

Bassenthwaite Parish Council

Minutes of the Bassenthwaite Parish Council Meeting
held in the Parish Room on Thursday 4th February 2016 at 7.30pm.

Bass meeting 109

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

Also Present: G Lee & E Clark (Clerk).

- 1) **Apologies** - Apologies for absence were received from Cllr PCSO 5356 Smith & Cllr Grainger (Allerdale Borough Councillor).
- 2) **Minutes Resolved** – that the Chair sign as a correct record minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd December 2015.
- 3) **Public Participation** – Guy Lee attended the meeting to discuss flooding.
The chairman authorised that item 14 be brought forward.
- 14) **Flooding** – Mr Lee stated the following; he had lived by the Beck for nearly 30 years and it is flooding more now than it used to. Since 2009 it has risen and come round his house on more than one occasion. He believed that the gravel on the bed of the beck was a metre thicker than it was previously. He has been in contact with John Dickinson of the Environmental Agency to see what could be done. Mr Dickinson advised that dredging would be a long shot, trees could be cut back but nothing could be done when the salmon were spawning. Mr Lee advised that water fills in at the animals feeding area and then runs outside of the play area; this is becoming progressively worse and could soon lead to houses becoming flooded. Ideas discussed to resolve the issue included dredging, blocking off the feed area & blocking off the Ford. Cllr Stephens advised that the parish council had been told they couldn't dredge the beck and branches had been cut down. The European directive states that dredging should not be used. It was agreed that Halls Beck & Chapel Beck should be reviewed as well as anywhere else in the village and then a meeting be arranged with the Environmental Agency to discuss how the issues are tackled. Cllr McMillan to record concerns and circulate to other councillors. An email from Joanne Watson (Allerdale) asked that any flooded property be included on a list (joanne.watson@allerdale.gov.uk).

Mr Lee left the meeting at 8pm.

- 4) **Requests for Dispensations** - There were no requests for dispensations.
- 5) **Declaration of Interests** - No interests were declared.
- 6) **Cumbria Constabulary** - PCSO 5356 Smith apologised for being unable to attend the meeting but forwarded the following report; there had been three incidents reported to the Police for the area of Bassenthwaite since the last meeting. On the 6th December 2015 the Police received a report of an unattended, insecure motor vehicle in the Bassenthwaite area. A police patrol attended the area, and relevant checks were carried out. Following this, everything was discovered to be in order and the owner of the car was located safe and well. On the 13th December the Police received a report of a road Culvert becoming blocked at Bassenthwaite. The Highways Agency were contacted and attended to make the area safe. On the 19th December the Police received a report regarding concerns for the

owner of the vehicle, which was found unattended in the Bassenthwaite area. Checks were carried out and the owner was located safe and well.

7) Chairman's Announcements

- a) The next Derwent 7 meeting date has now been confirmed as Monday the 29th of February 2016 at 7pm at the Braithwaite Church Rooms. Cath Johnson, LDNPA will be invited to this meeting to provide an update on the Rights of Way network following Storm Desmond.
- b) The updated 2016/17 Council Tax Base Rate for Bassenthwaite is £203.19.
- c) On the 21st of April 2016, Her Majesty the Queen celebrates her 90th birthday and in celebration of this, Beacons will be lit on that night. Further information available for parish councils' who would like to take part in this event.
- d) United Utilities have produced a 'Winter Advise Pack' which can be downloaded from the United Utilities website at www.unitedutilities.com/winterwise and includes lots of information about keeping yourself and your home safe and warm during the cold snap.
- e) The Flood Advisory Group are bringing their 40ft wagon to Cockermouth between the 9th, 10th & 11th of February. The group are an independent not for profit organisation that reaches out to the communities at risk of flooding to raise awareness of practical solutions for homeowners and businesses to reduce their flood risk.
- f) David Bryden from Allerdale Borough Council confirmed that the tape would be removed from the light at the parish room at some point this week, wind conditions permitting. *It was advised that it had been removed on Monday.*
- g) A letter of thanks received from Ann Reay, Area Organiser for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal stated the following; *Please pass on my thanks for your generous cheque, it is much appreciated and goes towards the valuable work that this charity undertakes. We have slightly exceeded our 2014 total which is fantastic! We have collected £2174 this year and may still have some donations to come. Thank you for your continued support.*

- 8) Payment of Accounts** – a request for a donation was received from The Great North Air Ambulance and it was unanimously agreed to donate £25.00.

