

# SKELTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SKELTON PARISH COUNCIL Held Tuesday 9 September 2014 at 7.30 pm At Hutton End Village Hall

Present:

Alan Dickinson (Acting Chairman)	Roger Whittam	Bob Towers
William Armstrong	William Pearson	Athole McKillip
Bernard Parker	Colin Atkinson	

Jean Bloomfield                      Anita Lyons    Kevin Beatty

In the absence of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman Alan Dickinson Chaired the meeting.

**14/029    Apologies for Absence**

**Resolved:** The clerk had received apologies from Stacey Kane, Martin Squires, Nicky Higgins and Bunty Wright

**14/030    Co-option**

Anita Lyons was present at the meeting and wanted to be considered for co-option as a representative for Ivegill.

**Resolved:** The council unanimously agreed that Anita Lyons would be a good representative for Ivegill which had not been adequately represented for some time. Anita Lyons was co-opted and signed the acceptance of office form.

**14/031    Declaration of Interest**

The clerk asked if any members had any interest to declare in the items to be discussed at the meeting.

**Resolved:** No interests were declared

**14/032    Minutes**

The Council members considered the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Some minor amendments were made to the minutes. Item 14/021(iv) it was unsure whether the body that had advised Stacey Kane on the quarry was Natural England or Nurture Lakeland. It was agreed that the minutes would be amended to read Nurture Lakeland. Item 14/027 the clerk wrote to thank Mr Grierson and Mr Wilson for their financial and physical contributions.

**Resolved:** The minutes were then signed as a true record of that meeting.

**14/033    Matters Arising**

The following matters arose from the previous meeting:

**Signpost Restoration** – the clerk had heard from CCC that the post at Hutton in the Forest could not be restored due to sign specifications on B class roads. It could perhaps be moved and installed at Skelton but as yet she had not got a price or agreement from CCC

# SKELTON PARISH COUNCIL

to place it. She would update the meeting when she had more news but then she would need to find funding opportunities to progress matters. She reiterated that the project was to restore traditional signs and therefore erecting a new sign may not meet the funding criteria.

Cyril Davidson had contacted the clerk and he had said he would attend to the signpost at Hutton End that he had damaged. The clerk had said that she preferred that SPC attended to it so that no further damage was done. He had said that he would have David Gosling cast a new finger and get Terry Moore to install and paint it. She had said that we wanted it complete by this meeting but so far it had not been. She would update Councillors when there was progress or would chase Mr Davidson if she heard nothing more.

Colin Atkinson and William Pearson (members of Skelton Village Hall Committee) reported on the Garden Waste Skip and told the meeting that the service was not adequate enough and there had been debris left around the site. Also there was no signage as to what was permitted and not permitted. Kevin Beatty (EDC) said he had intended that his skip service was provided as a fill in before the garden waste bin service was brought in. Now there was no provision for the service being extended but he was trying to get a bin service in the area and may survey the parish as to provision in the future. The clerk reminded the councillors that SPC had carried out a survey previous to contracting with EDC and there had been little response but the majority were more in favour of kerbside collection rather than a skip service.

## **14/034 Planning**

The Council members considered the list of planning applications that had been made and discussed the following:

14/0437 – Gill Donald, 5 Phoenix Park had written wanting SPC to support their application. She had withdrawn her application when it became apparent that the application would not be passed. SPC had no objections to the outline planning application for access but were unable to comment in support of an application until such time as they had seen the application. The Clerk was to write to the Donalds and say that we would be minded to support an application for a new build and had no objections to the proposed access.

Developments with Neighbourhood Planning – Greenhollows was in the consultation stage and nothing more had been heard. Tom woof has emailed Fergus McMorrow and suggested that we had made our one designated area rather than smaller designations because of misrepresentations from Fergus McMorrow. The clerk had written and confirmed that we made enquiries and then made a decision to have one designation based on all the facts.

A discussion took place about whether SPC would draft a Neighbourhood Plan or not and Kevin Beatty said that the Eden's Local plan didn't address planning in the Parish and was a good opportunity for SPC to forward plan. Kevin Beatty encouraged SPC to make a plan.

A discussion took place regarding application 14/0684 and the re roofing of the barn at Laithes. W Armstrong asked what it was going to be replaced with. It was confirmed that the sandstone roof was to be replaced by composite sheets but as the roof was on the

# SKELTON PARISH COUNCIL

roadside, was already was partly composite and was dangerous there were no objections to the replacement roof.

Turbines at Hay close – SPC did not want to make any comments for or against the plan. Kevin Beatty encouraged members to lobby EDC personally for or against the plan if the Parish Council did not want to as a group. The trend with EDC was for large applications to be refused and for those smaller ones for provision to land owners were more likely to be approved. Anita Lyons enquired as to why the Parish Council was reluctant to object given the nature of the proposal. It was explained that the Parish Council were in the past divided as to its support or objection to wind farms and that it caused a lot of ill feeling with parishioners. In this case the application was not in the Parish and therefore they were reluctant to make a comment as a PC.

## **14/035 Reports**

The council was to hear reports from the local Councillor representative and County councillor:

- a) Cumbria County Council – not present
- b) Eden District Council – Kevin Beatty updated the meeting on footway lighting proposals. EDC policy hasn't changed but there had been some disagreement as to what was going to happen. They had now confirmed they were going to revert to the original plan except, if the Parish wanted more lighting than was proposed, we would have to buy it and be responsible for it. EDC would come out and do a survey but we had to request a visit. SPC had made representations as to what lighting they wanted and hadn't wanted to revise their proposals when EDC had invited them.

