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LAZONBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

For the Meeting of Lazonby Parish Council on Wednesday 6th October 2021, in the Main Hall, Lazonby Village Hall, at 7.30 pm.

Present: Chair Councillor Tim Wright

Councillors Gordon Nicolson, John Judson, Phillip Whitehead, Steve Craig, and Andrew Miller.

Also in attendance: County Councillor Hilary Carrick, the Clerk to the Council Rebecca Wyatt, the Treasurer to the Council Chris Hoy, Eden District Councillor David Rylands, and 15 parishioners and local residents.

| ITEM / MINUTE No. | ITEM | BUSINESS |
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| 21/187 | Apologies for absence. | RESOLVED that the apologies received from Councillors Chris West (holiday), Angie Miller (personal) and Peter Foley (holiday) be accepted and noted. |
| 21/188 | The filling of Council Member Vacancy. | The Council considered nominations to fill the Council Member vacancy left following a recent Councillor resignation from the Council. RESOLVED that it be noted that the Parish Council will continue to look to co-opt a new Council Member to fill the remaining position. |
| 21/189 | 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. |
| 21/190 | 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. RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor Gordon Nicolson declared a personal interest in matters concerning Eden District Council. ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor Steve Craig declared a personal interest in matters concerning the footpath proposals between Eden Bridge and Lazonby & District Swimming Pool and the Meadows, Scaur Lane. ALSO RESOLVED that Councillor Phillip Whitehead declared a personal interest in matters concerning the Egg Packing Housing Development project. |
| 21/191 | Matters of Urgency. | RESOLVED that it be noted that there were no matters of urgency to report. |

