

LPC

LAZONBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

For the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd November 2016, starting at approximately 7.30 p.m, in the Jubilee Rooms, Lazonby Village Hall.

Present: Acting Chair Councillor Gordon Nicolson.

Councillors Virginia Minihan, Peter Minihan, Chris West, Chris Hill, John Nicol, Tim Wright and John Judson.

Also in attendance: County Councillor Hilary Carrick, Brian Smythe Broadband Champion, the Parish Council Treasurer Chris Hoy and Clerk to the Council Rebecca Wyatt and two parishioners.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Christine Chamberlain.

ITEM / MINUTE No.	ITEM	BUSINESS
16/222	Appointment of Chair of the Council for 2016 - 2017.	The Council considered nominations for the position of Chair of the Council to serve for the 2016 – 2017 municipal year, from the Council Members present.
		<p>RESOLVED that due to no nominations being received for the appointment of a Chair, that this would be deferred to the next Council Meeting in December 2016.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Councillors present agreed that Councillor Gordon Nicolson be nominated to be the acting Chair for this meeting.</p>
16/223	The filling of Council Member Vacancies by Co-option.	The Council considered nominations to fill the one Council Member vacancy left unfilled at the election by reason of insufficient nominations.
		RESOLVED that it be noted that the Parish Council will continue to look to co-opt a further Council Member to fill the remaining position.
16/224	Requests for Dispensations.	RESOLVED that it be noted that no requests were received by the Clerk since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.
16/225	Declaration of Interest.	The Chair asked if there were any declarations by Council Members of any Personal or Prejudicial Interests relating to any items on the agenda for this meeting.
		<p>RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor Gordon Nicolson declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters concerning Eden District Council.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor John Nicol declared a prejudicial interest in matters concerning Lazonby & District First Responders'@ Funding Application.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor Peter Minihan declared a prejudicial interest in matters concerning Eden Valley Camera Club's Funding Application.</p>
16/226	Matters of Urgency.	RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no matters of urgency raised for consideration.

16/227	Minutes of the Council Meeting of the 5 th October 2016.	The Minutes of the Council Meeting of the 5 th October 2016 were considered.
		RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council meeting of the 5 th October 2016 be approved and signed as a true record of those proceedings.
16/228	Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Council Meeting of the 5 th October 2016.	The Council considered any matters arising from the Minutes of the 5 th October 2016.
		16/22 - Copper Beech Tree at Croglin Designs. The Council received an update about the Copper Beech tree at Croglin Designs. Councillor Chris West has asked tree surgeon Campbell Logue to do the work, although nothing has been done as yet. RESOLVED that the Council will monitor the work to be done on the Copper Beech tree and bring a report back to the December 2016 meeting of the Parish Council.
16/60 – Public participation - Maintenance of the War Memorial.	16/60 – Public participation - Maintenance of the War Memorial.	The Council received an update about the re-pointing of the War Memorial as discussed at the April 2016 meeting of the Parish Council. The Contractor has been asked to go ahead with the re-pointing of the War Memorial.
		RESOLVED that the Council will monitor the work to be done on the War Memorial and bring a report back to the December 2016 meeting of the Parish Council.
16/112 - Steps to the Railway Station.	16/112 - Steps to the Railway Station.	The Council received an update about the rail to be put up on the steps to the Railway Station. The rail has not been put up as yet but there have been contractors looking at it and giving quotes.
		RESOLVED that the Clerk contact the Property Manager at Trust Inns to ask for a progress report.
16/206 – Public Participation – Vehicle Storage on the Road to Armathwaite.	16/206 – Public Participation – Vehicle Storage on the Road to Armathwaite.	The Council received an update about the origin of the vehicles being stored on a site covered by CCTV on the Baron Wood road to Armathwaite.
		RESOLVED that it be noted that the temporary vehicle storage site is to do with work being carried out on a gas pipe that has shifted under the river bed.
16/229	Public Participation.	<p>The Chair asked the parishioners present if they wished to make any contributions relating to any items on the agenda, or any other parish related matter which they may wish to raise.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A parishioner raised the matter of lorries turning at the junction of Station Road and the main road (B6413) in Lazonby, and even causing damage to his house opposite the turning. He believed the issue is that of lorries heading west, turning right up Station Road and lorries coming down Station Road turning left at the bottom. He said that the attention has focused on the metal barrier that is installed (and frequently damaged) at the junction but he wanted the Council to understand that there are important further issues such as damage to property and public safety. <p>Twice in the past two years his house, at The Lofts, which is opposite the junction, has been struck by vehicles making this turn. In the first instance, the driver reported he lost control of his vehicle and it rolled back into my house. The damage cost hundreds of pounds to repair. Thankfully the driver put a note through the door and he was able to get the repairs paid for through his firm's insurance. The second instance occurred in October 2016 when a vehicle damaged the rendering on his house and brought down the drainpipe of his neighbour. This driver did not leave any note to admit this collision so now they have to pay for repairs themselves. He believes it is completely unacceptable that their</p>

houses are in constant danger of being damaged.

