

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF CATON - WITH - LITTLEDALE
PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VICTORIA INSTITUTE
ON TUESDAY 12 JANUARY 2016.

PRESENT: Councillors : G Beckett, H Diggle, R Elvis, R Gibbons, C Kynch,
D Nesbitt, M Skeldon, S Thompson & J Walmsley. S Brown, Clerk.
J Davies, Lancaster Bus Users Group.

- 16/101 **To Receive Apologies for absence:** Cllr K Hill & Cllr R Paine.
- 16/102 **To approve Minutes of Meeting held on 8 December 2015 and sign them as a true record :** Proposed : Cllr Gibbons, Seconded Cllr Elvis.
- 16/103 **To Receive Declarations of Interest and authorise any Dispensations :**
None
- 16/104 **To Adjourn the meeting for the Open Session following which the meeting will be reconvened :** (Note this item was dealt with first.) Mr J Davies reported on Lancashire County Council's proposals for cuts to bus subsidies, including the 80/81 service along the Lune Valley, currently provided by Stagecoach. This may mean the loss of all services beyond Hornby, and possibly evening and Sunday bus services between our village and Lancaster. Lancaster Bus Users Group will send the Clerk data on bus usage from a 2014 survey.
- 16/105 **To Consider and Approve Policing and Community Together Matters :**
Nothing has been sent in from the Police, the Clerk is to request a report for next month's meeting
- 16/106 **To receive and approve County and District Councillor's Reports :**
No County nor District Councillors were in attendance.
- 16/107 **To Consider the future of Public Transport in The Lune Valley. To gather information and decide on future action :** Following the information provided in the Open Session, it was resolved that Cllr Walmsley and the clerk will start gathering information for the next meeting. Cllr Kynch and Cllr Nesbitt will ensure bus subsidies are raised at the LALC meeting at the end of the January. Cllr Nesbitt and Cllr Beckett plan to attend the January meeting of the Lancaster Bus Users Group. County Councillor Susie Charles will be invited to come to the next meeting to update us on Lancashire County Council's proposals.
- 16/108 **To Consider Emergency Planning : To set up a Working Party for Caton with Littledale.** There is no current plan for an emergency. A Working Group of Cllrs Thompson, Elvis. Gibbons & Walmsley will meet to discuss a plan.

16/109 **To Consider report to Rory Stewart MP, following Storm Desmond**
Cllr Walmsley had circulated a report outlining the damage caused by the recent storm. Councillors made some suggestions. The final report will be updated and circulated before despatch.

16/110 **To Consider Planning Applications received and note decisions :**

15/01515/FUL : Erection of a 2-storey front and rear extension, demolition of side garage and erection of a replacement single storey side extension, construction of a dormer window to the front elevation, installation of a replacement roof to create additional living space and excavation of ground levels to facilitate the erection of a detached garage with balcony over linked to the main dwelling at The Bungalow, Caton Green Road, Brookhouse LA2 9JG.
Resolved there were No Objections.

15/0170/TCA : Proposal : To Fell 2 conifers at : 14 Moorside Road, Brookhouse, Lancaster, LA2 9PJ **Resolved there were No Objections**

TPO/572 (2015) : To Protect the Oak Tree at the Fish Stone Steps, Caton
Resolved there were No Objections

The Clerk was asked to establish what Lancaster City Council would charge to provide printed copies of planning applications for the Parish Council to consult when considering applications.

16/111 **To Consider organising a Tidy Up Team following flooding in the area.** A Halton resident had suggested that the Caton Parish Council might organise a tidy-up at the Crook o'Lune, perhaps in conjunction with Quernmore Parish Council. Councillors noted that much of the land was privately owned, and that some of the debris such as hay bales and oil tanks would need skilled handling and disposal. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask the Environment Agency for advice and contact the Community Payback team to see what they could do with other rubbish in the area,

16/112 **To Consider Highways and Footpath Matters Etc - including SPiD, Bus Stop Marking outside 160/162 Brookhouse Rd, SAT NAV, Road Sign at Holme Lane.** SpiD - Cllr Gibbons will train Cllr Skeldon on erecting the SPiDs. A SPiD manual has now been obtained. (See also para 16/121).

Bus stop markings - Cllr Nesbitt will go down in person to the Highways Office in Caton to discuss the Bus Stop markings and legalities of parking over them. The Holme Lane SAT Nav Sign is on its way. Regarding the removal of Post Boxes, the post box on Brookhouse Rd was to be resited on a pillar about 10yds further up the road (nearer to the post

office and replacement of both post boxes has been chased up.

