

Bassenthwaite Parish Council

Minutes of the Bassenthwaite Parish Council Meeting
held in the Methodist Chapel on Thursday 6th April 2017 at 7.30pm.

Bass meeting 122

Councillors Present: J Stephens, R James, S Langcake, K Armstrong, H Reb, N Harrop & J Mattinson.

Also Present: Cllr Bowness (County Councillor), E Clark (Clerk), Mr & Mrs Oliver, David Baines (Senior Manager of United Utilities), Kevin Harvey (Senior Project Manager of United Utilities) & Joe Neenan (Farrans Construction).

Prior to the start of the meeting, representatives from United Utilities gave a presentation on the proposed water supply project. They advised vegetation clearance was currently being carried out under the guidance of an ecologist who certify things are clear as March to August is the main breeding season for nesting birds. The majority of the 30km pipeline will be constructed across agricultural land. A large proportion of the work in the fields will be carried out during the spring and summer period to help reduce the impact on the grassland. The construction will start in July and it is hoped that 8 km of pipeline will be laid before October. The proposed pipeline from Thirlmere to the water works at Blindcrake is 30km long. It will take approximately 6 weeks for the completion of each section of field. From Spring 2018 the land will be re-instated, levels checked, seeded, fertilised and then left for nature to take over. Fencing will be removed; pipe pressure tested and then handed back to the farmers. United Utilities will be working with local specialists in the difficult areas and with farmers who have local knowledge with regards to drainage etc. Surplus spoil will be disposed of at a licensed land tip. The Dodd Wood road will be fully closed for approximately 8 weeks (between January & March). With other minor roads to be closed to a minimum with diversions in place. Works will typically be carried out between 8am & 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am – 1pm on a Saturday. The pipeline will be completed and fully commissioned by 2020. From the 31/03/22 water can no longer be taken from Ennerdale. It was noted that emergency plans would be put in place should Thirlmere dry up (20 days of consecutive dry weather) e.g bore holes, tankering in etc. At the last count the pipeline is expected to cost £264 million but it is hoped that it will be delivered under budget and earlier than expected. The proposed legacy fund has not yet been administered but there will be a pot of money to be shared with parish councils etc. The money will be awarded to worthy causes. The pipeline's life expectancy is 60 years. There is a dedicated customer service team to keep everyone updated with what's planned and the activities of work, there will be plenty of notice with regards to road closures etc.

Mr Bains, Mr Harvey, Mr Neaven & Mr & Mrs Oliver left the meeting – 8.10pm.

- 1) **Apologies** - Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs McMillan & Trafford, PCSO Smith & Cllr Grainger (Allerdale Borough Councillor).
- 2) **Minutes** - Resolved – that the Chair sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd March 2017.
- 3) **Public Participation** – no members of the public present.
- 4) **Requests for Dispensations** - There were no requests for dispensations.
- 5) **Declaration of Interests** – There were no declarations of interest.
- 6) **Cumbria Constabulary** - PCSO 5356 Smith apologised for being unable to attend the meeting. It was noted that the police crime website was still not up to date (only up to January) so could not yet be utilised.

7) Chairman's Announcements

- a) As part of Cumbria Resilience Forum's *Storm Desmond Recovery*, there will be a workshop running from **09:30 – 16.00hrs on Thursday 27th April**, at Rheged, Penrith. A registration form must be completed to book a place.
- b) Last month saw the launch of the County Council's new service aimed at improving how they manage and respond to highway faults. If you wish to report a pothole or a streetlight fault etc the new webpages have been designed to be easier to use and interactive. When reporting a fault, you can also register for automated email updates. Please see www.cumbria.gov.uk/roads-transport/highways-pavements/reporting-problem-on-highway/WDM/default.asp.
- c) Around 90% of properties in Cumbria can now access fibre broadband with currently 35.9% of those who can be upgraded taking up the opportunity to improve their broadband speeds. See www.connectingcumbria.org.uk/when-and-where.asp to see if you can upgrade then remember to shop around as upgrading isn't necessarily more expensive and can be cheaper.
- d) A letter from NALC's chairman outlines the Government's challenge to local councils to demonstrate restraint when increasing precepts. They have stressed the importance of communications and engagement with residents when setting precepts.

