

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 14th March 2012
in St. Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge.

24.3.12: In Attendance: Cllrs. Lachlan (Chair), Ayling, Atkinson, Oakley, Wood and Topping.
Also in attendance: Cllr. Salkeld (CBC) & Karl Melville (CCC).

25.3.12: Apologies: Cllr Taylor.

26.3.12: Declarations of Interest: All Cllrs present are shareholders in the Ennerdale Hub Ltd.

27.3.12: Approval of minutes from the January meeting: The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record. The Chair duly signed them.

28.3.12: Actions from the minutes:

7.1.12 United Utilities are to attend the May meeting

5.1.12 The Ennerdale Hub meeting has taken place

ACTION: Clerk to pass on the Highways Hotline number to Contact magazine.

29.3.12: Better Highways Presentation: Karl Melville, the CCC Highways & Transport Manager for Copeland, gave a presentation to councillors on the new Cumbria Highways structure and in particular the Better Highways project. He explained that the starting point for the restructuring of Cumbria Highways was to provide a better service for the people of Cumbria and the idea behind the Better Highways initiative was to re-engage with Parish Councils. He stated that his previous work with E&K PC had been a model which he wanted to further develop with all Parish Councils.

KM is now actively involved in a wide range of activities from planning for the nuclear new build and the Whitehaven Strategic Development Route to ensuring that response times to Highways Hotlines calls are within the 3 days aimed for. He also explained that the larger projects would be funded from the Capital budget whereas most of the issues raised by PC's would be met by the Better Highways revenue budget, which in Copeland is a little over £1m per year. Whenever there was a major development then Cumbria Highways would be looking for planning gains to improve the highways and transport network. He also stated that he was seeking to undertake cyclical gully cleaning rather than purely reactive, as it has been in the past and still is to some extent.

KM explained that there were various teams working under him but the people that the PC was most likely to deal with would be:

Ricky Crawford: Better Highways Area Leader who is in charge of the 'Find and Fix' teams in Copeland
Kevin Cosgrove: Traffic surveys, traffic regulation orders etc.

KM praised ML for the Highways Reports that he provided Ricky Crawford with and at this point a number of issues were raised by councillors:

- Street lighting: light required in Church Lane, previously given a quote of £5k from CBC. KM unsure why this was not referred to Cumbria Highways.

ACTION: Clerk to write to KM requesting light on Church Lane.

- Collapse of Croasdale Road: councillors wanted to know what was happening with this work.

ACTION: KM to check on this and inform the PC.

- Fingerpost signs: are Cumbria Highways able to help with the refurbishment and painting of the signs in the parish?

ACTION: ML to provide KM with quotes for this work.

- The need for a 20mph speed limit by the school was discussed.

ACTION: KM to ask Kevin Cosgrove to get in touch with the Clerk.

- Flooding on the C4017 Longmoor Common Road: Ricky Crawford is still waiting for a reply from the National Trust.
- Other Flooding issues on the Wath Brow Road, C4017: most of the gullies have now been cleaned and the situation will be monitored closely.
- Flooding by the School Corner: additional works will be undertaken.
- Missing Ennerdale Sign on the Cold Fell road: will be ordered and erected when funding allows, hopefully this coming year.

ML thanked Karl for his presentation and stated that the PC would continue to work closely with the Highways Team and that the good working relationship was much appreciated by councillors.

ACTION: Clerk to write to CCC thanking the Highways Team for their work in the parish and on the Cold Fell group.

30.3.12: Report from the Police: Cllr Wood reported that in future the police would only attend PC meetings if there was a specific issue that councillors wished to raise. The following incidents have occurred in the parish since the last meeting:

- 1 road traffic accident (December)
- 2 off road incidents (December)
- 1 theft of a generator (January)
- 1 theft from a motor vehicle (January)
- 1 road traffic accident (January)

It was agreed that at future meetings the Neighbourhood Watch report would be combined with the Police report.

31.3.12: Public Participation: There were no members of the public in attendance but councillors had talked to local people about the Managing Radioactive Waste safely project and had received complaints regarding wild camping at the Old Anglers Hotel site. The Wild Ennerdale team are to lock the approach gate to try and prevent vehicles accessing the site. A large scale mountain-bike orienteering competition centred on the village had caused some comment locally.

32.3.12: Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Consultation: Cllr Wood led on this issue and gave some background details on the project. He then went on to explain the concerns he had regarding the process as a whole. These included:

Geology: there is already a large amount of evidence and research in place indicating that West Cumbria is not suitable for an underground repository.

Planning: uncertainty surrounds the potential conflict of interest between the local councils role as a decision making body and a planning authority.

Impact: little work done of impact of rural economy and tourism.

Community Benefits: there are no assurances that host communities will be given a priority claim on any community benefits package.

Siting Process: the DMB's, local authorities, have now stated that they would over-rule the wishes of a host community that did not want to participate.

Withdrawal Process: it is unclear what role Parish Councils will have in consultations beyond Stage 4.

