

Minutes of a meeting of Underbarrow & Bradleyfield Parish Council held at Underbarrow Institute on Thursday 28th November 2019 at 7pm.

Present were Councillors Ben Cunliffe (Chairman), Richard Carruthers, Mark Simpson and Peter Swindlehurst, County Councillor Jim Bland, District Councillors Kevin Holmes and John Holmes, five members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Sylvia Gibson.

**19/70 Public participation:**

*Questions asked by members of the public included:*

- a. Proposed telecommunications mast: The Chairman explained that the previous planning application for this had been turned down and that there is currently no further application in hand. The Parish Council is to canvass residents by way of the 'parish email' system in order to ascertain their views on approaching a provider to explore an alternative location.

It was wondered if such a structure could be sited on the top of Scout Scar where it would be less visually intrusive, and some residents felt that there was already enough 'clutter' in the landscape.

- b. Mushroom on Scout Scar: The Chairman explained that the broken panel is now with the original engraver, and it is hoped that it will be fitted before Christmas, although this is dependent on availability of the metal workers.

**19/71 Requests for Dispensations:** None.

**19/72 Declarations of Interest:**

Councillor Swindlehurst declared an interest in Planning Application 7/2019/5735 (Tranthwaite Hall).

**19/73 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2019, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**19/74 Council Vacancies:**

There had been no firm expressions of interest in the two vacancies since the last meeting.

**19/75 Mushroom on Scout Scar:**

This had already been dealt with under Public Participation.

### **19/76 Village Hall:**

There was nothing significant to report at present. Possible options may be looked at in the New Year.

### **19/77 Milestone on the road over the scar:**

Councillor Carruthers had investigated and would re-visit the site to see exactly what remains of this structure. There is a stump in the ground, with its top broken off, as far as could be ascertained.

### **19/78 Reports:**

- a. **County Councillor:** Councillor Bland said it was unlikely there would be any major changes in the new LDNPA Plan. CCC Highways was dealing with a number of potholes in the area. Following reports from the Parish Council, the road at the junction of the Crook Road with Red Scar Lane was being looked at (minute 19/68a refers). Councillors emphasised that the situation here is potentially extremely dangerous, when ice forms on the water that is across the road.
- b. **District Councillors:** Councillor John Holmes submitted and went through a full report which will be appended to these minutes in the file. This brought the Council up to date on a number of current issues being pursued by SLDC. He also circulated a new release from SLDC on Climate Change Action.
- c. **Parish Clerk:** The Clerk informed the Council that the new Accessibility Regulations would become applicable to the website in September 2020. This is in relation to making Council websites accessible for users with disabilities etc. He is meeting A2A (this firm has set up a number of Council websites locally) in Milnthorpe shortly and will report back to the next meeting. It was agreed that the extra cost of becoming compliant would be met from Council reserves, as the likely cost is unknown at this stage.

### **19/79 Parish Tree Planting:**

There had been interest expressed in the village for the planting of trees, following the scheme promoted by SLDC. It appeared to be more complex than originally thought and any trees planted in a field would require livestock protection which could be expensive (circa £500 per tree was mentioned by Councillor Kevin Holmes). The Chairman will try to obtain a parish map/plan, in order to discover what land the village owns, and mark up possible sites

### **19/80 BT Proposed removal of payphones:**

BT are proposing to remove the payphone at Underbarrow Institute. Various ideas for future usage have been put forward but the Council resolved to ask for the retention of this facility as a payphone, especially in view of the poor mobile signal in parts of the parish. It was confirmed that, while not in regular use, the phone is used periodically.

## 19/81 Finance:

a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

Alan G Fawcett	£446.40	Verge cutting
Great North Air Ambulance		
	£200.00	Donation
K M Price	£94.43	Quarterly expenses to 30th September, including use of home office and travel.

b. The cash and budget statements were noted.

c. The Budget Report, prepared by the Clerk, was considered and it was resolved that this Council makes a Precept upon South Lakeland District Council in the sum of £8.343.00 for the financial year 2020-21. This means there will be no increase in the parish element of the Council Tax.

d. It was resolved to increase the Clerk's hours from 15 monthly to 18.25 monthly in order to bring the Council into line with Crook/Winster and Cartmel Fell Councils, which have a similar population and workload. This will take effect from 1st April 2020.

## 19/82 Planning:

a. *The following decisions, notified to the Council by the Planning Authority, were noted:*

7/2019/5548 High Greenriggs, Underbarrow. Retrospective permission for the demolition of the barn and permission to demolish the existing single storey house extension and rebuild the previous barn to form additional accommodation with a link and adjoining garden room. Granted.

7/2019/5542 Long Howe, Underbarrow. Change of use from grazing to domestic garden. Refused.

b. *The following application was considered and approval recommended:*

7/2019/5735 Tranthwaite Hall, Underbarrow. The introduction of diagonal bracing to the underside of one pitch of the roof to prevent further leaning of the principal roof structure. The omission of torching to the underside of slates following re-roofing to allow good ventilation to the accommodation for calves below.

*(Councillor Swindlehurst left the room and took no part in the discussion).*

**19/83 Open Forum:**

Residents on Thorns Lane are concerned at the amount of mud being left on the road at both the top and bottom of the lane. The Chairman has asked respective parties to try and address this to the best of their abilities.

**19/84 Dates of next meetings:**

***Wednesday 5th February 2020***

***and***

***Tuesday 31st March 2020 (including the letting of Smithymire)***

***both at 7pm at Underbarrow Institute.***

*The meeting closed at 8.30pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*