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| 21/192 | 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. The Parish Council also discussed issues that parishioners had been in contact about.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Parish Council have received five written objections via Email regarding Planning Application No. 21/0783 – Change of use of land to accommodate outdoor recreational woodland-luge track, chairlift with ancillary operations building, car parking and landscaping, at Land at Blaze Fell, Nord Vue, Armathwaite. The emails received gave the following reasons for their objections: against the location; the volume of traffic using the activity affecting the local country lanes etc; urbanisation of the countryside; environmental concerns such as carbon emissions, uses of concrete, impact on the local ecosystem and wildlife habitat; noise nuisance; light pollution; and the low amount of jobs created. 2. Local residents attended the Parish Council meeting to object to Planning Application No. 21/0783 – Change of use of land to accommodate outdoor recreational woodland-luge track, chairlift with ancillary operations building, car parking and landscaping, at Land at Blaze Fell, Nord Vue, Armathwaite. <p>A public meeting had already been held in Armathwaite on 29th September 2021, attended by 87 local residents, Councillor Gordon Nicolson, (Lazonby PC / Eden DC - Lazonby Ward), Councillor Chris West (Chair, Lazonby PC), Councillor Elaine Martin (Chair, Hesket PC), Eden District Council Councillor David Rylands (Hesket Ward), Mr Daniel Holder (applicant) and Mr Charles Lowther (applicant).</p> <p>The Parish Council received a written letter from the local residents requesting that the Parish Council do not support the planning application based on non-compliance with the Lazonby Neighbourhood Plan 2014 – 2032, and therefore asks Eden District Council to refuse planning permission. The resident's letter listed the objections using the Lazonby Neighbourhood Plan, stating that the planning application did not meet its objectives and policies, specifically the Key Sequential Test; Policy Objectives 3, 4, 6 and 8; Policy B1, B2 and B4; and the LNP Design Plan.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Parking outside St.Michaels House in the village is restricting entry into both properties in that area. The suggestion of double yellow lines has been made. 4. The lower lights on Scour Lane are currently not working. They are believed to be Cumbria Highway lights. 5. Anglers have found it hard to get hold of fishing permits at certain times of the day. <hr/> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RESOLVED that the objections received via email be noted and will be taken into consideration when the Parish Council are considering Planning Application No. 21/0783 – Change of use of land to accommodate outdoor recreational woodland-luge track, chairlift with ancillary operations building, car parking and landscaping, at Land at Blaze Fell, Nord Vue, Armathwaite, at agenda item 17, which is Minute no. 21/193 of these Minutes. 2. RESOLVED that the objections received through the resident's letter and presented at the meeting be noted and will be taken into |
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| | | <p>consideration when the Parish Council are considering Planning Application No. 21/0783 – Change of use of land to accommodate outdoor recreational woodland-luge track, chairlift with ancillary operations building, car parking and landscaping, at Land at Blaze Fell, Nord Vue, Armathwaite, at agenda item 17, which is Minute no. 21/193 of these Minutes.</p> <p>3. RESOLVED that the issue of parking outside St.Michaels House in the village which restricts entry into the properties in that area be looked into further by Councillor John Judson and County Councillor Hilary Carrick.</p> <p>4. RESOLVED that Cumbria Highways be informed about the lights not working on Scour Lane.</p> <p>5. RESOLVED that the issue of Fishing permits availability be put on the Parish Council’s November 2021 meetings agenda</p> |
| <p>A motion to bring forward Agenda item 17 - Planning Applications – New (or Appeal), (Minute no. 21/193 of these Minutes) so that it can be considered next was made by Councillor Gordon Nicolson. It was RESOLVED that it be noted that all Councillors present agreed to this motion.</p> | | |
| <p>21/193</p> | <p>Planning Applications – New (or Appeal).</p> | <p>The Council considered the following Planning Applications.</p> <p>1. Planning Application No. 21/0783 – Change of use of land to accommodate outdoor recreational woodland-luge track, chairlift with ancillary operations building, car parking and landscaping, at Land at Blaze Fell, Nord Vue, Armathwaite.</p> <p>The Council also received the following reports for approval. The following planning applications were considered by the Planning Committee and Members of the Parish Council by Email. Written notifications were given to parishioners via the parish notice boards, between Friday 10th September and Thursday 16th September 2021. No objections or comments were received from parishioners for either of the planning applications. The Parish Council gave a NO OBJECTIONS response to both of the following planning applications:</p> <p>1. Planning Application No. 21/0732 - Proposed extension to the existing barn to form additional residential accommodation, at Eden Field, Armathwaite, Carlisle.</p> <p>2. Planning Application No. 21/0758 - Erection of single storey rear, living and utility, extension and two storey front in-fill extension, at Glen Eden, Lazonby, Penrith.</p> <p>1. RESOLVED that the Council OBJECT to Planning Application No. 21/0783 – Change of use of land to accommodate outdoor recreational woodland-luge track, chairlift with ancillary operations building, car parking and landscaping, at Land at Blaze Fell, Nord Vue, Armathwaite because they believe that the below points are material planning considerations and are grounds for refusing this application.</p> <p>a) Lazonby Neighbourhood Plan 2014 – 2032 <i>“Policies D1 to D5 Lare the ‘core principles’ guiding the consideration of all applications made within the parish of Lazonby. Where conflicting interpretations regarding the applicability of policies arise, then policies D1 to D6 should be used to determine the suitability of any proposals in advance of any other applicable policies”</i>. This planning application does not meet the policies</p> |

