

## RAVENSTONEDALE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011 in Ravenstonedale High Chapel Room following the Annual Parish Meeting

**Present** Cllr Caroline Morris (Chairman) Cllrs Helen Shields, Hilary Law , Alison Morriss, James Richardson and Ernest Leach.  
Clerk. Chris Elphick  
UECP Project Officer, Libby Bateman  
Four members of the public

**Apologies for Absence** had been received from Cllr Paul Capstick, County Councillor Peter Thornton and District Councillor George Boustead

#### **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in any item on the agenda.

**Minutes of the Meeting** held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2011 had been circulated and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **Local Council Elections 5<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

Six candidates had been nominated for the seven seats available to the parish council. Current chairman, Caroline Morris, is not standing for re-election. In the event of there being fewer nominations than the number of seats available all nominees are declared to be elected. The parish council may now, without the need to advertise, co-opt a further member. The council may, however, use its discretion and choose to advertise the vacancy.

#### **Ravenstonedale High Chapel**

Listed Building consent has been granted to remove pews etc. subject to provision of a Listed Building Survey being provided to EDC's Conservation Officer. This survey has been carried out by Garsdale Design Ltd.

Redundant pews are being offered for sale.

A survey of the graveyard memorials was carried out in May 2010 prior to the council's ownership. Several gravestones were found to require stabilisation measures at a cost of £450.00 plus VAT. Able Memorials has agreed to carry out the work at the quoted price plus an additional £50.00 to raise and secure one gravestone currently on its side leaning against the wall.

A former local resident with generations of his family in the graveyard, Mr John Bunney, has offered the sum of £1,000 towards the upkeep of the graveyard and its memorials.

It was **resolved** that Able Memorials be authorised to carry out works in accordance with their quotation.

It was **resolved** that a large holly bush in front of the main entrance to the chapel be removed to permit improved visual amenity. Steven Hodgson to be instructed.

#### **Highways**

Following sustained representations from the Parish Council Cumbria Highways has agreed to remove a dangerously diseased horse chestnut tree which overhangs the highway and reinstate the decaying roadside wall opposite the Old Vicarage to the Scar Gallery.

##### Damage to roadside seat at Garshill

The person responsible for the damage, on or about 18<sup>th</sup> December 2010, has been traced. The Council's solicitor has written requesting payment failing which the matter will be taken to the Small Claims Court. The cost of a comparable replacement seat is approximately £700.

The Parish Council continues to press for a pedestrian/cycleway between the villages of Ravenstonedale and Newbiggin-on-Lune. The project is now on Cumbria Highways' projects for the future action.

Proposed works on the becks side wall between the Irish Ford and Tarngill Footbridge. (From Cumbria Highways)

Scour action has eroded the banking and is getting behind the bridge retaining wall on the upstream right hand side.

We propose to repair by constructing a rock armour wall using 1 tonne blocks (constructed to the height of the existing training wall - backfilling and grading down the embankment from surface to wall level) - approximately 2 blocks high.

Extent of rock armour from the drainage pipe adjacent to the ford tying into the existing retaining wall – approx. 40m length.

We have Environment Agency consent to undertake the works.

We also have approval to clean the vegetation build up from the left hand channel and use as backfill to the wall. This will assist with scour protection and hopefully aid flood relief in the area.

Works are programmed to take place in June 2011. We have received concerns from residents/landowners in the Adamthwaite region that the Irish Ford is causing flooding at that location.

We have no reason to believe that is the case - By nature of design an Irish Ford lets water pass over the top as well as under during flood conditions.

Concerns have also been raised with regard to safety in passage over the Ford in high flows.

To this end we have programmed the design of a replacement structure (possible masonry arch) for funding 2012/13 with structure replacement 2013/14. If any spare funding is available during this financial year e.g. cancellation of an existing programmed scheme, we will try to bring the works forward 1 year.

## Finance

The Clerk distributed Draft Statement of Accounts 2010-2011

### Sum received

HMRC (VAT)	£121.21
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### Accounts paid prior to meeting

e-on (High Chapel Electricity)	£ 58.02
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### Accounts for Payment

Friends of the Lake District	£ 15.00
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CALC Subscription	£142.00
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ASHTAV Subscription	£ 15.00
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The foregoing items were approved for payment.

## Planning Applications

No. 11/0081	REMOVAL OF INTERNAL FEATURES OF CHAPEL
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Type	Listed Building
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Location	High Chapel, Ravenstonedale
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Applicant	Ravenstonedale Parish Council
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Parish Council	Support this application
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GRANTED

## Scandal Beck Green

### Use of facilities for "backwoods" instruction

It is appreciated that the backwoods instruction is a valuable extra curricular activity for the children. It had been noted, however, that on a recent occasion the instruction had taken place within the area of the swings instead of the outdoor classroom area.

At the end of the session rustic benches constructed by the children had been left within the swings area. It was further noted that a tree had been felled and branches left in the shrubbery.

Safety issues need to be addressed regarding the felling of trees in a public area and the disposal of benches etc following a training session.

It was agreed therefore that the school should be contacted to establish a code of conduct for the usage of Scandal Beck Green, especially in adverse conditions, which is acceptable to all parties.

### **Broadband in Upper Eden**

Research continues into a number of viable alternative systems of Broadband distribution in Upper Eden. Cumbria County Council has major funding for the whole of Cumbria.

Libby Bateman, UECP Project Officer, has been working with various agencies and has volunteered to be Ravenstonedale's Broadband Champion, in conjunction with the East Cumbria Community Broadband Forum.

### **Request for Funding**

A request for funding had been received from Kirkby Stephen & District Swimming Club towards the maintenance of the open air pool at Kirkby Stephen. It was felt that nobody from Ravenstonedale used the pool as superior facilities were available at Kendal and Appleby. No donation was awarded.

### **Upper Eden Community Plan Group**

Cllr Law and the Clerk had attended a meeting of the UECP on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2011. The majority of the amendments, which Ravenstonedale PC had requested, to the Articles of Association of the proposed UECP – Community Interest Company (CIC) had not been incorporated in the final draft of the document. Roger Roberts (ACT) stated that it was not possible to deviate materially from the Model CIC document. The UECP meeting resolved to register the CIC with three member councils as initial directors.

In the event that the amendments required by Ravenstonedale Parish Council in order to make the Articles of Association acceptable had not been incorporated, it was **resolved** that no decision to become a member of the UECP – CIC be made at this time.

It was noted from the Financial Statement of UECP for 2010-2011 that only twelve of the seventeen member parishes had made a financial contribution to the funds during the year.

### **Public Participation**

There were no contributions from members of the public

### **Correspondence received**

CALC – Circular, April  
ACT Gazette  
Water Friendly Farming – Guide  
Habitat Herald – Lune Rivers Trust  
CCC – Cumbria & Lakes Rider  
Electoral Review of Cumbria

**Date of next meeting: Annual Parish Council Meeting Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

Date 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011