Taking all the above into consideration Cllr Wood recommended that E&K PC should either withhold consent until the above concerns have been addressed by the MRWS Partnership or not support the move to Stage 4.

Other views expressed included the increase in knowledge that the move to Stage 4 would bring, thus allowing more informed decision making to take place. Some concern was expressed regarding the approach to the project of Copeland BC.

Cllr Lachlan reminded councillors that the question to be voted on was as follows:

Does this Parish Council support the Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Project moving forward to Stage 4 of the project, this being desk based studies to ascertain the suitability of the geology of Copeland for housing an underground repository?

The vote was:

Councillors in favour of the move to Stage 4: 2

Councillors opposed to the move to Stage 4: 4

A resolution to commit the Parish Council to holding a referendum at each stage of the MRWS process was not supported.

ACTION: Clerk to inform the MRWS Team of the decision of the council and also inform CCC, CBC, LDNPA and CALC.

Cllr. Wood to upload his response to the MRWS website.

33.3.12: Financial Report and Approval of Accounts: The Clerk informed the meeting that there were three outstanding invoices and two further payments that related to the Clerk's salary.

- E& K Community Centre – room hire: £36.00
- J.D. Crozier – hedge cutting: £177.60
- CALC – training: £29.00
- Clerks Salary - minus tax plus expenses: £266.06
- HMRC – PAYE: £50.06

It was agreed that all the above payments be made.

Since the last council meeting an invoice relating to the Business Plan for the Ennerdale Hub community shop was presented and paid. The amount was £1875.00p

Taking the above payments into account, the reconciled balance of the main PC account is £7,287.80p. The balance of the reserve account is £224.51p.

It was noted that the recently issued council tax bills showed an increase of 1.5% for the parish precept. As the council had previously agreed a 0% increase the Clerk was asked to investigate.

ACTION: Clerk to pay outstanding invoices and contact CBC re: Council Tax.

34.3.12: Planning matters: There were three planning applications presented:

- 7/2012/4005: 4 Church Cottages, Ennerdale Bridge – extension
- 7/2012/4006: Bridge over Croasdale Beck
- 7/2012/4009: Greenthwaite, Ennerdale – demolition of garage to create space for extension

Councillors had 'no objections' to the above.

Also received: Notice of planning permission granted: Black Sail Y H – hydro intake & turbine enclosure

ACTION: Clerk to inform the LDNP Planning Department of the views of the PC.

35.3.12: Report from ECRAG: Cllr. Oakley reported that it was the intention of the group to plant three silver birch trees together with a plaque for the Diamond Jubilee.

ACTION: Cllr. Oakley to pass on the date for tree planting to the Clerk.

36.3.12: 217 Bus Service update: Cllr Wood stated that there was to be a childrens competition to help promote the service and that he was unable to attend the next 217 meeting.

**ACTION: Cllr Lachlan to attend meeting scheduled for 21st March.
Cllr. Wood to write article for Connect magazine.**

38.3.12: Report from the Broadband Champion: Cllr Topping reported that the contract for the delivery of superfast broadband was due to be signed in May. He was hoping that the fibre optic cable would not stop at the Lamplugh Exchange. The second questionnaire has now been sent out and completed questionnaires are still being returned. There are some big gaps where no-one has returned the questionnaire, e.g. Croasdale. It is expected that the nuclear new build will have a beneficial impact on the rolling out of superfast broadband.

39.3.12: Parish Council Website: Cllr Topping passed a disc to councillors with a mock up of the website on it.

ACTION: All councillors to view the disc and pass on any comments to Cllr Topping.

40.3.12: Correspondence: All electronic correspondence has been forwarded to councillors. Other correspondence:

Correspondence For information For action

Local News & Views: CCC X

Our Green Space: FOLD X Passed to ECRAG

Concurrent Services Scheme: CBC Letter sent

Cumbria Waste & Minerals Development Framework: CCC X

Enlargement of YDNP & LDNP: NEX

Bus Stop infrastructure information: CCC X

ACTION: Clerk to return Bus Stop infrastructure form.

41.3.12: Feedback from meetings: Cllr Lachlan reported back from The Cold Fell Communities meeting at which it was agreed to further promote safe driving using the local press ahead of lambing on the fell. The results of the most recent traffic survey have shown that there was an overall reduction in average speed and volume of traffic. It seems that the introduction of the 40MPH speed restriction has been a success. The clerk reported from the Parish Lengthsman meeting at which it was explained that there was funding in place to keep the scheme running until July. Sarah Mitchell is applying for additional funding to keep the project going.

Cllr Lachlan provided feedback from the Three Tier meeting at which the Localism Bill, Council Tax, new code of conduct for councillors, neighbourhood planning and the restructure of the CCC public transport team were all discussed.

Cllr. Ayling reported back from a meeting at the school at which the idea of presenting a Diamond Jubilee mug to each pupil was discussed. It was agreed that Cllr. Ayling should look into this idea further.

ACTION: Clerk to supply Cllr. Ayling with contact details re: mugs.

42.3.12: Date of next meeting:

7.00pm on Wednesday 9th May 2012

St. Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

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