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| | | <p>and objectives of the Lazonby Neighbourhood Plan 2014 – 2032.</p> <p>b) Referring to the D1 Policy and the D3 Policy of the Lazonby Neighbourhood Plan 2014 – 2032, the planning application does not meet the requirement for a sustainable location, as it is a large-scale development with a low sequential priority situated in open countryside.</p> <p>c) The Eden Local Plan, Vision for Eden’s Rural Area at paragraph 3.18 indicates that development should be sympathetic to surroundings and fit in with local architecture. In the objectives given at paragraph 3.19 for Eden’s rural areas there are further references to protecting and enhancing the landscape setting, allowing sensitively designed new small scale development, reusing redundant buildings and employment development via farm diversification in rural areas. Lazonby Parish Council contends that none of this applies as they have an application for a large scale, independent leisure facility at a remote location in the open countryside. This statement is supported by references given below to the specific policies in the Eden Local Plan.</p> <p>d) Policy LS1 on page 17 of the Eden Local Plan directs development to main towns and key hubs. Although Lazonby is designated a Key Hub the proposed site is distant from established settlements in Armathwaite and Lazonby Parishes. Accordingly, this application should comply with the guidance of exceptions to the policy which Lazonby Parish Council argue that it does not. The proposed site is not allocated for development in the Local Plan. [See Policy RUR1 on pages 45 -47 of the Local Plan.]</p> <p>e) Policy RUR4 covers employment development and farm diversification in rural areas. Lazonby Parish Council contends that this application is not a farm diversification project. It is a leisure facility that will be operated independently of the other activities on Nord Vue Farm. Further, residents have expressed concerns about the impact of vehicular traffic and have reservations about the extent to which the proposed development is of a scale and type that is sympathetic to the area within which the development is proposed. Lazonby Parish Council believes that there will be very limited impact on local businesses as it is likely that most users will travel to the site by car, use the proposed facility and return to their starting point.</p> <p>f) Policy DEV3 covers transport, accessibility and rights of way. The application proposes that all bookings will be on-line and that there will be bus links with Armathwaite Railway Station. However, this will accommodate a small number of users given the frequency and capacity of the current rail services. It follows that most users will travel by car as there are no other convenient forms of public transport. This matter is also covered in the notes on policy DEV4.</p> <p>g) Policies EC1, EC3 and EC4 cover provision of sites for employment development. Lazonby Parish Council would point that there are significant issues regarding the location of</p> |
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| | | <p>the proposed development, including siting in open countryside, absence of public transport and visual impact and loss of amenity. No definitive information has been provided about noise levels and lighting both of which could impact on the peaceful nature of the area around the site and the present dark skies environment. The jobs created from this development are small (15- 20) for a development on the scale proposed and do not offer significant economic benefit to the area.</p> <p>2. RESOLVED that it be noted that the Council received and approved the following reports after both planning applications were considered by the Planning Committee and Members of the Parish Council by Email. Written notifications were given to parishioners via the parish notice boards, between Friday 10th September to Thursday 16th September 2021. No objections or comments were received from parishioners for either of the planning applications. The Parish Council gave a NO OBJECTIONS response to both of the following planning applications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning Application No. 21/0732 - Proposed extension to the existing barn to form additional residential accommodation, at Eden Field, Armathwaite, Carlisle. 2. Planning Application No. 21/0758 - Erection of single storey rear, living and utility, extension and two storey front in-fill extension, at Glen Eden, Lazonby, Penrith. |
| 21/194 | Report from the local Community Police. | <p>RESOLVED that it be noted that the local community Police had no incidents to report in Lazonby over the last month.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that the Council received the Eden Focus Police Newsletters for Penrith & Alston for August – September 2021</p> |
| 21/195 | Parish Broadband Issues. | <p>The Council received an update on the broadband issues in the parish from Councillor Steve Craig. Since the last Parish Council meeting, there have now been indications of a possible reprieve and Parishes that have not managed to get the sign-ups they need to proceed by a given deadline, have now been told to continue to pursue sign-ups. Councillor Steve Craig will continue to pursue sign-ups for B4RN and their superfast broadband services.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report about parish broadband issues be noted, with thanks to Councillor Steve Craig who will continue to pursue sign-ups for B4RN and their superfast broadband services.</p> |
| 21/196 | Minutes of the Council Meeting on the 1st September 2021. | <p>It was recommended that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 1st September 2021 be approved and signed as a true record of those proceedings.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 1st September 2021 be approved and signed as a true record of those proceedings.</p> |

