

**BLAWITH & SUBBERTHWAITE PARISH
COUNCIL** www.bspc.btck.co.uk email: blawithclerk@gmail.com

Minutes of the Meeting of Blawith and Subberthwaite Parish Council held **REMOTELY via zoom meetings** Monday, 12th October 2020 at 7.00pm

Present:

Cllrs: I Jones (Chairman); R Sanderson (Vice Chairman); D Rutherford, B Fox; G Wardle
County Cllr M Brereton; District Cllr I Wharton. District Cllr Tracey Coward
Mike McInley & Stephen Ratcliffe from LDNPA
5 members of the Public.

AGENDA

- 1) To receive Apologies for Absence
None
- 2) To hear from Mr Mike Mcinley & Mr Stephen Ratcliffe from LDNPA re PC letter about planning enforcement & green lanes.

The Chairman summarised the concerns of the Parish Council leading to February letter of motion of no confidence in LDNP which were:

- planning
- green lanes, especially the decision re 4 wheel drives and overall lack of protection by NP
- enforcement of planning generally and particularly relating to Crake Valley Caravan Park

Stephen Ratcliffe responded to the concerns with assurance that the views of the Parish Councils are taken very seriously by NP & development planning and where necessary Members. There are restrictions legally imposed by material planning considerations and the local plan which guide decisions and therefore can at times make LDNP decision different from PC opinion. However, any contrary decisions should be explained to the PC. If there is an application where the view of the PC differs from planning officer, this will then go to Members for determination.

Mike McInley re-iterated the position and support of the Members of NP.

An update was given on the various refused applications for Crake Valley Caravan park:

- gas tanks - enforcement notice served. Appeal dismissed. Continuing non compliance and NP pursuing through courts.
- posts and lighting - enforcement notice served. Appeal refused and there is a site visit planned for the end of the compliance period.
- 2 camping pods - there is a planning appeal in progress following refusal with no date from inspectorate yet
- there is a compliance case for the relocation of a caravan 7/2019/5755
- 2 other works have come to attention regarding hard standing and this will be investigated for breach of planning control.

There are 2 current applications for the Caravan Park.

Every assurance was given that these various issues are high on the NP list

Any other possible breach of planning that the PC wishes to raise should be sent to Stephen Ratcliffe and it will be investigated. Common Land obviously has different legislation but he will also look into any related common land developments to assess which body might be best placed to deal with this.

Unpermitted development and enforcement - LDNP understand the frustration that PC's can feel but are also very concerned about this issue and take action as they are able to but this can take time as it is essential to follow the due process. Every compliance issue brought to NP attention is logged and investigated.

There has been an increase in compliance cases - 370 currently and Covid19 has been an influence in this.

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-Kirkby Moor Wind Farm – Np have to consider whether to comment on plans outside of the boundary although they do comment on large scale developments e.g. Sellafield. Members were not aware until it was too late of the situation with the Turbines and regret the missed opportunity. Cllr Jones expressed the PC's wish for support in the future on this.

- Green Lanes – Tilberthwaite Gill went to judicial review and is going though the due process. NP are satisfied they gave due consideration to all elements of the decision. The concern re 4 x 4's is very much appreciated. Covid has led to an increase in the area. Rangers and Volunteers and the Police are very much involved in trying to address the problem. It is important for people to report every incident to the Police on 101. The NP appreciate it is causing destruction but measures take time to implement. NP are very committed to protection of the environment.

The Parish Council thanked Mike McNley & Stephen Ratcliffe for their attendance at the meeting and expressed their feeling of re-assurance from the discussions and their commitment to the issues raised.

3) To receive Representations from Members of the Public

- Cllr Brereton suggested there is a case for a blanket approach for all National Parks for a more robust framework to protect the various areas, particularly in light of the experience during this summer and Covid19. It was agreed that there is a new demographic to consider in future planning.

- Cllr Wharton has advisory signs re parking for opposite Greenholme Farm. It may be possible to come to agreement with Forestry Commission to re-open car parks.

- Cllr Coward updated on the subject of the proposals for Unitary authority. This will be voted to expand to a full proposal but SLDC also do not feel it is the right time in current circumstances. An email had been received from Kirkby Ireleth PC regarding the District Councillor representation. Cllr Coward responded to say that all PC's are very different and therefore one fits all does not apply but any issues raised with District Cllrs are giving full attention.

The Parish Council wished to put on record their thanks and appreciation for all the work of Cllr Anne Hall who has now stepped down.

4) To approve the signing by the Chairman of the Minutes of the last meetings (14th September, 2020)

Resolved: To approve as a correct record.

5) To receive Declarations of Interest

None

6) To consider Requests for Dispensations

None

7) To consider Planning/Development Matters (and to ratify observations already submitted)

6.a. Applications

7/2020/5468 - The Old Church, Blawith - Proposed garage and garden studio (following withdrawal of application 7/2019/5191)

Resolved: response of neutral. That the PC feel the garage is in keeping with surroundings but that there is insufficient detail to comment on the studio.

7/2020/5558 – Crake Valley Caravan Park – freestanding panel illuminated sign

Resolved: response of objection on the grounds of excessive light pollution.

7/2020/5621 – Crake Valley Caravan Park – use of land for seasonal tended camping

Resolved: Response of objection based on:

- there has been no precedent for extensive camping over a long period of time

- development on common land is not permitted or acceptable

- the proposals would lead to unsightly tourism out of character with its environment and inappropriate noise/disturbance

6.b. Notifications:

None

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Ongoing Planning & Development issues:

Crake Valley Caravan Park - see agenda item 2 and 7

- 8) To consider Financial & Governance Matters
 - 8.a. The following payments were noted and approved:
 - 8.a.i. Clerk's salary Oct- £58.11 (adjustment details for over payment circulated)
 - 8.a.ii. Clerks Expenses to 12.10.20 - £42.31
 - 8.a.iii. A Workman (Churchyard) - £120
 - 8.a.iv. HMRC PAYE - £46.62
 - 8.b. A current financial statement was noted and approved.

- 8) To receive and consider Correspondence (post and emails distributed, included in Agenda and/or dealt with before meeting).
 - email from resident re apparent lack of consultation on proposed Coniston byelaws - Clerk to write to NP
 - email from residents re green lanes
 - report from PCSO Harris
 - email from Kirkby Ireleth PC re District Council representation at PC meetings.

- 9) To receive Reports/Updates on:
 - 9.a. Coniston & Crake Catchment Partnership - has been extended until March 2021
 - 9.b. Green Lanes - see agenda item 2
 - 9.c. Superfast Broadband - no updates.
 - 9.d. District Association meeting - minutes to be circulated

- 10) To consider website accessibility compliance quotes
In progress

- 11) To receive updates on/discuss and agree any actions on:
 - 11.a. Highways - U5081. The cutting season is now over for the verges. To re-agenda for next year.
 - 11.b. Clerk vacancy - The closing date has been extended to 31st October with a view to starting date from 1st December. The Clerk will prepare some training and handover.

- 12) Date of Next Meeting confirmed as 9th November, 2020

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.