Also what he believes is of greater concern is that in order to make the turns, lorries frequently drive over the pavement on the main road contravening Section 72 of the Highways Act 1875 and therefore an offence. The stretch of pavement at this point is very busy all day long with pedestrians going up and down the village to the shop, the school, the pool, the village hall etc. There is a genuine risk that someone might be run over and killed by a driver distracted by trying to negotiate the turn. Drivers also cause damage to the road (because of the scrubbing of tyres across the surface, leading to premature crumbling of the tarmac), and the grass verge. The main road has only just been resurfaced, but how long will the surface last when it is subjected to this treatment several times a day? Since buying his house in 2003 the heavy traffic situation at the junction has got steadily worse. The lorries making this turn are bigger, and there seem to be more of them. Artics are frequent, and they always have to swing out over the pavement to get round. The current road markings in the area have made the situation worse. The white APM line was installed two years ago to discourage parking opposite the junction. It has led to the Lofts houses having no line of protection from parked cars, and given truck drivers licence to mount the pavement. It seems their priority is not to hit the barrier and therefore make turns that put pedestrians and property in jeopardy. When challenged, drivers can be indifferent and very abusive. The parishioner suggested several steps that could be taken to prevent further damage or incidents which the Council and County Councillor Hilary Carrick noted. The parishioner also presented a selection of photographs.

County Councillor Hilary Carrick explained that there had already been a meeting between Bells of Lazonby, County Councillor Carrick, Cumbria Highways and Parish Councillor John Judson to discuss what could be done about the issue of replacing the barrier. An engineering solutions had been discussed, and Highways Regulations need to be looked into as well as improved signposting. However, the information about damage to the houses has added a further element that now needs to be taken into consideration.

2. Concerns have been raised that some of the recycling at the recycling centre has included personal documents, such as bank statements, which could lead to fraud and identity theft.
3. It was reported that another local parish runs a charity shop which in turn supports local community groups and organisations, and maybe the parish of Lazonby could do the same.
4. A parishioner has taken several photographs of some of the issues that needed attention regarding the new Story Homes development - The Meadows - such as a hand rail for the steps, the drainage pipe for the Beck not being properly covered and the unfinished path and temporary fencing. The lack of lighting was also discussed.

RESOLVED that the report from the parishioner from the Lofts regarding damage to the barriers at the end of Station Road, and damage to his and his neighbour's property be noted and considered as part of the solution to the issue of lorries turning at the junction of Station Road and the main road (B6413).

ALSO RESOLVED that the Clerk put a piece in the Parish Council Newsletter about not recycling personal documents at the recycling centre, unless they have been shredded or somehow made safe from possible fraud or identity theft.

ALSO RESOLVED that the possibilities of a Parish Charity Shop be put on the December 2016 agenda for discussion.