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| 21/197 | Progress Reports on Recent Actions. | The Council received progress reports regarding matters from the Minutes of the Council Meeting on the 1 st September 2021. |
| | a. Transfer of Assets and Service to the Parish (Last minute no. 21/172). | <p>The Eden District Council Scrutiny Task and Finish Group had their second meeting on 5th October 2021. Councillor Gordon Nicolson is a member of the Group and reported that there is a vast amount to look at regarding the transfer of assets and a short deadline to meet by early 2022. It will influence the District Council's Budget for next year. They are looking at the play areas, footway lights and public toilets. The footway lights are having the most consideration with 39 parishes out of 79 adopting the footway lights. So far the adopted services have meant a cost to Parish Councils whereas the services not adopted or those still waiting to be adopted meant no cost to Parish Councils. Services issues such as electricity supply need to be looked at on behalf of Town and Parish Councils.</p> <p>RESOLVED that Councillor Gordon Nicolson be thanked for his report the contents of which were noted.</p> |
| | b. Footway light at Thorn Tree (Last minute no. 21/172). | <p>RESOLVED that it be noted that the footway light at Thorn Tree still has not been connected/repared and no reply has been received as yet about this although the Clerk, Councillors Gordon Nicolson and Chris West have pursued this with Eden District Council.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Clerk contact Eden District Lighting to ask again.</p> |
| | c. Donations at Eden Bridge Car Park (Last minute no. 21/172). | RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor Steve Craig is still working on the issues of donations at Eden Bridge Car Park. |
| | d. Repair of the door on the Grass Cutting equipment storage shed (Last minute no. 21/172). | RESOLVED that it be noted that the Council are still waiting to hear from the Head Teacher of Lazonby Primary school following the last meeting of the School Governors. |
| | e. Dropped flagstone on the pavement near the Midland Hotel (Last minute no. 21/172). | RESOLVED that it be noted that repairing the dropped flagstone on the pavement and cracked flags near the Midland Hotel should be completed in the next few weeks. |
| | f. The Meadows Management Group (Last minute no. 21/172). | RESOLVED that there was nothing further to report on the management status of the Meadows Housing Development and it can now be removed from the agenda. |
| | g. Network Rail Land request to tidy up the land in the vicinity of railway bridge no. 306 (Last minute no. 21/172). | The Council received an update about the request to Network Rail about tidying up the land in the vicinity of railway bridge no. 306. Network Rail had been out to do the work before the September 2021 meeting of the Parish Council however the Parish Council were not happy with how much had not been cleared. The Clerk contacted Network Rail again as requested by the Parish Council to thank them for what they had cleared but to also say the land had not been cleared enough and they were therefore not content with the standard of work especially as the land was not cut up too and under the bridge enough. The Clerk requested the work to be carried out. The following email was received from Network Rail in |

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| | | <p>response.</p> <p><i>“Thank you for contacting us regarding the scrubland under the railway bridge and down tracks at Lazonby & Kirkoswald Station. We are only able to cut back vegetation that pose a risk to nearby properties, businesses or railways due to the agreements that we have in place. This is so that we do not disturb or affect the local environmental or ecosystems. As this does not pose a risk to any of the above, we are unable to cut back or prune the vegetation on this occasion. Please be assured that our team completes cyclical reviews of this area and our maintenance team have confirmed they will inspect the area again next year. I’m sorry as I know this isn’t the answer that you are looking for, but I hope the above explains why we are unable to act on this occasion. Thank you once again for bringing this to our attention.”</i></p> <p>RESOLVED that the report about Network Rail Land and request that they return to cut back and tidy up the rest of the land in the vicinity of railway bridge no. 306 be noted after they replied to say they were not able to cut any more vegetation back at present but they would look at it again next year.</p> |
| | <p>h. State of footpaths in the Village (Last minute no. 21/172).</p> | <p>RESOLVED that it be noted that the report regarding the state of the footpaths in the village, the holes appearing in them and the issue of dropped kerbs for wheelchair users have been logged with Cumbria County Council.</p> |
| | <p>i. Townhead to Scale Hill Public Footpath (Last minute no. 21/168).</p> | <p>The Council received an update about the overgrown Townhead to Scale Hill public footpath. At the last meeting of the Parish Council in September 2021, it was reported that a parishioner had contacted the County Council footpath officer about the overgrown beginning of the Townhead to Scale Hill public footpath, which was making it virtually impassable and the broken signpost leaning on the wall. They received a prompt reply saying a contractor would attend to cut back to the vegetation and the signpost would be erected in due course. However, the parishioner has informed the Clerk that the work had still not been done and so they had again contacted the Footpath Officer regarding the issues at the footpath as it had now been over 10 weeks since the parishioner was told that a contractor would clear the vegetation away. The Clerk has asked the parishioner to let her know if the work was not carried out soon. At the meeting, it was reported that the footpath looks like it has now been cleared but the signpost has not been replaced as yet.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report about the cutting back to the vegetation and the mending of the signpost on the Townhead to Scale Hill public footpath be noted.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that Councillor John Judson will check if the cutting back work and the signpost have been replaced on the Townhead to Scale Hill public footpath be noted.</p> |
| <p>21/198</p> | <p>Report from District Councillor Gordon Nicolson.</p> | <p>The Council received a written report from District Councillor Gordon Nicolson about Eden District Council matters affecting the Parish.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Local Government Reorganisation – Council Tax will be equalised over three areas. 2. The aggregation of District services will pull together on recycling, refuse, environment planning etc. It will be complicated by direct labour and existing contracts. The current refuse contract is supposed to run until 2027. Their time is limited to sort it out. There will be a joint commission |

