

Bassenthwaite Parish Council

Minutes of the Bassenthwaite Parish Council Meeting
held in the Parish Room on Thursday 5th March 2015 at 7.30pm.

Bass meeting 99

Councillors Present: R James, J Sowerby, H Reb, R Barnes & K Armstrong.

Also Present: Cllr Marion Fitzgerald (Allerdale Borough Council) & E Clark (Clerk).

As the chair & vice chair were absent, it was agreed that Cllr Reb chair the meeting.
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 1) **Apologies** - Apologies for absence were received & accepted from Cllr Stephens, Cllr Richardson, Cllr McMillan, Cllr Mattinson, Cllr Bowness (Cumbria County Council) & PCSO Megan Jones.
- 2) **Minutes Resolved** – that the Chair sign as a correct record minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th February 2015.
- 3) **Public Participation** - There were no members of the public present.
- 4) **Requests for Dispensations** - There were no requests for dispensations.
- 5) **Declaration of Interests** - No interests were declared.
- 6) **Cumbria Constabulary** - An email from PCSO 5298 Jones apologised for being unable to attend the meeting but forwarded the following report; there have been 8 incidents reported to the Police for the area of Bassenthwaite since the 5th of February 2015, an overview of some of the incidents reported are; on the 13th of February a report was received of a possible cold caller offering his services as a roofer. Police advise residents to always check for identification if they have any concerns about cold callers. On the same day a female was arrested for driving whilst over the prescribed legal limit. On the 28th of February a report was received of 2 suspicious vehicles in the area of Park Wood. Not much detail was given but observations were kept in the area.
- 7) **Chairman's Announcements**
 - a) **Sustainable Transport Project** - around 1 million is to be invested in a new transport project in Cumbria, it builds on the Go Lakes Travel programme by bringing sustainable travel benefits to a larger footprint of the county. The additional funding will enhance four visitor gateways – Carlisle to Hadrian's Wall, Penrith into the Ullswater valley, Keswick into Borrowdale & the south eastern approaches into the central Lake District.
 - b) **Fracking** - the government has said that there will be an outright ban on fracking in National Parks, Sites of Special Scientific Interest & Areas of Outstanding Beauty.
 - c) **Affordable Rural Housing** – a guide to affordable rural housing is available for download on <http://www.calc.org.uk/news/news1.asp> (copy with clerk).
 - d) **73/73A Bus** - Caldbeck Parish Council has reluctantly come to the view that the most practical thing to do is for each parish to plan publicity individually. They are hoping to publish a poster with a map showing the times of the bus etc. and once they have

completed the poster they will circulate it in case any other parish is interested in producing something similar.

- e) **Election of Parish Members to the LDNPA** – the term of appointment of the parish members on the LDNPA from Allerdale, Copeland & Eden areas comes to an end in May 2015. The election of new parish members will be arranged by CALC. Nominations for election have to be supported by a Parish Council, every councillor has one vote. Further information will be forwarded from CALC at the end of March.

Cllr Fitzgerald advised that the new bus timetable, which comes into effect on the 28th of March, is a reduced service (Saturdays only) with two buses going to Keswick and only one coming back at 4pm. It was agreed that the service was not very accommodating.

8) **Payment of Accounts** - the Council approved the following payments:

a) Clerk's Salary 01.11.1 to 31.03.15	
Envelopes	1.00
Postage	28.67
1&1 Internet	8.38
b) HM Customs & Revenue - PAYE	176.00
c) E.On - Seasonal Illuminations Xmas 2014 (not on agenda)	0.87

£500.00 to be transferred from the deposit account to the current account to cover the above cheques – Authorisation letter signed by Cllrs James & Sowerby.

9) **Financial Report** - The balance as at 5th March 2015 is £13,425.72 on all three PC accounts – *Approved*.