8) Payment of Accounts – the following payments were considered & approved for payment;

- a) Mr R James (Laminating Pouches) £ 3.87
- b) United Utilities (Water Trough) £122.00
- c) E.on (seasonal illuminations) £ 0.69

Further information required from the Keswick & District First Responders before a decision can be made with regards to a donation.

9) Financial Report - The balance as at the 6th of April 2017 is £16,375.97 on all three PC accounts – *Approved*. A review of the annual budget for 2016/17 - *Approved*

10) Parish Council Bank Account

A letter from the HSBC stated that their Keswick branch was due to close on the 26th of May 2017. Cllr Mattinson proposed that the parish council transfer their current & deposit accounts to the Cumberland Building Society and close the HSBC accounts, Cllr James seconded this proposal with all councillors in favour of this proposal. **Resolved;** clerk to complete the relevant paperwork to open a Cumberland Building Society current and deposit account, signatories to remain as per the HSBC; Cllr Stephens, Cllr James, Cllr Mattinson & Cllr Reb.

11) Planning

- a) **App Ref No: 7/2017/2015** – Replacement of existing conservatory glazed roof and walls with new glazed walls and enclosed roof – Castle Inn Hotel, Bassenthwaite – **Approved by the LDNPA.**
- b) **App Ref No: 7/2017/2029** – Proposed externally mounted LPG tank – The Dower House, Scarness – **Approved by the LDNPA.**
- c) **App Ref No: 7/2017/2058** – Approval of details reserved by condition no4 of planning approval ref. 7/2016 – UU – **Complies with Condition on 01/03/2017.**
- d) **App Ref No: 7/2017/2067** – Use of building, known as Little Orchard Cottage, and surrounding land for independent permanent residential purposes – Little Orchard Cottage, North Row, Bassenthwaite – **Certificate of Lawful Use Application, this is for information and not a consultation.**

e) **App Ref No: 7/2017/2044** – Single storey domestic extension with alterations to existing dwelling - South Ing, Bassenthwaite - devolved decision by the clerk of **No Objection** after consultation with the chairman and councillors as reply was required by 03/04/2017.

12) **Reports** – no reports received.

13) **Highways** – Cllr Bowness (County Councillor) advised that highways had been awarded further funding on top of the £4 million they currently received making the funding total being £16-18 million per year for the next four years. Any repairs should be now carried out to a high standard. It was noted that a manhole and catch pit had now been installed opposite South Ing. Cllr James reported that he had had a site meeting with Les Bell of highways on School Road and it was agreed that they would take the verge back to where the step was which is as far as they could go due to safety reasons. They would also sweep the village. Letter of thanks to be forwarded to highways for edging the verge and sweeping the roads. Park Wood drains were still blocked and the barrier boards were still in situ with no progress being made. The chapel sign is to be looked at as are the white road markings and the wind powered signs. Cllr James advised that he was to arrange a further meeting with a highway representative to point out all the current parish highway problems.

14) **Parish Room Refurbishment** – it was discussed that there was currently only one representative (Cllr McMillan) from the parish council on the parish room committee with no interest shown in the position from any other councillors. (Councillor Reb is treasurer of the parish room committee but is not on the committee as a parish council representative).

15) **Grass Cutting Tenders** - three grass cutting tenders were received and circulated. Following a full discussion, Cllr Stephens proposed, seconded by Cllr James, with all other councillors unanimously in favour that the contract be awarded to ISS on the grounds of previous good work and being most competitive on price.

16) **Councillor Training & Courses** – details of up and coming CALC training courses were discussed and it was unanimously agreed that Cllr Stephens attend the Common Land & Village Greens course to be held in Penrith on the 18th of July.

17) **Parish Maintenance** – it was agreed that Monday the 10th of April at 10am be scheduled for the trimming of the parish Lime trees.

18) **Items for next Agenda** - new items to be with the clerk by Monday the 15th of May 2017.

19) **Date of Next Meeting** – due to the elections being held on the 4th of May (date of next parish council meeting) it was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council, which would be the Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, be postponed until Wednesday the 24th of May 2017 and the meeting on the 1st of June be cancelled.

The chair closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

Signed: Chair

Dated: 24th May 2017