

# Waverton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7.30pm.

## Present

Councillors G.Girvan (Chairman), L.Graham, J Spark, T Huntington, S.Peile, W Paterson. Also present Clerk A.M.Paterson and District Councillor A Hedworth

### 051/15 Chairman's opening remarks.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

### 052/15 Apologies for absence

J Dixon, H.Routledge and County Councillor R Liddle plus PCSO Kier Irving

### 053/15 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No requests were received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

### 054/15 Minutes

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015 be signed by the chairman as a true record.

### 055/15 Public Participation (at the Chairman's discretion)

None present

### 056/15 Reports from outside bodies.

**Report from the County Councillor.** Apologies received but a written report read out.

1. The County Council faces an extremely difficult situation on its budget, the full extent of which will not become clear until after the autumn statement from the Chancellor this week. By the end of 2020, the Council is expected to have to made some £200m saving in all. About £120m of those savings have already been achieved. But on the remaining £400m revenue budget, a further £80m savings - at least - will have to be made. This mainly takes the form of reductions in staff. By 2020 the County's staff numbers will have reduced from 8000 in 2010 to 5000 in 2020. Savings of this order cannot be made without a considerable impact on services. In the case of Wigton and the villages around, I am particularly focused on the future of the Library ( for which the community may have to take responsibility), adult social care (though the new Extra Care Housing that is about to be opened on the old Huntingtons garage is a welcome improvement in the availability of options for the elderly in need of care) and the impending further reorganisation of highways which will be necessary to cuts costs.

As Wigton's County councillor, and from my position in the House of Lords, I have also been campaigning for local government reorganisation to remove the duplications of two tier authorities. I also helped instigate discussions on a so called Cumbria Deal which would involve the devolution of extra powers and money from central government to the county for purposes such as infrastructure and skills: the government also wants us to have an elected mayor for Cumbria. The future of the Deal now lies in the hands of ministers.

2. The Cumbria Highways team are fully aware of what needs to be done at the Spitting Box junction. The manager, Karl Melville, tells me the work can quickly be out in hand once the design of the scheme is complete. I will keep pressing for early action.

3. On the A596 the Parish might consider making representations to the Police about enforcement of the 40 limit. I will contact the Police Commissioner, Richard Rhodes, if this is thought helpful.

4. I remain engaged on the issue of lorry traffic to Iggesund and am in regular contact with Colin Murray of Waverton. Our highways officers are convinced that there should be some improvement because of the undertakings Iggesund have made and, it is claimed, increased use of the Port of Workington. I keep pressing for the full facts. But as is so often the case with Cumbria issues, matters are not helped by the division of responsibilities between two tiers of local government.

I am always willing to meet representatives of the parish to discuss issues at times of mutual convenience.

**Report from the District Councillor.** Cllr A Hedworth attended the meeting and that Allerdale BC are discussing budgets.

**Report from the Community Police Officer.** PCSO K Irving sent apologies but a report was received.

Thank you for your invite to attend the Waverton Parish Council Meeting at Waverton Parish halls on 26th November 2015 I will not be able to attend the meeting as I will not be on duty at the time of the meeting. However if there is any issues please feel free to email me on the below email. There have been 1 incidents reported to the Police for the area of Waverton since the last meeting. Below is an over view of some of the incidents reported for the public Interest. On the 5th November 2015 the Police attended the A596 at Waverton after 15-20 cows were reported to be on the road. A Police patrol attended and the cows were moved into a field.

**Report from Wigton Burial Board** – Councillor G Girvan and L Graham had attended a meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015. They reported that lengthy discussions had taken place to discuss the budget.

**Report from Village Hall Committee.** Councillor L Graham reported that a family bingo is to take place in on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 starting at 7.15pm.

**Report from the Internal Drainage Board** – The Council have been sent information from the NFU about the current position of the proposed internal drainage board for the Waver Wampool area.