		ALSO RESOLVED that Councillor Gordon Nicolson would speak to Building Control at Eden District Council regarding the Health & Safety issues that need attention at the new Story Homes development – The Meadows.
16/230	Fibre Optic Broadband.	<p>The Council received a verbal report regarding Fibre Optic Superfast Broadband from Broadband Champion Brian Smythe. There is no news regarding Connecting Cumbria. LonsdaleNET have been testing a wireless repeater mast which will cover Low Plains in the parish of Lazonby. If it is successful then their superfast broadband service for that area is hoped to go live at the end of November 2016. This is a public service helping them to deliver superfast broadband and should not be confused with other larger masts in the area. New BT signs have been put up in the village but it is not known by whom so Brian will look into this and let the Clerk know.</p> <p>RESOLVED that Brian Smythe be thanked for his report about superfast broadband, the contents of which were noted.</p>
16/231	Report from the District Councillor Gordon Nicolson.	<p>The Council received a report from the District Councillor Gordon Nicolson about Eden District Council matters affecting the Parish.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A new sand bag policy has been introduced which is already on the agenda to be discussed. 2. Councillor Nicolson brought the new ‘stop litter and dog fouling’ notices to the meeting. 3. The retrospective planning application regarding the steps on the Story Homes development – The Meadows, has been refused and is now going to the EDC Planning Committee on 17th November 2016. Councillor Nicolson will attend the Planning Committee meeting on behalf of the Parish and the Parish Council. <p>RESOLVED that Councillor Chris West put up the stop litter and dog fouling notices around the parish.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that District Councillor Gordon Nicolson reserved the right to speak on other issues on the agenda.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that District Councillor Gordon Nicolson be thanked for his report, the contents of which were noted.</p>
16/232	Report from County Councillor Hilary Carrick.	<p>The Council received a written report from County Councillor Hilary Carrick about County Council matters affecting the Parish.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cumbria County Council are currently consulting the public on their budget saving proposals for 2017/2018, as there is still over 16 million to be saved. They are asking for comments on proposals to increase Council Tax, including an additional precept specifically for Adult Social Care. The Consultation can be found on the County Council website or in the local Libraries until 20th January 2017. <p>RESOLVED that it be noted that County Councillor Hilary Carrick reserved the right to speak on other issues on the agenda.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that County Councillor Hilary Carrick be thanked for her report, the contents of which were noted.</p>
16/233	Environment & Neighbourhood Committee Meeting.	<p>The Council received an update from the Environment & Neighbourhood Committee regarding the employment of a Ground Worker for Summer 2017. As agreed at the last Parish Council meeting, Councillor Gordon Nicolson sent a draft contract for the proposed Parish Highways Steward and advice from CALC on employing a Steward to all members of the Council by Email. Some points still needed to be clarified :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Para 6 - Length of Contract

16/233		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Para 7 - Frequency of Invoicing • Annex 1 part 2 - Work Schedule: To determine – grass cutting, clearing weeds from pavements and gutters, weed spraying, clearing fallen leaves – link with blocked gullies and drains, spreading grit in icy weather at danger spots - if so where? Frequency of actions to be specified • Annex 2 - Present budget provision is £1500 per annum. Going rate seems to be around £11.00 per hour; the budget would cover approximately 3 hours per week over a whole year or six hours per week over half a year. No other costs would accrue to the Parish Council as the Steward would be self employed and provide his/her own tools and materials. <p>The Councillors were asked to consider these points and let Councillor Nicolson have their views before this meeting of the Parish Council, so that he could have a discussion with County Councillor Hilary Carrick, Parish Councillor John Judson (as the Highways Link person) and the Highways Engineer before writing some recommendations for this meeting. However, Lazonby School has now come forward to ask if the Parish Council would consider progressing this as a joint venture as they needed someone to do maintenance work around the school for 1 day a week. This is still in the preliminary stages of discussion and many issues need to be resolved before employing anyone e.g. job description, pay, management, funding, roles and duties etc.</p> <p>The Council also discussed the development of a new footpath in the parish.</p> <p>RESOLVED that Councillors Gordon Nicolson and Hilary Carrick, in her role of Chair of Governors, will meet with the Head of the Lazonby school to discuss this issue further and report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that due to time, finances and access to some of the land that the footpath would need for the project the Council agreed that it would not be pursued at present.</p>
16/234	<p>Lazonby Parish Projects:</p> <p>a. Registration of Parish Land.</p> <p>b. Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	<p>RESOLVED that it be noted that there is nothing further to report regarding the registration of parish land at present.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Clerk now contact Cartmell Shepherd Solicitors to ask for a progress report.</p> <p>The Council received an update regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan is now in the last stages of completion. Councillor Gordon Nicolson has secured funding to see that the Plan gets to the final stages. The draft of the Plan will be sent to Eden District Council so that they can ensure it is drafted properly, and an independent professional body will also check it to ensure it is correctly drafted. An information leaflet is to be issued to all parishioners to inform them about what is happening with the Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Virginia Minihan is currently registering Will Pool, Coronation Gardens, the Parish Sports Field, the Community Park, Lazonby & District Swimming Pool and other possible areas in the parish as Community Assets. The Scaur Green Triangle will also be registered as a village green.</p> <p>RESOLVED that it be noted that Will Pool, Coronation Gardens, the Parish Sports Field, the Community Park, Lazonby & District Swimming Pool and other possible areas in the parish are being registered as Community Assets; and the Scaur Close Green will also be registered as a village green.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that an information leaflet is to be issued to all parishioners to inform them about what is happening with the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>

