

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting 2015

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 13th May 2015
in St. Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge.

31.05.15: In Attendance: Cllrs. Wood, Ayling, Topping, McMullen, Denham-Smith and Shail.

Also in attendance: Ric Outhwaite & David Smith (Clerk)

32.05.15: Apologies: Cllr. Johns.

33.05.15: Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

34.05.15: The Parish Council Election (7/5/15):

The results of the Parish Council election were duly noted and the Clerk informed the meeting that he would advertise the one vacancy shortly.

35.05.15: Approval of minutes from the 2014 Annual Parish Meeting held on 14th May 2014:

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr. Topping

Seconded: Cllr. Shail

The Chair duly signed them.

36.05.15: Election of the Chair of the Council:

The Clerk took the Chair of the meeting and asked for nominations for the position of Chair of the Council for the next 12 months.

Cllr. Topping nominated Cllr. Wood for the position of Chair.

Cllr. Ayling seconded the nomination.

All the councillors present supported this nomination.

37.05.15: Election of Vice-Chair of the Council:

Cllr. Wood in his role as Chair asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Council for the next twelve months.

Cllr. McMullen nominated Cllr. Topping for the position of Vice-Chair.

Cllr. Shail seconded the nomination.

All councillors present supported this nomination.

38.05.15: Chairman's Report:

Cllr. Wood delivered his annual report, given below.

As of April 2014, there were eight Parish councillors. More recently, Councillor Taylor tendered her resignation. A notice was issued advertising this vacancy and requesting that any parishioner interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, contact the Parish Clerk. This vacancy remains open.

The current Council membership is:

David Wood (Chair), Ian Topping (Deputy Chair), Chris Ayling, Mark Denham-Smith, Bridget Johns, Cath McMullen and Roger Shail. The Parish Clerk is David Smith.

All councillors are required to stand for re-election. Seven nominations have been submitted to the Returning Officer and all have been accepted valid nominations.

During the year, Councillors were actively engaged in and/or were represented on the following community partnership bodies:

1. Cumbria CC West Cumbria Partnership Forum - working on the Sustainable Regional Strategy.
2. The Lake District National Park - contributing to the development of its Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy
3. Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) - ensuring that the best interests and opposition to the siting of a nuclear waste Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) within the Parish, were clearly stated
4. Copeland Borough Council - working together with Borough Councillor Bob Salkeld on maintaining and improving local services whilst delivering the objectives set out in the Corporate Improvement Plan.
5. Regen North East Copeland - delivering the Neighbourhood Action Plan for Cleator Moor and the surrounding rural parishes.
6. The Joint Neighbourhood Forums - on matters of common concern such as local transport, policing, highways, grants for needy local activities etc.
7. The Cold Fell Road Action Group - working with representatives of adjoining Parishes, the Police, Cumbria County Council, the Borough Council Highways Engineer and Sellafield Ltd to reduce the impact of high volumes of traffic travelling through villages and using unsuitable local roads.
8. The Local Neighbourhood Watch Committee - working with the Neighbourhood Police Force to help keep parishioners and visitors safe from crime and criminal acts.
9. The Wild Ennerdale Partnership - working with the Partners - the Forestry Commission, National Trust, United Utilities and Natural England - to achieve the shared vision for Ennerdale to become a wilder place for the benefit of people and nature.
10. The 217 Local Bus Service - working with adjacent parishes and Cumbria County Council Public Transport to retain the local 217 Bus service to and from Frizington to Cockermouth.
11. Cumbria County Council's "Connecting Cumbria" initiative to connect West Cumbria the Superfast Broadband service

With concerns about speeding traffic through the village of Ennerdale Bridge, the parish council has assisted with training in the use of a speedgun. To complement the continuing use of the speedgun, the council has purchased a 'smart' speed indicator device (SID). The SID will be deployed in the village in locations recommended by Cumbria County Council Highways.

The Parish Plan is being replaced with a Community Led Plan (CLP). The CLP is part of the Parish Council's wish to involve the community in a vision for the future of the parish. Councillors and parishioners are working together in the preparation of the CLP.

The Parish Council accounts for the financial year 2014/2015 are being drawn up and will be available and on display, at the Parish Meeting on Wednesday 13th May 2015 at 7.00 pm in St Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge.

I wish to record my thanks to my fellow councilors for their support and for their willingness to assume responsibility for the many portfolios making up the work of the Parish Council. Finally, my thanks go to the Parish Clerk, whose efforts and advice have been invaluable to the smooth running of the Parish Council.

39.05.15: The End of Year Accounts:

The Clerk presented the End of Year Accounts and talked those present through the figures. Total income during the year was £18,276.26p. Total expenditure was £20,987.73p. Together with the balance brought forward from the previous financial year, £12,659.76p, the balance of the main Parish Council account on March 31st 2014 was £9,948.29p. In the Business Reserve Account there was £224.80p thus giving a total balance of £10,173.09p. The figures had been checked and agreed by Jill Bush, the internal auditor. There were no questions from those present.

The Clerk explained that the large increase in both income and expenditure over the previous year was due to funds that were raised for the Miles without Stiles project and the Sports Field development project which together amounted for £14,800 in both income and expenditure.

The End of Year accounts were formally agreed by the councillors present, together with the annual governance statement contained within the external audit form as completed by the Chair and the Clerk. It was further agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to the Internal Auditor and that Jill Bush be asked to continue in this role for the coming financial year.

The meeting ended at 7.25pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chair

Dave Smith
Clerk to Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

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