

# Bassenthwaite Parish Council

Minutes of the Bassenthwaite Parish Council Meeting  
held in the Parish Room on Thursday 7th July 2016 at 7.30pm.

Bass meeting 114

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**Councillors Present:** J Stephens, J Mattinson, S Langcake, K Armstrong, N Harrop & K McMillan.

**Also Present:** E Clark (Clerk), M Grainger (Allerdale Borough Councillor), A Oxley, G Lee, V Cannon, G Forsyth, M Green, M Brewis, P Scott & A Bruin.

- 1) **Apologies** - Apologies for absence were received from Cllr James, Cllr Reb, Cllr Bowness (Cumbria County Councillor) & PCSO Smith.
- 2) **Minutes** - Resolved – that the Chair sign the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016.
- 3) **Public Participation** – Andy Oxley of the Bassenthwaite Manor Charitable Trust joined the meeting to advise that last autumn they bought Bank Wood and would shortly be submitting a planning application for permission to cover the quarry floor so the quarry could from time to time be used for abseiling (approx 10 times a year). There will also be a retrospective planning application submitted for a small shed with compost toilet. The woodland is to be used as a conservation area and education resource with bush craft sessions etc.  
It was questioned by a parishioner what was happening with the sign post at Bass Chapel, Cllr Stephens advised that Cllr Bowness was looking into getting it restored at a reasonable cost.
- 4) **Requests for Dispensations** - There were no requests for dispensations.
- 5) **Declaration of Interests** - No interests were declared.
- 6) **Cumbria Constabulary** - PCSO 5356 Smith forwarded the following report; there has been 1 incident reported to the Police for the area of Bassenthwaite since the last meeting. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2016, there was a Road Traffic Collision reported at approximately 13.30hrs involving 2 vehicles near the junction of the A591 and the B5291. Police attended and requested an ambulance and vehicle recovery. There were only minor injuries and the road was reopened within a couple of hours. If anyone has any information which will assist Police with any incident please make contact on 101 or speak to a police officer or PCSO.

PCSO Smith also emailed the following with regards to parking at the Bass Chapel junction; I attended the location last week and spoke to local residents to ascertain the nature and degree of the problems at that junction. Whilst most admitted there were problems in the area, they were keen to point out it was worst at school picking up time and when there was a function in the church rooms. Residents' parking was seen to be much less of an issue. I could find no offences when I was there and I would suggest this would be more of a matter for Highways. It is a difficult and dangerous junction and perhaps needs more signage and/or road markings to alleviate potential problems. Having spoken to the Problem Solving Sergeant, it was suggested contacting Highways and phoning 101 at the time to report when obstructions or dangerous driving / parking is occurring.

## 7) **Chairman's Announcements**

- a) The newly appointed Flood Recovery Coordinator for Allerdale is Elaine Hornby. Her role is to support Allerdale residents who have been affected by flooding and attempt to reach out to all those who require practical and emotional support and signpost to other agencies as appropriate. If you know of anyone who could benefit from Elaine's help, her contact number is 01900 603053 or email ehornby@redcross.org.uk.
- b) A dedicated web page has now been set up to keep parishes up to date with progress on the new LDNPA's Local Plan, including a summary of issues raised at the recent Distinctive Area

meetings with parishes. You can find it at <http://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-review>.

At the Chairman's discretion, item 16 was brought forward at this point of the meeting.

## **16) Parish Room Refurbishment**

Gillian Forsyth reported that the Parish Room Committee had yesterday been advised that they had been successful in their lottery bid. There is a £80,000 shortfall which will be subsidised by two further funders and some of the committee's finances. Following months of correspondence with the HMRC and the involvement of Sue Hayman MP, the VAT situation has finally been resolved. The parish council are able to receive the lottery grant but the vat would have to be paid and then reclaimed, if the charity commissioned the work the vat would be zero rated, but for the charity to receive the grant a lease would need to be in place between the parish council, who owns the building and the charity. The Lottery would like to see a lease in place.

Cllr Stephens advised that he had spoken to a solicitor about his concerns with regards to a lease being set up and following this he now had no concerns. It was agreed that an extra-ordinary meeting would need to be organised to review and sign-up the lease as it would need to be done before the end of July. All councillors present had no objection to the lease.

Cllr Stephens resigned from his position as parish councillor representative on the parish room committee.

Gillian advised that the next step would be to inform the architect and quantity surveyor that they had received the grant and ask them to submit their bid. An open meeting will be planned for the first week in August which will allow parishioners to view the plans etc.

All parishioners (except Mr Lee) & Cllr McMillan left the meeting at 8.15pm.

Mr Lee advised that last Tuesday, Mason Bros of Egremont carried out dredging of the beck from the wooden bridge to the narrowing next to the Ash tree. Six hundred tonne has been removed and the river is now wider and flows better. Also, the bridge has now been replaced by the LDNPA. Adrian Bacon from the Environment Agency was worried about the beck edges and some of the wall collapsed when the work was carried out but has now been re-instated by Mason Bros. Parts of the wall still require repairing and Adrian advised that he would supply a quote for this work.