16/234	c. Scaur Close Green.	<p>The Council received a progress report regarding the Scaur Close Green project. Parishioners Geoff Wilson and Rob Sim reported the following:</p> <p><i>“Quite a lot of the seed has germinated and the area is looking green. It has been ideal weather for late season germination. Because some wild-flower seeds need to be subject to winter chill before they germinate we can expect that germination of other seeds will take place in Spring 2017, and maybe even later than that.”</i></p> <p>RESOLVED that Geoff Wilson and Rob Sim be thanked for their report about the Scaur Close Green Project.</p>
	d. Community Playground.	<p>The Council received an update about the Community Playground. As agreed at the last meeting of Lazonby Parish Council, Councillors Gordon Nicolson and Christine Chamberlain met with Jill Eastham, Chair of the Lazonby Swimming Pool Committee because the Swimming Pool Committee are seeking financial support with the running costs of the Community Playground. The Swimming Pool position was outlined in the documents sent around to all Council Members. It is clear that without some financial support the future of both the Swimming Pool and the Community Playground is at risk. Members will be aware that the Parish Council previously met significant costs for the Community Play Ground following the demise of the Community Playground Committee. The Parish Council is not being asked to manage the Playground or to take responsibility for maintenance and inspection tasks.</p> <p>The Council considered the Swimming Pool Committee request and needed to have a view on the principle of supporting the facility. This would involve questions about where the money would come from, for example the precept. The proposition for discussion and decision to be discussed was whether the Parish Council should enter into a five year service level agreement with the Swimming Pool Committee to cover a contribution to the running costs. The agreement would specify the costs the Parish Council would contribute to, such as Insurance, Safety Inspections and Grass Cutting. This would mean that the Pool Committee would be responsible for the repairs and replacement of equipment and the balance of the Council's contribution to the costs mentioned above. It was proposed that Lazonby Parish Council contribute 80% of the costs leaving the Pool Committee to raise 20% from other sources. Payment would be made against invoices and the agreement would be for a period of five years. This arrangement would eliminate the need for annual grant applications. At the quoted prices, the Parish Council contribution would be £2424.80 rounded to £2500. The cost would be met by increasing the precept. Parishioners would therefore need to be advised of the Parish Council's intentions and the Parish Council would have to consider any responses.</p> <p>The Council also discussed alternative insurance costs, as Eden District Council offered a competitive price. The precise amounts are still to be agreed and all amounts to be paid would need to be confirmed by invoices or written estimates, and the arrangements would represent best value. Members particularly noted the cost of insurance quoted compared with what the Parish Council paid previously. Therefore the Parish Council would like to see where appropriate, the contracts to be awarded subject to cost comparison exercises. Also information about how many local parishioners use the swimming pool needs to be sought as a way of working out how much funding should be given.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Council agreed to give the Lazonby & District Swimming Pool financial support towards the community Playground which could be met from an increase in the Parish Council precept.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Council agreed that the arrangements should be the subject of a five year service level agreement, which will stop the need for annual grant applications but it will still be necessary to agree the amounts to be paid each year.</p>

16/234		<p>ALSO RESOLVED that the principle of the Parish Council contributing 80% of the cost of insurance, safety inspections and grass cutting was also agreed, with the understanding that Lazonby and District Swimming Pool Committee will retain responsibility for managing the Community Playground; and that the Parish Council will not accept any liability in law for the operation of the Community Playground or for events arising from these operations.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that Councillor Gordon Nicolson would write to the Lazonby & District Swimming Pool Committee to inform them about the Parish Council's proposals for giving financial support.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Council seek the statistics regarding local users before they decide the amount of financial support to offer.</p>
	f. Emergency Procedures for Parish.	<p>The Council received an update on the emergency procedures for the parish. A successful and positive meeting of local community groups, services and businesses was held in Lazonby, in October 2016.</p> <p>RESOLVED that it be noted that another meeting is now to be arranged with Cumbria County Council's Emergency Planning Service and a working group set up to get on with developing the Plan.</p>
	e. Wall at Bank Foot.	<p>RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no further reports about the collapsed wall at Bank Foot at present.</p>
16/235	Annual Lazonby Parish Council Grant Applications for 2017 – 2018.	<p>The Council received the following grant applications which will be further discussed at a Finance and Budget Committee meeting to be held before the December 2016 meeting of the Parish Council.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Great North Air Ambulance for financial assistance of £200 towards the purchase of two portable scanners for the aircraft and the rapid response vehicles. 2. Parish Church of St. Nicholas (Parochial Church Council) for financial assistance of £500 towards the on-going costs of maintaining the grave yard and outward appearance of St. Nicholas Parish Church. 3. The Fellrunner for financial assistance of £376.50 towards providing a scheduled bus service to the residents in the Parish of Lazonby. 4. Eden Valley Camera Club for financial assistance of £100 towards to purchase a lightweight tripod that members can borrow. 5. Lazonby and District's Got Talent for financial assistance of £60 to cover the cost of the annual membership to the Highlights Rural Touring Scheme. 6. Lazonby Village Hall Management Committee for financial assistance of £1500 towards the cost of purchasing an easily storable and movable P.A. system, hard-wired amplification, improved and safer stage-lighting, and a mixing system so that the hall can host live bands and larger theatrical productions. 7. Lazonby and District Community First Responders for financial assistance of £378.40 to pay for the initial equipment to be used by the latest CFR to complete the training and become operational. <p>The Council also considered the annual donation to Lazonby School of £50 for sorting and delivering the Parish Council Newsletter over the coming year.</p> <p>The date of the Finance and Budget Committee meeting in order to discuss grant awards, the budget and precept for 2017/2018, before the December 2016 meeting of the Parish Council was also arranged.</p>