The Council approved the following payments for the Parish Room Refurbishment (from the Parish Room BIG bank account)

Bushell Raven Ltd – Chartered QS	£ 1104.00
G Forsyth - Stationary	£ 88.88
Eco Arc Ltd – Design Proposals	£19125.56
Dan Telford – Inspect Roof Slates	£ 40.00
Brockbank Solicitors – Easment/Draft Lease	£ 456.00
Soil Environment Services Ltd – Geotechnical Soil Survey	£ 1200.00

- 9) Financial Report** - The balance as at the 4th of February 2016 is £16,670.08 on all three PC accounts – *Approved.*

10) Planning

- a) **App Ref No. 7/2015/2270** – Demolition of existing 'Parish Room' building to be replaced with the new 'Parish Room' building – Bassenthwaite Parish Hall, School Road – **Approved with Conditions LDNPA.**

- b) **App Ref No. 7/2015/2278** – erection of a greenhouse and potting shed – Highside Croft, Bassenthwaite - **Approved with Conditions LDNPA**
- c) **App Ref No. 7/2015/2022** – Alterations to listed building consent for the extension of the farmhouse into the attached barn – Mireside Farm, Bassenthwaite – **Listed Building Consent Approved LDNPA**

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

12) **Standing Orders & Financial Regulations** – it was unanimously agreed that the parish council adopt the Standing Orders & Financial Regulations. It was decided that both documents to be added to the parish council’s website.

13) **Christmas Tree/Senior Citizens Lunch** – Cllr James reported that there had been a Christmas tree on the Village Green for the last 46 years and it had been enjoyed by all. Thanks were given to Peter Sibson for providing the tree and Norman Harrop, John Jackson, John Sowerby, Mark Baker, Roy Beaty & Bob James for helping erect it. Thanks also to Val James for the bacon butties. It was noted that the lights had held up this year, following Cllr James taking the time to reinforce them. Thanks were given to Sue Mendus, Barbara Cooper-Holmes and their helpers for putting on a fantastic Senior Citizens Lunch which included decorations and entertainment. A good time was had by all.

15) **Highways** – the following highway issues were noted; pot holes throughout the village including The Rake on the side of the road – all roads need checked. The Park Wood road is closed due to a landslip and the Scarness road is flooding as before. There is a lot of water on the road between North Row road end and the Bassenfell entrance (water comes off the field all the time). Water bubbles up outside Orchard Cottage, a jetter has been to it but it requires a root cutter, the pipe is broken and full of roots – urgent action required. The Winding Gate sign needs straightening up. **Resolved** – Clerk to advise highways.

16) **Request for Signage** – an email received from Kestrel Lodge Campsite asked for the parish council to consider them placing a sign directly underneath the Park Wood & High Close Holiday Home Park sign which is just over the bridge from the Sun Inn, a sign at the other side of the road opposite the Park Wood sign and a further sign on the corner right hand fork off Park Wood onto the track for High Close and Kestrel Lodge where there is already a stone with Kestrel Lodge written on it. After a full discussion it was agreed that this issue was not in the Parish Council’s remit and Kestrel Lodge should be advised to approach Allerdale Borough Council.

17) **Parish Room Refurbishment** – Cllr Stephens reported that an operator agreement had been drawn up between Phillip Trafford and the parish council which formalised that the Parish Council were the operators of the septic tank and have access rights to inspect and maintain it even though it was on Phillip Trafford’s land. The cost to set up this agreement was £200 and is payable by the parish council. Cllr Stephens to approach Phillip Trafford to discuss this ‘Deed of Grant’ document. Stage 3 of the grant application was close to being submitted with the cut-off date being the 20th of February. The application form consists of a business plan, capital grant development plan and assembling reports. A further grant, for a significant amount of money, has been submitted to the Garfield Weston foundation. A check on the roof slates determined that they were in good condition and re-usable it was therefore expected that they would be re-used but if this didn’t work out they could be sold and the money put towards new slates, this was the same for the stone. Storage of these items would be a

problem. Two meters of land is to be leased from Nichol Mattinson to erect scaffolding and enable the building to be built, which will be surrounded by a temporary fence. The plans are very much the same as they were other than the disabled toilet will be separate from the male and female toilet, the size of the main room is fixed.

18) Meeting Date – as the date of the May AGM coincided with the Elections it was agreed that the meeting be postponed until the week later which would be the 12th of May.

19) Items for next Agenda

New items to be with the clerk by Monday the 22nd February 2016.

20) Date of Next Meeting - it was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be on Thursday the 3rd of March 2016.

The chair closed the meeting at 9.10pm