- 16/113 **To receive a report from the Working Party on using a lengthsman and decide on future action.** The Working Party had not yet met but would do so as soon as possible and report to the February PC meeting.. A job in need of urgent attention is the long high beech hedge in the churchyard. It was agreed it should be cut back to the height of the adjacent wall, even though the cost of the cutting and disposal of waste would be greater than for a gentle trim.
- 16/114 **To Consider Deed of Grant of Easement, for the Environment Agency, for access along Station Road to river gauging station.** The clerk has been asked to contact the Solicitor to ascertain if the request for periodic contributions for resurfacing is considered normal practice and if so, what contribution would be acceptable. Also if by having that clause in, does it negate the other clauses. Report back at next meeting
- 16/115 **To Consider the dedication of Moor Platt seating area to Caton with Littledale :** The Solicitors are obtaining the Legal Title from the Land Registry.
- 16/116 **To Consider accepting the Quote from Lancaster City Council for the mowing of the Fell View Play Area and field during 2016: £914 plus VAT.** It was resolved that the clerk obtain two more quotes to consider alongside the City Council's quote.
- 16/117 **To approve Accounts for Payment :** Authority is requested for the payment of the following from the Current Account : Approved Cllr Elvis, Seconded Cllr Skeldon

Clerk's Salary for January : S Brown	£ 332.18
HMR&C for PAYE Tax due on salary	£ 11.80
Expenses for the month, inc Travel; S Brown	£ 40.76
Victoria Institute, Meeting December	£ 24.75
Twinning Grant	£ 500.00
E-On: 1 Oct - 31 Dec 2015, Lighting for Car Park	£ 13.93
Monthly Standing Orders : January	
Victoria Institute, Admin Grant	£1000.00
Victoria Institute, Public Toilet Cleaning	£ 152.00
Mr B Postlethwaite, to open/close public toilets	£ 40.00
Ms J Hudson-Mather, Fell View zip wire locking	£ 40.00

- 16/118 **To approve the budget for 2016-17, including the cleaning of the public toilet and resolve whether to increase the precept :** It was resolved that the current payment to the Victoria Institute for the Public Toilet cleaning did not need any revision. After discussion it was proposed

by Cllr Gibbons and seconded by Cllr Walmlsey that the increased precept figure of £ 29,440 be requested from the City Council.

- 16/119 **To Consider planting a sapling alongside the Oak Tree at the Fish Stones** : There is a new Tree Preservation Order in place for the Old Oak Tree. The clerk has been asked to seek advice from the Tree Preservation Officer on whether a new sapling would grow next to the old tree, given the last attempt failed.
- 16/120 **To Consider recommendations for a replacement tree at the War Memorial** : Various types of trees have been suggested, featuring autumn colour and with a columnar habit. Some may be too large for the area and block out the light. Growing a permanent Christmas tree in the area is also to be considered. All councillors to consider recommendations with a view to making a decision at the February meeting..
- 16/121 **To Consider sharing a SPiD with Gressingham Parish Council.** Cllr Gibbons has made contact with Gressingham Parish Council. Sharing the SPiD with Gressingham would be dependent on arrangements for insurance etc. Cllr Gibbons had agreed to train their volunteers..
- 16/122 **To Consider reports from Outside Bodies & Working Groups; including Twinning, Victoria Institute, Website, Fell View Play Park Action Group, LALC, Finance Working Group, Poor's Land :**
- Twining** : Burns Night has sold out. **Victoria Institute** : No Report. **Website** : No Report. **FVPPAG** : The recent meeting agreed that Georgina Peacock would undertake the design for the new slide and disabled equipment. **LALC** : Meeting at the end of the month. **Finance Working Group** : A date for the checking of the previous quarter's transactions needs to be arranged for early February. **Poor's Land** : Cllr Nesbitt will send out a report shortly.
- 16/123 **To note Correspondence received** : Invitations for the Lancashire Civic County Carol Service have been declined. Cllr Walmlsey did not wish to be nominated this year for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party.
- Enquiry from Morecambe Town Hall about financial support from parish councils for media campaign on dangerous parking near schools – no further action. Flood markings on Thirlmere Bridge need to be done, once the ground has dried. Cllr Elvis will undertake this.
- 16/124 **To note the date of the next Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 9 February 2016. Agenda closes Wed 3 February, Delivery and Notices posted will be Thursday 4 February.**