

Bassenthwaite Parish Council

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

Bass meeting 107

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

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

- 1) **Apologies** - Apologies for absence were received & accepted from Cllr Richardson, PCSO 5298 Jones & Alan Bowness (Cumbria County Councillor),
- 2) **Minutes Resolved** – that the Chair sign as a correct record minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st October 2015.
- 3) **Public Participation** – 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** - PCSO 5298 Jones apologised for being unable to attend the meeting but forwarded the following report; there had been one incident reported to the police for the area of Bassenthwaite since the last meeting, an overview of this is; on the 24th of October Police received a report of a group of youths setting fireworks off in close proximity to a property. The police would like to appeal to any witness or persons with further information regarding this incident to contact them immediately on the telephone number 101. It was noted that that there was a new PCSO now covering the Bassenthwaite Area called Catherine Smith.
- 7) **Chairman's Announcements** –
 - a) The date for the next Keswick-Borrowdale Travel Corridor meeting will take place on Monday 23rd November at 10am at the Blencathra Centre, agenda to follow.
 - b) There is currently a vacancy at 6 Butts Meadow Bassenthwaite which is due to be advertised on Cumbria Choice Based Lettings for the third time from 22/10/2015 the property has not been let from the previous adverts as there were no applicants that met the section 106 local occupancy clause which states 'Applicants must have a strong proven local connection to the parishes of Bassenthwaite, Bewaldeth and Snittlegarth, Ireby and Uldale, Underskiddaw, Above Derwent, Wythrop, Setmuthy and Blindcrake'. The parish council were asked to spread the word locally about this.
 - c) Extension to the Lake District National Park (letter in full emailed to councillors).
 - d) Cumbria's Health and Wellbeing Board is consulting on its Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This is an important strategy for the people and communities of Cumbria - little has more impact on people than their health and wellbeing. Their vision is that everyone in Cumbria will have improved experience of health and wellbeing; and that inequalities in levels of health and wellbeing across the county will be reduced.

Comments on the Strategy can be made at cumbria.gov.uk/healthandwellbeingstrategy. The closing date is 13 November 2015.

- e) Communities will soon be able to apply for up to £12,000 for local green space projects thanks to a new grant scheme being launched with the proceeds generated from the sale of carrier bags by Tesco. The projects should provide a community benefit and have free and open access to all members of the community for a minimum of six days a week, during daylight hours.

It is anticipated that there will be two funding rounds per year over the next three years. The first funding round opens on 19 October 2015 and will close on 30 November 2015. For further information email info@groundwork.org.uk or visit the Groundwork website.

- f) CALC's 2015 Annual General Meeting is to be held on Saturday the 14th of November at 10.30am in the West Lakes Science Park, Whitehaven. The guest speaker will be John Scott, Management Plan Coordinator Hadrians Wall World Heritage Site.

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

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| a) ISS - Grasscutting | £168.00 |
| b) Mr R James – Metal Paint & Laminator Pouches | £ 8.99 |
| c) Bassenthwaite PCC – Grasscutting | £500.00 |
| d) Poppy Appeal | £ 25.00 |
| e) Senior Citizens 2015 Christmas Lunch | £200.00 |

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

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| f) West Coast Surveys Ltd – Asbestos Survey | £ 360.00 |
| g) J Temple – Bat Survey | £ 258.00 |

The council authorised that Cllr Reb holds the Parish Room Refurbishment BIG account cheque book and forwards all invoices to the clerk. It was noted that the signatories on this account were Cllrs Reb, Stephens, Richardson & McMillan.

- 9) **Financial Report** - The balance as at the 5th November 2015 is £17,246.77 on all three PC accounts – *Approved*.

