

RAVENSTONEDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 12th April 2012 in Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre at 7.30pm

Present Ernest Leach (Chairman) Cllrs, Paul Capstick, Alex Watts-Tobin and Hilary Law
Clerk. Chris Elphick
UECP Project Officer, Libby Bateman

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Alison Morriss, James Richardson, Helen Shields, District Councillor Ian Torkington and County Councillor Peter Thornton

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in any item on this agenda.

Minutes of the Meeting held on 8^h March 2012 had been circulated and were signed by the chairman as a correct record.

Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre

It was reported that activities to improve the structure of the building continue. Quotations are being sought for re-roofing, repairs to the vestry floor and a new heating system to replace the one installed in 1895. A Bat Survey will be required before major works can be carried out to the roof.

A Rating Valuation Officer has visited to assess potential business rates liability. It should be possible to obtain a full rebate for not-for-profit activities.

Grant applications have been made towards the cost of tables & chairs.

Expenditure was authorised for the erection of a partition in the upper meeting room to contain the records and equipment of Ravenstonedale Parish History Group, provision of additional power points and the renewal of the vestry floor.

A donation had been received from a relative which covered the cost of repair to the gravestone damaged by a falling tree in January.

A "Home Insulation Advice Session" run by Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CafS) will be held in the main hall on Sat 24th March.

Planning Applications

No. 12/0229 Demolition of garage and replacement with new garage
Type Full Application
Location Tower House, Brownber, CA17 4NX
Applicant Mr & Mrs J Wardrope
Parish Council No objections

No. 12/1230 Listed Building Consent as 12/0229
Parish Council No objections

Finance

The Clerk presented a draft Statement of Accounts for 2011-12. This was received without comment.

The Clerk is to attend a Branch Conference of the SLCC in May. Application has been made to NALC for a Clerks' Training Bursary which will cover half the cost.

It was reported that Local Government Pay for the year 2012/2013 (including parish clerks' pay) has again been frozen.

Accounts Paid prior to meeting

Able Memorials (Headstone repair)	£ 60.00
C J Elphick (Printer ink)	£ 64.48
Richard Dinsdale (Seat installation)	£ 238.80
Raven Graphics (Playground signs)	£ 150.00
Raven Graphics (Cycleway sign)	£ 35.00
Raven Graphics (Seat plaque)	£ 45.00

Sums Received

HMRC VAT repayment	£ 404.05
Donation towards Commemorative Seat	£ 876.00

Accounts for Payment

C J Elphick (April)	£ 467.40
HMRC (Month 1)	£ 12.60
FoLD Subs	£ 15.00
CALC (Annual Subscription)	£ 146.00
e-on (Electricity)	£ 104.46

HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Cllr Helen Shields reported on a joint committee meeting between all parties within the Parish and gave a timetable of proposed events taking place over the Jubilee weekend.

The Community & Heritage Centre will be hosting an exhibition of local houses and their occupants in 1952 plus a senior citizens' tea party.

Highways

The parapet wall of the former Railway Bridge at Ravenstonedale is in need of repair. Cumbria Highways had suggested that, as the parapets now serve no practical purpose (the bridge having been filled in) it would be more cost effective to remove the stonework for use elsewhere and replace it with wooden barriers. Representations had been received from local residents that the parapets were historic artifacts and should be retained.

It was **resolved** that, subject to Highways approval, repairs would be carried out at Parish Council expense. Funding would be available from reserves intended for the cycleway which, in the event, was constructed at no cost to the PC.

Suggestion was made that the fence separating the new cycleway should be continuous throughout its length. Clerk to discuss with Highways.

It was also suggested that wild flower seed should be sown along the new cycleway banking. Clerk to discuss with Highways.

Play Areas

A public seat has been installed in the Scandal Beck play area. This has been funded by the Akrigg family, formerly of High Stennerskeugh. A commemorative plaque will be attached.

It was noted that a regular inspection routine, apart from annual inspections, was not in place for the two playgrounds in the parish. Cllr Watts-Tobin volunteered to report on the N-o-L play area. Clerk to provide weekly inspection sheets.

Cllr Watts-Tobin had reported that the stone wall adjacent to the N-o-L play area had collapsed and was blocking the footpath. This is a designated Public Highway. Ownership and liability to be ascertained.

Public Sector Mapping Agreement with Ordnance Survey

New legislation entitles local councils to free access to the services of the Ordnance Survey through a Public Service Mapping Agreement (PSMA).

This will permit the downloading of maps for parish council purposes, planning and other information.

Clerk has applied for membership on behalf of the parish council.

UECIC

Project Officer Libby Bateman reported on the current activities of the CIC. These included the reopening of Kirkby Stephen Visitor Centre and a Town Twinning event with a corresponding Italian area.

Libby noted that her contract period as Project Officer with the UECP was ending on 30th April 2012. UECIC was now advertising for a Development Officer. Libby has elected not to apply.

Public Participation

There were no contributions from members of the public

Correspondence received

CALC – Circular April 2012

CCC Travel Map

ASHTAV Magazine

Date of next meeting (AGM/APM): Thursday 10th May 2012

Signed _____ Chairman Date 10th May 2012