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| | | <p>3. EDC Chief Executive earnings will be over £200,000 per annum.</p> <p>4. Eleda House – there are complications over the refit of the building and it will cost over £4 million to refit it etc.</p> <p>5. The Government has postponed the Planning Reform but will be looking at it again in the future.</p> <p>6. The Town Hall is now open to the public again but still encourage people to telephone or go online to contact them, Mansion House is still not open.</p> |
| | | <p>RESOLVED that District Councillor Gordon Nicolson be thanked for his written report, the contents of which were noted.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that District Councillor Gordon Nicolson reserved the right to request to speak on other issues on the agenda.</p> |
| 21/199 | Report from County Councillor Hilary Carrick. | <p>The Council received a report from County Councillor Hilary Carrick about County Council related matters affecting the Parish.</p> <p>1. The Local Government Reform in Cumbria – it is still not as organised as it could be due to the current turmoil because the administration is still under judicial review. The review is causing disruption and taking up a disproportional rate of effort. Cumbria County Council will be looking independently at the process of how the decision was made, and if they are satisfied it was carried out properly then they will accept it and carry on. However, if they find it was not carried out properly then Cumbria County Council will ask for it to be readjusted at the point in question. This is a hard time for staff not knowing where they are with their employment.</p> |
| | | <p>RESOLVED that County Councillor Hilary Carrick be thanked for her report, the contents of which were noted.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that County Councillor Hilary Carrick reserved the right to request to speak on other issues on the agenda.</p> |
| 21/200 | Lazonby Parish Projects: | |
| | a. Proposed Development of Lazonby Egg Packing Station. | <p>The Council received an update about the Egg Packing Station Housing Project. It is hoped that the outline planning consent would be granted for the Egg Packing Station Housing Development by the end of October 2021. Then the price of the site can be firmed up so potentially a lot could happen over the next six weeks.</p> |
| | | <p>RESOLVED that Councillor Gordon Nicolson be thanked for the report about the Egg Packing Station Housing Project which was noted.</p> |
| | b. Footpath between Eden Bridge and Lazonby Swimming Pool. | <p>The Council received an update on the footpath between Eden Bridge and Lazonby Swimming Pool project. Councillor Hilary Carrick has secured £80,000 towards the footpath. This means that £20,000 still needs to be found to complete the project. There is also still preparation work to be done such as liaising with landowners to ensure that the footpath is an adaptable size.</p> |
| | | <p>RESOLVED that Councillor Hilary Carrick and Lazonby Parish Councillors will continue to look into how the Parish Council can raise the remaining funding that is needed to pay for the footpath project between Eden Bridge and Lazonby Swimming Pool.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that it be noted that the Parish Council thank</p> |