10) **Planning**

- a) **App Ref No. 7/2015/2081** – Erection of barn for horses & adjoining menage – Field to the north of Mireside, Bassenthwaite – **Withdrawn 6th of October.**
- b) **App Ref No. 7/2015/2190** – To site a caravan on existing pad to create a holiday let – Chapel Farm, Bassenthwaite – **Approved with Conditions by the LDNPA 7th October.**
- c) **App Ref No. 7/2015/2199** – Proposed three storey extension providing an additional 33 en-suite bedrooms and associated landscaping, including wetland lake – Castle Inn Hotel – **this was considered by the Development Control Committee on the 4th November and approved with conditions.**

11) Reports – Cllrs Stephens & McMillan attended the United Utilities Legacy meeting at Embleton Village Hall. A list of potential Bassenthwaite projects, taken from the parish plan, were forwarded on at the meeting, these were; a footpath along the A591, a community minibus, conversion of the street and footway lights, work to the church spire and clock, a traffic free cycle path along the A591 from Keswick and the parish room refurbishment. It was stated that it would cost in the region of £300 million to put the pipeline in so UU want to leave a lasting legacy in the area. At the meeting it wasn't made clear how, or who, would decide on how the money was spent, or how much money would be spent, it was fairly inconclusive meeting, with no commitment from UU. The number of projects put forward was quite extensive.

A reply letter from Sue Hayman (MP), with regards to the mobile library service stated; at the moment the West Cumbria Mobile Library was not at risk, however sometime in the future the service might have to be looked at due to unprecedented levels of budget cuts but Ms Hayman advised that she would do all she could to ensure the service continues. An email on the 2nd of November from David Andrews of Stagecoach advised that the bus timetable had now changed to the winter service.

Cllr Grainger reported on the benefits of an oil buying syndicate and that grant money was available to residents in Allerdale for homes that were not already fully centrally heated. Grants are for eligible households who either own or rent their home from a private landlord on a first come, first served basis. Your home must not have an existing mains gas connection or already have a full central heating system. Clerk to circulate full details to councillors.

The mobile post office have changed their times from a morning visit to an afternoon visit which is now 2.15pm – 2.25pm.

12) Highways – following a request to highways for a passing place sign to be erected on St Bega's Church Road, it was advised that this was not a formal passing place and therefore it was not possible to install a sign and furthermore, the tree immediately adjacent prevents highways from doing so. Cllr James advised that Tim Shields (highways) had agreed to look at the area to see if anything else could be done to resolve the problem. Works are to be carried out on the school road on the 11th of November and at Ouse Bridge on the 19th of November. The problem number 23 footway light outside the phone box has now been resolved by having a new head fitted, the old one had worn out. It was discussed that there had been numerous complaints about the masking of the light (dark skies) outside the parish room and it was requested that the light be reverted to as it was previously.

13) Parish Room Refurbishment – a professional team of architects, building controllers, structural engineers etc are now assigned to the project with contracts in place, apart from the architect who requires confirmation that the parish council are the customers. Most of the necessary surveys have been carried out including asbestos, bat, topographical, septic tank etc. The ground conditions are still to be looked at and although there are no bats at the moment this will need to be re-checked at a later date. The septic tank is in great condition and highly suitable but as it is not on parish room land the Environment Agency suggest that it would be good practice to draw up an agreement with the landowner stating that the parish room is the operator. Unblock alerted us to the fact that an agreement be set up between the landowner and the parish room to state that the parish room are the operator of the septic tank. The topographical survey states that the kerb is the boundary line and highways have confirmed they are happy with this. The Parish Room Committee has held two open meetings including a consultation with a wheelchair user which concluded with a slight modification to the toilets. More consultations are to follow with regular user groups e.g. yoga. The capital and business plan are being worked on and the

vat is becoming clearer with the main build being zero rated as it is to be used for charitable purposes. Confirmation will be required from HMRC with regards to this.

Cllr Grainger left the meeting at 8.50pm.

- 14) **Maintenance of Amenities** – it was noted that the paint for the goal posts had been purchased in preparation of them being painted. The painting of the benches was ongoing.
- 15) **Hearse House** – the church have now cleared out all the equipment they were storing in Hearse house apart from the Bier as it is unsure who owns it. Cllr Stephens to enquire whether or not the church still requires the building.
- 16) **2015 Christmas Tree** – Cllr James reported that Edward Trafford had again very kindly agreed to supply the parish with a Christmas tree for the village green. It was authorised that Cllr James try and purchase a more heavy duty set of lights this year as last year's lights didn't survive the Christmas period due to the strong winds. Don Lomax to carry out the electric test and advise on completion of the seasonal illumination inventory (unmetered supplies).
- 17) **Items for next Agenda**
New items to be with the clerk by Monday the 23rd November 2015.
- 18) **Date of Next Meeting** - it was noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be on Thursday the 3rd of December 2015.

The chair closed the meeting at 9.10 pm.