10) **Planning** – the following planning applications were discussed;

Ref No: 7/2015/2028 – Bassenfell Manor, Bassenthwaite to Junction with A591 at Kilnhill, Bassenthwaite, CA12 4RL – to install a (5.48m diameter, approx area 24m²) PVC yurt to use as an ancillary outdoor classroom. – *it was agreed that before a decision could be made, further information was required.*

Ref No: 7/2015/2006 – Proposed three storey extension providing an additional 33 en-suite bedrooms and associated landscaping, including a wetland lake – Castle Inn Hotel – *it was unanimously agreed that this application be supported for the following reasons; the Castle Inn is a long established business providing local employment and bringing visitors into the area to the advantage of Bassenthwaite, an expanded number of rooms would increase the advantages and ensure the viability of the business, the extension is well away from roadways and will have little visual impact from public areas, any view that this application is not appropriate to the site and poorly related to buildings around it is a matter of opinion which is not held by the parish council.*

11) **Reports** - Cllr Fitzgerald reported on the following; there wasn't much change at yesterday's United Utilities exhibition from the previous exhibition, the route will follow the A591 but not on the roadway, they are considering the level of disruption and trying to limit it. Rob Kitchen had been advised that the parish were happy to trial the new weighted recycling bag which would begin April/May time, a request that the bins be collected in reverse order or the recycling bags are secured better was made. It was noted that Phill Roberts would put a Keswick Carers pack together and then speak at a future meeting. Cllr Heaslip was persuaded to compromise regarding footway lighting and

agreed that Allerdale should meet town/parish councils half way which would mean; Town/ parish councils pay for all replacement lights and Allerdale Borough Council pays for the electrical supply and maintenance or the other way round or each pay half of the costs of replacement lights and electrical supply and maintenance. The Sub-committee don't agree with this idea as they believe it to be too much burden on parish/town councils. To-date not many lights have been lost as ENW have had people badgering them when taking the lights down so they have put them back up! Next week Cllr Heaslip's decision will go to the executive committee and if they approve it will become policy. Allerdale will then send out a letter outlining the decision. Each light will cost between £60 – 70 per year.

Cllr James reported that Jimmy Irving the Allerdale Dog Warden had put cards through all parishioners' letter boxes with regards to dog fouling. Bigger signs are now in the worst areas and feedback from parishioners stated that it was only 7 or 8 people in the village that were being irresponsible dog owners. Thanks to be sent to Jimmy.

- 12) **Play Area Inspection** – the inspection report recommended the following action; protection should be provided at stream, remove dog excrement, provide a more suitable means of locking chains, monitor chains, re-secure eyebolts, relay surfacing and remove trip hazards. It was agreed that the recommendations should be discussed at the next meeting.
- 13) **Highways** – Cllr James advised that he had reported the pot holes on all roads (including the Rake), some which were 6” deep to Tim Shield. It was discussed that School Road requires resurfacing as soon as possible. All the catch pits from Castle Inn to Mirehouse had been dug round. The light next to the telephone box on Green Street had now been repaired. Great thanks were given to Nicole Towler and her team for carrying out the annual litter pick - a job well done!
Cllr Fitzgerald advised that County had just received another grant for road repairs. Councillors commented on the current ‘Diversion’ due to road works at Castle Inn, the traffic plan seemed ridiculous and unplanned.
- 14) **LDNP Community Grant** – it was agreed that this item be deferred until the April meeting and invite Jonathan Coates (Environment Agency) & Scott Henderson (Area Ranger).
- 15) **Parish Room** – following a full discussion about the ‘New Build’ option with regards to the refurbishment of the Parish room, it was unanimously agreed that everyone was in favour of demolishing the old building and replacing with new.
- 16) **PAYE** – the clerk advised that she could carry out all future PAYE provision, rather than use P L Gauntlett Accountants and thus save the Parish Council £40.00. All councillors agreed that this would be acceptable and a letter of authorisation to the accountants was signed by all councillors present.
- 17) **Items for next Agenda** - New items to be with the clerk by Monday the 30th of March.
- 18) **Date of Next Meeting** - the next meeting was set for Thursday the 16th of April (due to holidays), then Thursday the 14th of May (due to election) & then the 1st Thursday of every month thereafter.

The chair closed the meeting at 9.15pm.