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| | | Councillor Hilary Carrick for all she has done to so far for the footpath between Eden Bridge and Lazonby Swimming Pool project. |
| | c. Hedgerow Planting near Eden Bridge. | <p>The Council received an update on the planting of a hedgerow alongside the road between Eden Bridge and the swimming pool. Councillor Hilary Carrick has to ask Cumbria County Council where the County Council's boundary starts so that the Parish Council knows where to plant the hedge up too and they have confirmed that it is Ok to pursue the planting of the hedge where suggested on Parish Council Land.</p> <p>RESOLVED that not that Cumbria County Highways has said to continue with the hedge Councillor Phillip Whitehead will now submit an application to the Woodlands Trust for hedging plants.</p> |
| | d. Pollinators Hedgerow Planting at Will Pool. | RESOLVED that it be noted that Councillor Phillip Whitehead is still working on the pollinator's hedgerow planting at Will Pool. |
| 21/201 | Financial Report by the Treasurer. | <p>The Council received a report from the Treasurer for September 2021 (please see attached Treasurer's Report).</p> <p>Item 4 of the Treasurer's Report - Notice of Conclusion to External Audit - The external auditor has confirmed that no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. The Notice of Conclusion has been published on the website, available from Sept 23rd until Oct 29th with the RFO's contact details should any Parishioner request clarification of the review or any printed copies. The times to contact the RFO will be Weekdays during that period between the hours of 10 am – 4 pm.</p> <p>It is also noted on the review that 2 technicalities were brought to my attention. Firstly regarding Staff Costs, since 2020 the Annual Return now requires that Staff Expenses should not be allocated as Staff Costs, these should be Other Expenditure. Secondly, any refunds made to the Council should not be allocated to Other Income but netted off so as not to inflate the total Income and Expenditure which could place the Council above the threshold for a Full Review. These 2 technical points did not incur any extra charge for amending the Return as this will be adjusted by myself prior to next years Return.</p> <p>As mentioned in the Monthly Expenditure the audit cost of £360 includes VAT of £60 and the charges applied relate to a sliding scale dependant upon the totals of Income and Expenditure. It is expected that the costs will be similar next year and thereafter or until the conclusion of the Egg Packing Station Project. Parishioners can contact Treasurer Chris Hoy if they wish to ask questions.</p> <p>The Kirkoswald Community Shop has had a recent good run on fishing permits.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Treasurer be thanked for his report, the contents of which were approved, accepted and noted.</p> |
| 21/202 | Authority for Payments. | <p>RESOLVED that the Council considered requests for payment received by the Treasurer, Clerk or Council Members, and agreed to pay the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sum of £1247.16 for the Annual Insurance Renewal to Zurich Municipal. This is an increase of £41.13 from the previous year. Included in the cost is the Building Insurance Fees for the Old School and is currently occupied by Croglin Ltd, which amounts to |

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| | | £506.95. This fee will be recovered from Croglin Ltd and will therefore have the effect of reducing the premium to the Parish to £740.21. |
| 21/203 | Planning Applications – Decisions. | <p>RESOLVED that it be noted that the following Planning Application Decisions were received:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning Application No. 21/0377 - Infill of lean to green oak porch and detached garage/office building, at High Hope House, Plumpton. - GRANTED. 2. Planning Application No. 21/0732 - Proposed extension to the existing barn to form additional residential accommodation, at Eden Field, Armathwaite, Carlisle - REFUSED. |
| 21/204 | LPC Cumbria Highways Link Person Report. | RESOLVED that it be noted that there was nothing to report regarding Highways issues in the parish. |
| 21/205 | The Old School Lease. | <p>The Council received notification that the 5 year Lease of the Old School matures after 5 years on the 31st January 2022. The terms and conditions of the lease will need to be reviewed. Also to look at an increase in the rent.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Finance & Budget Committee will review the rent for the next 5 year lease, at their next meeting in November 2021, and then they will bring their proposals back to the December 2021 meeting of the Parish Council for consideration and approval.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Croglin Designs and remind them of the Old School lease coming to the end of the 5 year lease in January 2022 and to ask them what their plans are for leasing the Old School.</p> |
| 21/206 | Local Government Reorganisation. | <p>The Council received an update about the Local Government Reorganisation. A key milestone in the LGR transition planning work was recently achieved - as the first formal meeting of the new Cumbria LGR Programme Board was held on Tuesday 14th September 2021. It was attended by all the Chief Executive Officers. The meeting signified the start of the programme and the following was key items for discussion including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final phase of work to agree on the various work streams and their named sponsors and projects leads • A discussion on programme development and future resourcing • An update on early work is now underway to gather a strong foundation of data and intelligence to help inform future decisions, and • Sign off for strategic communications and engagement plan on LGR to help ensure effective two way communication with all key stakeholders during the transition phase <p>Other topics on the agenda included a discussion around developing and agreeing on a clear set of Design Principles. The transition programme has now been grouped into three key overarching 'service based' themes – People, Place and Enabling Services and work are also now underway to develop a clear timeline for the next 19 months, based around four key phases for the project – these are:</p> <p>Phase one – Mobilisation - laying the foundation to include data gathering/getting everyone to a place of common understanding</p> |

and awareness/establishing governance/drafting the Structural Changes Order (SCO).
Phase two – Design - finalising and agreeing on the SCO/planning for elections/employee engagement.
Phase three – Implementation – putting in place the new Shadow Authorities/shaping service transition/countdown to vesting day.
Phase four – Stabilisation and closure – including Moving in/Vesting Day.