16/235		<p>RESOLVED that the grant applications made to the Council be noted and that they consider them at the December 2016 meeting of the Parish Council, after receiving recommendations from the Finance and Budget Committee.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Finance and Budget Committee arrange a date in November 2016 for a meeting where the budget and the grant applications for 2017/2018 will be discussed, with recommendations being brought back to the December 2016 meeting of the Parish Council.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Council agreed the annual donation to Lazonby School of £50 for sorting and delivering the Parish Council Newsletter over the coming year.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor Virginia Minihan stepped down from her role in the Finance and Budget Committee.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Council all agreed that Councillor Tim Wright become the new member of the Finance and Budget Committee.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Clerk update the Councillors Contact and roles list and send out to all Council Members.</p>
16/236	Financial Report by the Treasurer.	<p>The Council received a report from the Treasurer (please see attached Treasurer's Report).</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Treasurer be thanked for his report, the contents of which were approved, accepted and noted.</p>
16/237	Authority for Payments.	<p>The Council considered any requests for payment received by the Treasurer, Clerk or Council Members.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Council agreed to pay the sum of £30 for the Remembrance Day Wreath.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the sum of £24 for sundries be paid from the Neighbourhood Plan funding.</p>
16/238	Planning Applications – New (or Appeal).	<p>RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no new planning applications to consider.</p>
16/239	Planning Applications – Decisions.	<p>RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no Planning Application Decisions received.</p>
16/240	LPC Cumbria Highways Link Person Report.	<p>RESOLVED that it be noted that the barriers at the bottom of Station Road near the Co-op have already been discussed earlier in the meeting.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Council received no further reports on Highways matters in the parish.</p>
16/241	Tenancy Agreement with Croglin Designs.	<p>The Council considered the renewal of the Tenancy Agreement with Croglin Designs which expires on 31st January 2017.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Council accept Councillor John Nicol's offer to look at the Old School Tenancy Agreement to see what needs amending before it's renewal in 2017 without personal liability to himself.</p>
16/242	Invitations to Participate.	<p>The Council considered whether Members would like to take part in, attend, or send a representative to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eden District Council Sandbag Policy Information – also to contact EDC, ACT or the Environment Agency to order your sand bags if needed. 2. Eden District Council Chairman's Carol Service - Monday 12th December 2016 at 6.30pm, St Andrew's Church, Penrith.

		<p>RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor Gordon Nicolson will take the Eden District Council Sandbag Policy Information to the Lazonby Emergency Plan Meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED that Councillors Gordon Nicolson, Chris West and Chris Hill will attend the Carol Service.</p>
16/243	INFORMATION given for reference only.	RESOLVED that it be noted that there was no information to give out to Parish Councillors.
16/244	Date of the Next Meeting.	<p>RESOLVED that it be noted that the date of the next scheduled Meeting be confirmed as Wednesday 14th December 2016, at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Rooms at Lazonby Village Hall.</p> <p><u>Please note:</u> There is no scheduled Parish Council meeting for January 2017.</p>

Please Note:

Amendments to these Minutes have been made in red following approval at the Parish Council Meeting on the 14th December 2016.