The clerk would confirm which lights they had requested be retained and ask EDC to confirm that the requests would be honoured.

Eden Local plan was in consultation stages and there was to be consultation meetings though the plans were on line for viewing. KB didn't think the plan was ambitious enough as there was no development proposals along A66 at Redhills towards Stainton or in the land between Penrith Business Park and Stoneybeck where there was potential. Comments have to be submitted by 26<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

He was holding a surgery at the Dog and Gun, Skelton next Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 7 - 8 pm.

He would put pressure on EDC for the extension of a garden waste service in the future.

## **14/036 Correspondence**

Council members considered the correspondence list of items received since the last meeting including:

- a) Project completion report for fence at Laites playground. We had received funding (£1265) for tree services and a fence but Mr Hastings had erected his own fence and the arborist had been unable to attend to the trees because it was by then the nesting season and because of UU work at the site. There was some discussion about whether the PC should write to Mr Hastings simply to acknowledge the fence or whether to comment on the potential for trespass onto his property at the lower points of the fence. It was agreed that the Clerk would write and thank Mr Hastings for putting up

# SKELTON PARISH COUNCIL

an attractive boundary but caveat that we still considered there was a risk of trespass which would be at his own risk.

It was suggested that any further work would be considered after UU had finished their work. The clerk to write requesting that we retain the arborist funding and return the money for the fencing. UU would no doubt assist with reinstatement and perhaps a fence for the river if need be.

- b) Registration of playground at Laithes by EDC – Angela Milburn had emailed to say that the proposals to either compulsory purchase the land at Laithes or register it as a village green was to be put to the members. The clerk understood that it was more likely that they would agree to register it as a village green rather than go for adverse possession. The council members had no objections to a village green application on the basis that the land would then be protected from development.
- c) Braisgate playground – The clerk reported that the Playsafety report still criticised the way the infant swing had been installed. She had reported back to Sovereign and had asked for installation instructions that apparently they had to provide. She had also suggested that Sovereign be responsible for a further inspection to ensure that the inspector passed the equipment as safe. She had purchased some signs for the playground as per the recommendations of the report but was still waiting for some smaller flexible signs that could be affixed to the equipment warning of the dangers of misuse of the equipment. Once she had them Colin Atkinson would affix them. He would also see to the bark and the weeding issues that had been reported. The clerk had requested that David Greaves attend to the more routine issues but she had not heard back from him yet.
- d) Colin Atkinson asked what the correspondence was from residents regarding the skip. The Clerk confirmed that they were just wanting additional provision and that she had written back explaining that EDC's contract would only provide one skip per month for a limited period. Kevin Beatty reaffirmed that he would press for better provision of garden recycling.
- e) Parish Online – Bob Towers reported that he and William Pearson had managed to map community assets and wanted to encourage the Parish Council to make more use of it. It was agreed that we would re- subscribe.

## **14/037 Highways**

The Council Members discussed highways matters affecting the parish.

- a) Bob Towers reported that Highways had attended to the repairs north of Fowrass Farm but it was still dangerous and not to standard.
- b) Footpath problems had been reported and the area team will deal with it at the next parish visit.
- c) Laithes – Skelton road had been closed for one week for resurfacing taking advantage of the disruption already caused by UU works.
- d) Patching - C3010 at Chapelfield entrance had been identified as needing patching.
- e) We had received notification by Email about the intention to raise the speed limit for lorries from 40 – 50 mph. This had caused concern but it was considered that the problem was that the Police didn't enforce the limit in any case. Bob Towers suggested that we may make a further application to restrict the speed of HGV's at some stage in the future.
- f) William Armstrong reported that the road at Crown Farm to the bottom of Brampton Lonning still needed attention– nothing has been done. Bob Towers to request further

# SKELTON PARISH COUNCIL

attention. Also Netherscales bridge and Unthank to Laithes crossroads – needed attention. Bob Towers would liaise with Highways.

## **14/038 Request for Funding/Accounts to pay including:**

Bob Towers finalised his report on the Footpath Group/funding. EDC had paid the remaining sum of £325 and therefore the funding was complete. The group was going to meet again with thoughts of replacing the hedging that was taken out. Bob Towers was looking to Nurture Lakeland for funding. He was concerned about two applications being made if SPC wanted funding for the quarry. It was agreed that as yet there were no proposals for the quarry and that Bob should make his application. He was meeting with Woodland Trust as they had suggested they may be able to provide most of the hedging.

Ivegill Hall had approached SPC for funding to re-surface of the car park (total costs est £3000) and Hutton End Village Hall wanted funding of £500 for redecoration of hall. It was agreed that no decision would be made until the budget committee had met and the state of the finances was re-assessed. Clerk to write and explain to them.

## **14/039 Lamonby Quarry**

It had been hoped that Stacey Kane would update the meeting as to the proposals that had been put forward to manage the quarry. An informal discussion between her and the clerk indicated that they had suggested that the quarry be fenced and lightly grazed but no formal report had been made to the Parish Council. William Pearson reported that a group of local people had suggested that they would be interested in ‘looking after’ the quarry. He would ask them to report their proposals to the clerk for further discussion but it was thought that that was perhaps better than SPC developing it. It was agreed that there should be no further proposals to fence the land or graze it at this stage.

## **14/040 Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the whole council should be involved in the budget process as some councillors had been dissatisfied with the budget report last year. It was agreed that we should have an extra meeting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014 and the usual meeting to be held at Ivegill on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

The meeting closed at 21:50