Mr Lee was thanked for this report and left the meeting at 8.20pm.

## **8) Payment of Accounts – the following payments were approved for payment:**

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| a) ISS – Grounds Maintenance                                   | £172.20 |
| b) Bassenthwaite PCC – Grasscutting 1 <sup>st</sup> Instalment | £500.00 |
| c) Allerdale Borough Council – Annual Play Inspection          | £ 67.20 |

## **9) Financial Report - The balance as at the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2016 is £16,809.40 on all three PC accounts – *Approved*. The bank reconciliation as at the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 was received & approved. It was agreed that as the 'BIG' account would shortly be closed so there was no requirement to change the signatories.**

## **10) Planning**

- a) **App Ref No: 7/2016/2125** – Conservatory & garage extension to existing detached bungalow – North Downs, Bassenthwaite, CA12 4RL. **Granted by LDNPA on 14/06/16.**
- b) **App No. 7/2016/2090** – Create a metalled access and turning area – Dubwath Wood, Bassenthwaite. **Granted by LDNPA on 01/06/16.**

## **11) Reports – Cllr Stephens reported the following from his attendance at the Derwent 7 meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June; Cath Johnson attended the meeting to provide an update on the progress the LDNPA were making with the repair and works to the LDNPA Rights of Way following Storm Desmond. The LDNPA have submitted 3 applications to the Cumbria Access Funds, for 1 million pounds for each area (to cover the three distinctive areas, North, East & Southern). The aim of this funding if it is received is to do practical improvements and resilience works to the Rights of Way Network to help them withstand any future flood events. The expected delivery period for these**

works is 3 years (Aug 16- June 2019). Overall there is over 5.8million pounds worth of damage to the network, but any path or structure damaged in the 2009 floods and repaired with RDPE funding can't be funded a second time. The remaining funds will need to be sourced from other areas, and from fundraising. The LDNPA have now prioritised the structures/Rights of Way and paths so they know the order in which the works will be undertaken. So far 9 structures have been done with internal funds including Combs Beck (Above Derwent), Hogs Earth (Borrowdale), 2 Bridges in Bassenthwaite, Cottage Wood & Some in the East.

The LDNPA have engaged Capita to produce a report on the Keswick to Threlkeld railway footpath which was severely flood damaged. The report to include getting access to the sites, and also proposals on how to stabilise Rawsomes Bridge, and to repair the length of track bed and embankment at Wescoe that was washed away (circa 200m). The second part of the report is to develop costed options involving innovative designs for the possible relocation of the route in sections where repair is not feasible. This will involve a multi-agency response and permission from local landowners. The report will also consider where possible flood resilience measures to try and mitigate any future damage from flood events. E.g. improving river flow/more inline flow to prevent water build up. However, the LDNPA are having to proceed with caution as because the route is not a registered R of W the funding options are restricted and careful decision making will need to be taken on how to proceed once the costings report is received.

The Derwent 7 support the planning application to use a field for parking at Catbells and a relevant letter will be submitted to the LDNPA by the clerk once the application had been formally submitted. Keswick Town Council Councillor T. Lywood raised concerns about a proposed 'phase 2' of the UU pipeline project to extend it from Cockermouth to Moorside where there is a proposal to build three AP1000 nuclear power stations. He stated that if this is the case then the pipeline may be more to do with the nuclear infrastructure rather than environmental necessity or the needs of the local population.

St Johns Castlerigg & Wythburn Parish raised concern about the lack/delay in response from local police forces from 101 calls. There have been a number of incidents of crime within the parish which had gone undealt with for 2-3 days - issue to be raised with the Police & Crime Commissioner.

- 12) **Parish Noticeboards** – the use of the parish noticeboards was discussed and it was agreed that any notices councillors felt should not be displayed there should be removed.
- 13) **Telephone Box Defibrillators** – the clerk reported that she had spoken to Martin Fagan of the Community Heartbeat Trust who advised that the telephone box defibrillator would cost £1950.00 plus vat and the annual support agreement would be £126.00 per annum. The equipment would need to be checked every week with a report submitted by computer. Cllr Stephens proposed, Cllr Armstrong seconded, with all other councillors in favour that the defibrillator (£1950) be purchased out of capital and the annual maintenance costs be paid out of the precept. *Resolved; Clerk to complete & return the relevant form to proceed with the purchase.*
- 14) **Highways** – Cllr Stephens advised that he had wrote but not sent a letter to residents regarding the parking issue at Bass Chapel but following PCSO Smith's emailed report (item 6) it was agreed that it would now not be necessary to send the letter.
- 15) **Parish Councillor Vacancy** – it was noted that there was currently one parish councillor vacancy, a parishioner had shown an interest in the position and been invited to the meeting but wasn't present. It was noted that in his absence at the annual meeting, Cllr Armstrong had been voted in as Vice-Chair, a role he did not wish to accept.

**Item 16 follows Item 7.**

- 17) **Items for next Agenda** - new items to be with the clerk by Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016.
- 18) **Date of Next Meeting** - it was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 2016.

*The chair closed the meeting at 8.50pm.*