It was a very productive meeting supported by all the councils with a clear focus on building the two 'new houses' we will live in and delivering these two brand new councils successfully by April 2023. There is still a significant amount of work to be done in the mobilisation phase – including drafting the SCO– which is what will go to parliament to agree on the final transition governance arrangements. The County Council also updated the board that it had now received a letter from the Secretary of State – this letter is in response to a pre-action protocol letter that the County Council sent the Government in August which set out Cumbria County Council's concerns regarding the basis of the Secretary of State's decision. The County Council is now carefully considering their response, before deciding on its next steps in relation to any potential future legal action. It is appreciated that there is continued anxiety about the future but please be reassured that although they are still in the early stages of the process, they remain committed to working together to drive forward positive change for the people and communities of Cumbria.

Update on 29th September 2021

The Programme Board met again this week and is continuing to make progress on some of the immediate priorities. Each council has this week submitted to the Government its preferences on key matters to inform the drafting of the Structural Changes Order (SCO), the legislation that will be laid before Parliament by the Secretary of State to define the transition arrangements and formally establish the new councils. Although there was no formal consultation on the contents of the SCO, councils have been able to contribute ideas and preferences on things like the names of the new authorities and the numbers of councillors each should have. These preferences were submitted following discussions with political group leaders and the Programme Board is now looking to agree on political oversight arrangements for the programme moving forward.

The government will now put together a draft SCO this Autumn for us to consider before it is formally agreed by Parliament by March 2022 at the latest.

The Programme Board agreed to organise a workshop in November to explore in more detail the strategic economic development opportunities arising from the reorganisation. It also considered updates on mobilisation priorities, including:

- *Establishing a data and intelligence hub*
- *Initial programme budget and implementation costs*
- *Ensuring the programme is fully resourced and that council colleagues play an active role it was stressed that we want to make sure our people are directly involved in building the new authorities*
- *Finally, the board also noted Cumbria County Council's Cabinet decision on Thursday to proceed to the next stage of its intended claim for judicial review against the decision of the Secretary of State to implement the East/West two unitary authority proposal.*

If you have any questions, please email

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| | | <p>corporate.communications@cumbria.gov.uk</p> <p>The Cumbria Association Local Council (CALC) has sent out a questionnaire for Town and Parish Councils to fill out with the following explanation:</p> <p>“The forthcoming reform of local government will be the biggest change since the dissolution of Cumberland and Westmorland in 1974. As you are no doubt aware the Secretary of State has stated a preference for two new unitary authorities in Cumbria – ‘East Cumbria’ (comprising Eden, South Lakeland and Barrow) and ‘West Cumbria’ (comprising Copeland, Allerdale and Carlisle), with the possibility of an overarching combined authority for the whole county that will include a mayor. As early engagement in the change process by town and parish councils may enable the new shadow unitary authority, which will be established in May 2022, to tailor their plans more closely to the needs of local communities, EALC is providing you with an opportunity to give us your views by completing the attached questionnaire and returning it to me by 12th November 2021.”</p> |
| | | <p>RESOLVED that the information and updates about the Local Government Reorganisation be noted.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that EALC 'East Cumbria' unitary authority questionnaire will be reintroduced on the November 2021 Parish Council Meeting's Agenda.</p> |
| 21/207 | Planters on main roads into the village. | <p>The Council consider the future of the planters on the main roads into the village. The Council discussed replacing the small planters with more substantial troughs for plants. Several parishioners have already kindly volunteered to help keep the original planters maintain so it is hoped they will still be happy to help if the old planters are replaced. The Parish Council discussed looking into having the Lazonby signs made out of sandstone.</p> |
| | | <p>RESOLVED that Councillor John Judson look into the costs of having new larger planters made.</p> <p>ALSO RESOLVED that Councillor Steve Craig look into the costs of having sandstone 'Lazonby' signs made.</p> |
| 21/208 | The Queens's Platinum Jubilee. | <p>The Council considered the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in the Parish. The Council discussed the possibility of giving funding towards some of the local events in the parish.</p> |
| | | <p>RESOLVED that the Clerk ask through the Parish Council Newsletter what local community groups and organisations are planning to do for the Queens's Platinum Jubilee, and inform the community there may be some funding available towards these events.</p> |
| <p>At this point in the meeting, the Chair addressed the Parish Council present to ask if they wished to carry on business beyond the two-hour time limit for Parish Council meetings. It was RESOLVED to continue to complete all business on the agenda.</p> | | |
| 21/209 | Invitations to Participate. | <p>The Council considered if Council Members would like to comment, take part in, attend, or send a representative to any invitations to participate.</p> <p>1. NALC policy consultation briefing on the DEFRA Local Nature Strategies consultation - if Councils wishes to comment on the consultation please send the comments to Chris Borg, Policy manager, National Association of Local Councils by 15th October.</p> |

