacted Duddon Inshore Rescue regarding issues due to erosion of the pier area making it difficult for them to access through the pier with the tractor and boat. This is a Bye Way and is the responsibility of Cumbria Highways. Duddon Inshore Rescue will contact Cumbria Highways. Closed

6/04/21/5: Road Surface, Duddon. Cllr Sue Orrell had reported the problems with potholes to Cumbria County Council website. Cllr Ben Shirley would respond in his report.

7/04/21: REPORT FROM POLICE AND ROAD TRAFFIC MATTERS – PCSO LOUISE PERRY

Crime figures for March 2021. 7/3 1 anti-social behaviour, motorcycle of pavement, 19/3 1 burglary garage on Hawthwaite Lane ransacked and damage to door, 1/3 fraud, 8/3 and 19/3 harassment, domestic related, 30/3 making off without payment, 1 arrest.

Both the Chairman and Cllr Ben Shirley expressed concerns regarding the amount of domestic related incidents over the past months in Askam and Ireleth. PCSO Perry said that all these incidents were investigated by the police and if it was felt intervention was required then help would be sort from various agencies.

8/04/21 TO REPORT ON AND DISCUSS ANY PLANNING ISSUES – CLLR SUSAN ORRELL

Reference B21/2021/0310 **Location** 53 Beach Street, Askam **Proposal** Conversion of garage to a store with abutting Ground Floor Front Extension for use as Cloakroom and WC. This application was viewed and discussed. A concern was raised regarding the issue with parking. Extending onto the driveway takes away at least one parking place, which then means no off-road parking. The Clerk was asked to respond with this concern. Action Clerk

9/04/21: PEDESTRIAN ACCESS DOWN THE SIDE OF ASKAM PIER

Cllr Bill Wilson has been approached by members of the public regarding access to the beach from the pier. It was agreed that the area people access down the pier has deteriorated over the past year and it is not an easy route to the beach. The pier belongs to Neil Price Properties and does not come under the remit of the parish council. The path is not a public footpath and is an access that people have used for many years. It was the suggestion that if people are finding this access difficult and dangerous, they should use other more safer ways to access the beach.

10/04/21: ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP OF CUMBRIA ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCIL

The cost of membership this year will be £459.14. The sum is made up of National Association of Local Councils £206.50 and Cumbria Association £252.64. It was agreed that it was important that the parish council continue their membership of CALC.

Proposed Cllr Mike Cumming

Seconded Cllr Harry Barker

Agreed

11/04/21: UPDATE FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Ben Shirley reported some of the main issues he receives is regards to Highways. Cllr Shirley now has regular meetings with Highways Managers to discuss the challenges. He said that local committee have purchased a machine to fix potholes. This machine will be in Askam and Ireleth within the next 2 weeks and areas including Alexander Place, Duddon Road, Beach Street, Furnace Place and Duke Street will be among the areas for repair. If anyone had any other areas, they felt needed repair they should contact Cllr Shirley and report via the website.

Cllr Harry Barker asked when the area on A595 near Ireleth School was to be repaired by Highways. Highways had agreed to make repairs to the pavement and the area which runs to Saves Lane via Public Footpath 602054. Cllr Barker stated that a main sewer is situated underneath the footpath and the poor condition and erosion of the footpath could cause problems with the sewer and he felt it was something that needs investigating. Cllr Shirley said he would take these issues on board. Action Cllr Shirley

12/04/21: INTRODUCTION BY POLICE OFFICERS

The parish council were pleased to have 3 members of the Cumbria Police at the meeting. Police Officer Hannah While was first to introduce herself, her new role is as a designated Officer for Dalton North and although the

