

Bassenthwaite Parish Council

Minutes of Bassenthwaite Annual Parish Meeting

held in the Parish Room on Thursday 12th May 2017 at 7.00pm.

Bass min 123AP **Draft minutes to be ratified at the May 2018 Annual Parish Meeting.**

Cllrs Present: John Stephens, Robert James, Helen Reb, Norman Harrop & Keith McMillan.

Also Present: Malcolm Grainger (Allerdale Borough Councillor) & Elizabeth Clark (Clerk).

1) **Apologies** – Cllr Bowness (Cumbria County Councillor), PCSO Smith & L McMillan.

2) **Minutes** Resolved - that the Chairman sign as a correct record minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 12th May 2016.

3) **Chairman's Report** - The Parish Council has met eleven times in the past year. There have been fourteen planning applications.

The Parish Council was below full strength for part of this year but co-option of one new councillor brought us back to our full contingent of nine.

Flood damage to the wooden footbridge and beck sides were repaired during the year and the beck was also dredged removing six hundred tons of spoil.

The BIG lottery fund grant to rebuild the Parish Room was approved with the payment of the grant being to the Parish Room Management Committee rather than the Parish Council. To facilitate this change of recipient the council entered into a formal lease agreement with the management committee at a peppercorn rent.

The rebuilding of the Parish Room began at the end of January 2017 and is scheduled to finish before the end of August 2017. The new room will have a bigger hall, modern kitchen and facilities, disabled access throughout, a separate upstairs meeting room and broadband connection.

Police attendance at Parish Council meetings has been rare over the past year but incidents for all areas are now reported on a police web site allowing access to all.

The LDNPA are still pursuing the re-routing (compared to the map) of a footpath linking the quarry with the brow path to the East of the quarry edge. The land owner disputes that such a path should be permitted so any progress will be slow.

The condition of parish roads is constantly monitored by the Parish Council. Cllr Bob James reports to Cumbria Highways on a number of highway related problems including potholes, blocked drains and road surface deterioration.

Our sincere thanks to Cllr James for continuing with this Highways liaison work.

The Parish Council precept for the coming year has been held at the same level as last year (£7,350) as no extra expenditure is anticipated.

The council is changing its banking arrangements by moving to the Cumberland Building Society as the HSBC bank is closing their Keswick branch.

The old style cast iron highways signpost at the chapel crossroads has still not been repaired but we are pursuing a refurbishment with the help of our County Councillor, Alan Bowness.

A defibrillator was installed in the telephone box on the edge of the village green and a weekly check is being performed by Councillors Reb and Harrop to ensure that it is fault free.

An application to remove the telephone box at the Castle Inn was submitted by BT and the council had no objection to this proposal.

There is a Bassenthwaite web site, www.bassenthwaite.org.uk, on which there is a Parish Council section where agendas and meeting minutes are posted along with other information. This web site is currently managed by a voluntary committee and thanks are especially due to Lucy Oliver for the practical work of set-up and updating.

The Parish Council looks forward to another year serving the Bassenthwaite Civil Parish community.

4) Consultation of Electors

No electors present.

The Annual Parish Meeting was closed at 7.10pm.