2. Cumbria Highways Update for Parish & Town Councillors which includes a survey for Parish & Town Councillors focused on the HIAMS project, communications and engagement with the new system. The project team will use the results from this survey to further develop elements of the system and establish a communications, engagement and training strategy for the coming months to ensure Parish & Town Councillors continue to be fully supported. So if your council is having any issues with the new system please let Highways know by completing the survey.

3. Route Strategy Review – regarding the Route Strategies and the important role they play in developing the Department for Transport’s investment priorities for our network. National Highways (formerly Highways England) has just started a review of our Route Strategies. As part of the review, a consultation exercise is being undertaken. An online feedback tool has been launched for people to submit their comments. The consultation will continue until 30th November 2021. Colleagues in the Route Strategy Team are keen to draw on a wide range of comments from road users and others. Therefore, I’d be grateful if you could share this email with local councils in your area I am sure they will be keen to get involved with the consultation exercise. Below I’ve included links to some background material about the review and the online tool. MPs are to be invited to a series of roundtable sessions to discuss the review. Cumbria CC, Copeland BC, C LEP etc have also been contacted by the Route Strategy Team. However, I want to ensure local councils are aware that the review has started.

Route Strategy Review - The evidence gathered from the review will be key to the development of the Department for Transport’s next Road Investment Strategy (RIS 3 2025 – 30) and beyond. The review will allow informed decisions to be made on recommendations about future scheme options and investment priorities. This link will take you to our Route Strategies website where you will find more information about the review - <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/our-route-strategies/>

Consultation Exercise and Online Tool - As part of the review, a consultation exercise is being carried out and an online tool has been launched. The online tool is an easy-to-use web-based platform, which will enable road users to highlight key issues on our roads and changes they want for the future. This tool will also allow users to comment on a specific location on a motorway or major A-road, a longer route or more generally about the network. The consultation will run until 30th November 2021. Clicking on the following link which takes you to the online tool which can also be accessed from the Route Strategies website: <https://routestrategies.highwaysengland.co.uk/>

4. Inspiring Eden - Economic Development Prospectus - for Feedback by 5 pm on 29th October 2021. Please see the link to the webpage and PDF for the **Inspiring Eden**, the EDC Economic Prospectus which provides details of the vision, priorities and workstreams to drive economic recovery and prosperity across the district over the coming months and years: <https://www.eden.gov.uk/Economic-prospectus> .

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| | | <p>5. Notice of Cumbria Association of Local Council's (CALC) Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 16th October 2021 from 10.30 am via Microsoft Teams – the Agenda and Papers for the CALC AGM have been circulated. Please note that there are two items to follow which will be circulated shortly. There are three speakers at this year's AGM and attendees will have the opportunity to listen to two of them. Please let us know which speakers you want to listen to CALC will allocate the attendee to their group in an online 'break-out' room.</p> |
| | | RESOLVED that invitations to participate be noted. |
| 21/210 | INFORMATION given for reference only. | <p>RESOLVED that it be noted that the following information was given to the Council for reference only.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regular NALC Updates and Bulletins. 2. Media Release: New wellbeing and fitness scheme 'HowFit' encourages residents to keep fit and healthy at home. 3. Connecting Cumbria Newsletter - September 2021 |
| 21/211 | Date of the Next Meeting. | RESOLVED that the date of the next scheduled meeting be Wednesday 3 rd November 2021, at 7.30 pm, in the Village Hall. |

The meeting finished at 9.36 pm.