#### **057/15 Payment of Accounts**

The following payments were authorised by the council

Cheque No

**Cheque No**      **Payee**

100449      Wigton Burial Board, 2<sup>nd</sup> Instalment precept £1000.00

100450      A.M Paterson (Clerks salary Oct/Nov) + expenses £142.95

100451      Waverton Village Hall grant £100.00

100452      Great North Air Ambulance, resolved a grant award of £100.00

Waverton P.C.C grant £100.00- **deferred** awaiting further information

Blencogo & District Village Hall grant £100.00 - **deferred** awaiting further information, but approved by council for payment if grant is still required.

#### **058/15 Financial report.**

The Councils Accounts and reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015 were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman.

Pension Regulation - Pension staging date 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. No employee meets the criteria for automatic enrolment but the council will have to complete compliance paperwork after the staging date to avoid a fine.

#### **059/15 Precept**

**Budget for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 (see attached)**

**RESOLUTION: The Proposed Precept for 2016-2017 is £ 4400.** The council resolved to agree the total amount to be precepted including grants to be £4400. The council have to agree the amount to be collected from the Precept. (Unless the Burial Board precept is more than £50 different from that set on the precept budget). The council authorise the chairman and RFO to alter the precept as necessary when the actual figures are known for the Burial

Board precept. The clerk has to complete the claim form from Allerdale BC by 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2016.

### **060/15 Correspondence.**

The following items of correspondence were noted.

- i. West Street Health Centre – request for funding for citizens advice service. Resolved – not to support as the council already gives a grant at Citizen Advice Wigton.
- ii. National Grid – North West Coast Connections
- iii. ACT – New tourism development funding for rural Cumbria businesses
- iv. Connecting Cumbria – Newsletter
- v. Cumbria Constabulary – Allerdale Rural GAR, change of inspector plus correspondence from PCSO to fight the police cuts.
- vi. NFU – Proposed Water Level Management Board for the Waver Wampool
- vii. CALC Allerdale – Next meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December at Allerdale House. Minutes of meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> Sept at Wigton Market Hall
- viii. North West Ambulance Service Trust – asking if the council is interested in working with them to place a defibrillator in the BT phone box. The clerk is to request further information.
- ix. Cumbria County Council – Public Budget Consultation
- x. National Plant Monitoring Scheme – new squares for volunteers
- xi. Allerdale BC – budget consultation
- xii. Connecting Cumbria – request for support in raising awareness of Connecting Cumbria Programme
- xiii. Great North Air Ambulance – request for grant. Resolved to give £100 grant for its work in Cumbria.
- xiv. Sue Hayman MP – asking if any parishioners have been sent mineral rights letters. The clerk to reply that letters have been received within the parish.

### **061/15 Planning Matters.**

The following planning application was noted.

**Consultation** – None received

**Decisions** – None received

### **062/15 Highway Matters**

The following Highways matters were noted:

- i) The Clerk had not had any update on items reported at the last meeting. The Council are to write to Cumbria Highways to thank them for the completed works on the Aikbank road which are a huge improvement and also ask again for progress on other outstanding issues.
- ii) The Council also need to report that the sign at the A596/Aikbank junction requires repair and a large pothole on the A596/Blencogo road at the bottom of the hill on the approach to the village.

### **063/15 Recognitions**

The Parish Council would like to show its gratitude for good citizens of the Parish by sending a big ‘Thank You’ to the following; Keith and Diane Turnbull, Barbara Pearson for tidying and maintaining of Parish areas. Also Waverton Garage for providing a service to the community and a well stocked local shop.

### **064/15 Parish Plan**

Nothing to report

**065/15 CALC**

The contents of CALC correspondence were noted.

- i. CALC circular October and November 2015
- ii. Agenda for CALC AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and Annual Report
- iii. Transparency fund – application for funding for website and quotes. It was resolved to accept the quote from Andrew Ward and apply for funding to create a simple website.

**066/15 Items for inclusion on the next Agenda**

Usual Agenda items

**067/15 Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the date of the next meeting will be on the **25<sup>th</sup> February 2016** in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016