

RAVENSTONEDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 14th July 2005 in Newbiggin-on-Lune Public Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillor John Bull (Chairman), Councillors Caroline Morris, Ernest Leach and Fanny Jackson
Clerk, Chris Elphick.
County Councillor Tim Stoddard
Public: Gary Kirby, Frank Chalmers.

Apologies for absence were been received from Councillors Hilary Mirrey (holiday), Paul Capstick (work), Janet Brownrigg (holiday) and District Councillor Michael Metcalfe-Gibson.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th June 2005 had been circulated.
Resolved that the minutes be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Children's Playgrounds

Newbiggin-on-Lune site

The planning application for "change of use" is progressing but the County Archaeologist believes that there is evidence of earlier settlement on the site and may request some modification to the proposed area. Clerk will meet him on site on Thursday 21st July at 3.00pm.

Ravenstonedale site

Transfer documents have been submitted to the Land Registry. A survey of the condition of trees surrounding the proposed play area has been instigated as part of a risk assessment exercise. Following the report a scheme of works will be drawn up.

Planning Applications

- No. 05/0301 CONVERSION OF VACANT BARN TO PROVIDE 3 UNITS OF ACCOMMODATION FOR HOLIDAY LETTING
Type Full Application
Location Vacant Barn Adjacent to The Green, Ravenstonedale CA17 4NW
Applicant Mr & Mrs K Hutchinson
Parish Council No Objections GRANTED
- No. 05/0566 INSTALLATION OF 1No. 0.3m DISH AT 31.5m AND 1No. EQUIPMENT CABINET FOR BT.
Type Full Application
Location Arqiva Ravenstonedale Transmitter, Ash Fell
Applicant Arqiva
Parish Council Recommend condition that the site should include tree/shrub screening as indicated on plan submitted but not specified in writing.
- No. 05/0543 CHANGE OF USE OF EXISTING STORES TO FORM ANCILLARY ACCOMMODATION, AND CONSTRUCTION OF REPLACEMENT PORCH
Type Full Application
Location Lytheside, Ravenstonedale
Applicant Mr & Mrs T Reeves
Parish Council No objections
- No. 05/0544 CHANGE OF USE OF EXISTING STORES TO FORM ANCILLARY ACCOMMODATION, AND CONSTRUCTION OF REPLACEMENT PORCH
Type Listed Building consent
Location Lytheside, Ravenstonedale
Applicant Mr & Mrs T Reeves
Parish Council This development will not materially affect the visual integrity of the property.

The Shrubbery – Village Garden

A schedule of maintenance works required to make safe and enhance the appearance of the garden has been prepared. On-site consultation has been held with Eden District Council's Tree Conservation Officer, Alizon Hall. It has been agreed that two mature cypress trees at the back of the garden are to be felled in order to expose the large oak tree and increase light to the undergrowth.

Frank Chalmers and Barbara & Roy Hopkins have been trimming the box shrubs and grass.

Health & Safety Issues have been addressed and the use of chainsaws on site by untrained operators prohibited. A local contractor, Patrick Galloway, has been commissioned to carry out the felling.

Finance

There were no accounts for payment.

Bank Account Balances @ 07/07/05

Parish Council	£6,862.91
Playground Committee	£4,962.72

Cumbria Police

Resolved that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are to complete a Community Consultation Survey of local police performance on behalf of the council.

Eden District Council

Draft Statement of Community Involvement – Comments Form.

It was considered that the Statement indicated little change from existing practice.

Resolved that no further comment was required.

Joint Parishes Plan Proposal for Kirkby Stephen & District

Councillor Morris had attended the latest meeting of the Upper Eden Parish Plan Committee on 30th June. It has been proposed by Voluntary Action Cumbria that Kirkby Stephen should prepare a Parish Plan, following its Vital Villages survey report. It has been further suggested that the surrounding parishes may wish to pursue a joint venture, identifying issues in common with Kirkby Stephen.

Preparation of a plan would involve much volunteer time and be co-ordinated by VAC who would obtain grant funding. A cash contribution of 5% would be required from participants although a definite sum was not quoted.

A letter indicating that the parish would support the plan had been requested by the end of July. Councillors considered that more information was needed before making a commitment.

Resolved that a representative of VAC be invited to address the council at its meeting on 8th September 2005.

Land Worthy of National Landscape Designation

A timetable for the consultation process prior to designation as National Park Status had been received from the Countryside Agency. It was indicated that the plan might be implemented by the end of 2007.

Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act 2005

It was noted that the Act would permit Parish Councils to impose fines on Dog-Fouling offenders and others. Proceeds would be retained by the council.

Public Participation

A document containing proposals for Parish Planning and future Vision had been received from local resident, Frank Chalmers. The paper had been circulated to councillors with the meeting agenda. This provoked a lively discussion.

It was pointed out that the activities of a parish council are controlled by statute and that some of the suggestions were either outside the scope of the relevant Acts or were the responsibility of other agencies. There are also cost implications for every additional activity.

It was also explained that the council is already engaged in a comprehensive programme of activities including provision of children's playgrounds, and a proposed cycleway.

The process of internal and external audit was explained, as were the procedures for Councillors' Declarations of Interest and Codes of Conduct.

A Parish Council website is currently being prepared.

Mr Gary Kirby, landlord of the Kings Head, Ravenstonedale gave details of the complex demands of the new Licensing Act and the expense of compliance. Mr Kirby also requested road signs indicating the presence of the endangered red squirrels in the area. Frank Chalmers stated that he would provide some "unofficial" signs.

Resolved that the Clerk request County Highways to provide official signs.

Correspondence received

Creative Sign Solutions Catalogue

Clerks & Councils Direct

Local Council Review

Eden Area Police Liaison Forum – Meeting 25 July 7.00pm Alston – Agenda

A7 De-Trunking leaflet

The Local Channel - newsletter

The foregoing items of correspondence were noted or circulated as appropriate

Date of next meeting: Thursday 8th September 2005

Signed _____Chairman

Date 8th September 2005