

RAVENSTONEDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 12th May 2011 in Ravenstonedale High Chapel Room at 7.30pm

Present Caroline Morris (Chairman) Cllrs Helen Shields, Hilary Law , Alison Morriss, James Richardson and Ernest Leach.
Clerk. Chris Elphick
District Councillor Ian Torkington
One member of the public

Prior to the commencement of the meeting each councillor had signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Election of Chairman for the year 2011-2012

Caroline Morris took the chair and invited nominations for the position of Chairman. (Caroline had not stood for re-election to the council).
Councillor Ernest Leach was nominated and elected unanimously and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Chairman.

Mrs Morris expressed her thanks to all councillors and the clerk for their help and co-operation during her term of office.

Election of Vice-Chairman for the year 2011-2012

Councillor Leach took the chair and invited nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman.
Cllr Hilary Law was proposed and elected unanimously. Cllr Law signed a Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Vice-Chairman.

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Law declared an interest in planning application No. 11/0177. She is a neighbour of the applicant and a partner in the construction company carrying out the work.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Paul Capstick, County Councillor Peter Thornton and UECP Project Officer Libby Bateman.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 14th April 2011 had been circulated and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Co-option of Parish Councillor

Only six nominations were received at the recent Parish Council Elections for the seven seats on Ravenstonedale Parish Council. The six candidates were therefore deemed to have been elected. The vacancy may now be filled without the need for further election. CALC advice is that the vacancy should be advertised as some potential councillors would be willing to serve but would not join an election contest. All should now have an equal opportunity. The Clerk is to advertise the vacancy. Applications will be considered at the council meeting on 9th June.

Finance

Sums Received

EDC Precept	£16,000.00
Sale of chapel pews to 12 th May	£ 595.50
Chapel Donation from Open House	£ 100.00

Accounts for Payment

Broker Network (Insurance)	£ 1,367.85
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Grant – St Oswald's Churchyard	£ 500.00	(to be saved for Memorial works)
Grant – N-o-L Public Hall	£ 500.00	
Steven Hodgson (Tree works High Chapel)	£ 318.00	
Lanquest Construction (High Chapel survey)	£ 363.48	
Peter Taylor (High Chapel)	£ 522.86	

Ravenstonedale High Chapel

Proposals for Management Committee.

It was considered desirable that the Community & Heritage Centre should be managed by a committee, comprising parish councillors, user and other representatives. The management committee would be registered as a Charity which would be answerable to the Parish Council.

The name suggested was Ravenstonedale Community and Heritage Centre. Registered Charity status would have advantages when appealing for grant aid as well as other considerations. Three councillors and the clerk volunteered to be initial trustees of the charity. They were Helen Shields, Hilary Law and Alison Morriss. The Clerk is to draft an initial Constitution.

All pews have now been removed from the chapel and sold. The proceeds have been allocated to a dedicated fund within the council's account. Exploratory excavation indicates that it would be feasible to excavate at the south end of the chapel grounds to build ground floor toilets.

A donation of £100 towards the project has been received from the "Open House" group which currently meets in the Low Chapel.

Planning Applications

No. 11/0177 Non-Material minor amendment to application No. 07/0300. Change in location of terrace steps.
 Location The Chantry, Ravenstonedale
 Parish Council No comments to add to those made on application No. 07/0300.

Designation as National Park

Consultation documents have been received on latest draft proposals from Natural England.
 Proposed boundaries have been altered. There will be a Drop In day at Newbiggin-on-Lune during June - Date to be advised.

Repairs to Irish Ford and Tarn Gill Footbridge at Town Head.

Cumbria Highways are to carry out remedial works - programmed for June 2011
 From Highways Engineer John Bell -
 "Please see attached photograph of flood damage on land (I presume to be Parish adjacent to the ford tying into the existing training 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".
 "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 eg cancellation of an existing programmed scheme, we will try to bring the works forward 1 year".

Damage to Public Seat at Garshill

Cheque for £700. in compensation has been received from the vehicle owner following representations from th parish council's solicitor. Order may now be placed for a replacement seat.

Scandal Beck Green

A funding application to CWMET for £6,000 towards the rebuilding of the final section of the becksid wall has been recommended for approval. Confirmation should be received during this month.

CALC "Selectives" Training

It was resolved not to ask CALC for a training session.

Ravenstonedale Parish History Group

The history group contiues to meet on Thursday afternoons. Visitors with local connections have been welcomed and the cataloguing of documents continues. A visit to Weardale Museum has been organised for a date in June.

Public Participation

There were no contributions from members of the public

Correspondence received

CALC – County Circular May 2011

Clerks & Councils Direct

FoLD – Annual Review

Upper Eden Neighbourhood Forum – Appleby Fair meeting 17th May, Appleby PH

Date of next meeting: Thursday 9th June 2011

Signed _____ Chairman Date 9th June 2011