

Askham & Helton ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 25th May 2021 in Askham Community Centre at 7:30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs T Lowther (in the Chair), M Westgarth, L Harker, C Whittaker, M Holt, G Calland and 3 members of the public

APOLOGIES: J Banks – other commitments

IN ATTENDANCE: N Hughes – CCC, J Bliss – Lowther & C Bell - Clerk

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr T Lowther was the only nomination received for Chairman by Cllr L Harker and seconded by Cllr M Westgarth. Voted all in favour. Cllr T Lowther signed the declaration of acceptance of Office.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr L Harker was nominated by Cllr C Whittaker, seconded by Cllr T Lowther. Voted all in favour.

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY ON 13th APRIL 2021

Approved

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs M Holt & L Harker on Finance

5. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

N Hughes reports that the Celleron rd has been greatly improved albeit temporary. There will be more permanent improvements done which will include a road closure however no funds are currently available to do this. Askham Bridge – unfortunate that bridge was hit after last repair. CCC looking into signage measures but HGVs do have the right to use bridge and will always follow 'satnav'.

Parking on the fell, not a highways issue but that of the landowner. T Lowther to liaise meeting between Highways, Lowther, Parish Council to see if all the parties can come up with a suitable solution.

J Bliss re parking. Charles Lowther put sign in place, a practical approach is needed along with Lowther working alongside the community.

M Holt – thoughts from parishioners gathered on the planting of Askham greens and shared with Lowther. J Bliss confirms that Lowther has taken them on-board but feel strongly about it. States that there is a balance to be struck and wish to work in harmony with local community. Planting will happen in autumn/winter 2021. Parish council need to formally request a 'planting plan' from Lowther if they wish to see which types of trees will be planted where. General consensus from parishioners is not to have too many large species of trees and the open greens of Askham is the identity of the

village. There was some support from parishioners for pockets of smaller fruit trees. The parish council does not want to upset parishioners.
T Lowther reports that there is a large dead branch on sycamore tree outside of village hall – J Bliss to address potential dangerous branch.

Bridle path – J Bliss reports that they have gained permission to lift bridle path but needs to go through formal planning procedure, which can be lengthy. Path will not flood after being lifted. Electric wire being used as reversal of this is easier & quicker than removing fence.

Bridge from Helton to Whale not adequate and belongs to CCC. Does not conform to BHS standards. To gain permission from Lowther to use Ford until bridge is fixed. Cllr G Calland to draft a letter.

6. REPORTS

None received

7. FINANCE

(i) RESOLVED to pay £1816.51 on Orders for Payment

ASKHAM & HELTON PARISH COUNCIL

Orders for payment

25th May 2021

1. Locum Clerk Salary 18h p/m	£ 532.08
2. CALC Subscription	£ 137.21
3. Insurance	£ 257.60
4. Viking	£ 81.00
5. Lloyds	£535.82
6. M Holt – Fuel reimbursement	£50.00
7. Chris Leece Internal audit	£35.00
8. BeDot Website	£15.00
9. Scribe Accounting Software	£172.80

Total £ 1816.51

Bank Balances as at 25th May 2021

Natwest Current account – £11,621.57

(ii) Members considered the detailed report of the Internal Auditor on the effectiveness of the Internal Audit 20/21 RESOLVED To accept the report of Mr C Leece.

Members considered the Certificate of exemption Part 2 RESOLVED to accept the certificate.

Members considered the Annual Governance Statement 20/21 in conjunction with the annual Internal Audit Report. RESOLVED To agree and affirm the Governance Statement.

Members considered the Annual Accounts for 20/21. RESOLVED To agree the Accounts for the year 20/21.

Members voted all in favour to have Mr C Leece as Internal Auditor next year.

Members considered the report of the Clerk and the Risk Register of the Council. RESOLVED To agree the Risk Register as presented in the report of the Clerk.

(iii) Funding request from the hall. Askham & Helton PC conditionally give full support (pending further details) to fund the ASKHAM & DISTRICT Community Centre a sum of £1500. £500 in this financial year and £1000 in the next financial year.

8. MATTERS OF INFORMATION

None received

9. TO RECEIVE UPDATES ON MATTERS DISCUSSED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Interpretation Boards – installed now with thanks to all involved.

Monty at Helton – Cllr M Westgarth reports that 13 replies received with the main focus being on safety of the building. Not been insured since 1992, deeds have disappeared, insurmountable problems makes it unsustainable. Thoughts are to knock it down and create a seating area. Builder to trade labour for slates was an idea that stood out. N Hughes states that there might be funding available to aid project.

10. PLANNING

7/2121/3082 – change of agricultural land to churchyard – No objections

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

27th July 2021 at 19:30 in Community Centre

Meeting closed at 20:11