

Ennerdale & Kinniside Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 11th September 2013
in St. Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge.

69.09.13: In Attendance: Cllrs. Wood (Chair), Lachlan, Oakley, McMullen, Topping, Taylor and Denham-Smith.

Also in attendance: Peter Maher (The Ennerdale Hub), Paul Connor, Gareth Browning (FC), Ric Outhwaite, Donald Connor, Alan Willison (PCSO) & David Smith (Clerk).

70.09.13: Apologies: Cllr. Ayling (previous engagement) & Cllr. Shail (work commitment).

71.09.13: Declarations of Interest: Councillors Wood, Oakley, Taylor, Lachlan, and Topping all declared an interest as shareholders of the Ennerdale Hub, an organisation with a planning application before the council.

The Clerk informed the meeting that without the councillors who had declared an interest there would only be two councillors left to discuss the planning application. The council would not be quorate and would not be able to carry out the duties of the council. The Clerk suggested that those councillors who had declared an interest should seek a dispensation to allow them to take part in the discussion and vote on the application. Cllrs Wood, Oakley, Taylor, Lachlan and Topping all sought a dispensation and the Clerk duly agreed to these requests.

The Chair of the council then proposed that the planning application from the Ennerdale Hub Ltd be discussed as the first item of business. This was agreed by all those present.

72.09.13: Planning application 7/2013/4059: Forestry Com Building, Ennerdale Bridge – demolish existing building and construct a new village 'hub'.

Peter Maher provided those present with the history of the current application and how, after a series of well attended public meetings, The Ennerdale Hub together with their agents had tried to address both the needs of the local community and the concerns expressed, particularly by those living close by the proposed site. A business plan is in place and the Lottery application will proceed during November. Issues and objections that have arisen during the development of the bid have included the overall size of the building which has now been reduced, concerns regarding the impact on other local road users which has resulted in the provision of a turning circle at the back of the building so that delivery lorries can now exit the site safely, the storage and collection of refuse which will now take place at the rear of the building and blocking of the access to the rear of the adjacent forestry houses which will be prevented by clear marking of the access route and parking bays. Further concerns regarding the biomass boiler have also been addressed by the relocation of it to the rear of the building and the flue now appearing as a small chimney.

Ric Outhwaite, a concerned local resident had the following observations to make.

The planning application relies on land outwith the ownership and control of the applicant. The application includes building over an existing private water supply and drain. The application will result in the loss of five domestic garages and three parking spaces. Some private rights of way are missing from the plans. There is inadequate detail regarding sewage treatment. Construction of the parking spaces will require the relocation of a power line and it is not clear where this will go. The building to be constructed is not in keeping with the other buildings in Ennerdale Bridge. Windows to the northern elevation will overlook existing properties and are not necessary. Concern that the new building could harm existing organisations, such as the Community Centre, by taking business and funds away. There is little or no control over what the building could become in five or ten years time. Local residents are especially concerned that the application seeks to have the toilets and showers open 24 hours a day, possibly for some future camping development in the vicinity and that the facility as a whole will be open from 7.00am to 10.00pm.

Ric made it clear that the above views were his own, and that he would be submitting them as an objection to the application, but he wished the Parish Council to take them onboard when making their decision on the application.

A number of questions were then asked by councillors:

Q: Who owns the land at the back of the site?

A: The Rawlins Family Trust and the Hub is working on resolving some issues around the leasing of the land. Unless it is clear that the applicant can use the land then the whole application fails.

Q: What is the situation regarding ownership of the lanning behind the forestry houses?

A: Some of the deeds show a part of the lanning belonging to the house owner, some don't. If a further strip of land is required to ensure access then it will be acquired.

After much discussion the following proposal was suggested by Cllr. Lachlan:

This Parish Council supports the application by The Ennerdale Hub Ltd., subject to the following issues being addressed, during the further development of the application, to the satisfaction of the LDNPA Planning Board:

- Access for local residents
- Drainage for adjacent properties
- Land purchase/lease in place
- Privacy concerns of local residents
- Noise nuisance concerns of local residents

Proposed: Cllr. Lachlan

Seconded: Cllr Oakley

All the councillors present voted in favour of the proposal.

ACTION: The Clerk to inform the LDNPA of the views of the council.

73.09.13: Minutes of the meeting held on July 10th:

The minutes of the July meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr. Topping

Seconded: Cllr. Oakley

The Chair duly signed them.

74.09.13: Public Participation:

The following issues had been raised by members of the public:

- Use of website for commercial purposes: it was agreed that this was not appropriate at present.
- Disabled parking space: Fox & Hounds: this land is not part of the highways. It belongs to the Fox and Hounds and as such it will be their decision.
- Proposed drainage channel behind Shepherds Arms after recent heavy rain caused the Croasdale Beck to flood: it was agreed that this fell under the remit of the Environment Agency. (Cllr. Wood declared a personal interest as a resident affected by the flood)
ACTION: Clerk to write to EA at Penrith and highlight the issues.
- Lack of camping facilities in the village: it was agreed that this was an issue that was not within the remit of the Parish Council though the Hub would be invited to place a notice in the newsletter and on the website highlighting the need as asking anyone interested in providing camping grounds to get in touch.

Wild Ennerdale update: Gareth Browning:

Gareth informed the council that the area to be clear felled due to the spread of the Larch disease *Phytophthora Ramorum* (see May 13 minutes) has increased from 24 hectares to over 90 hectares. It is expected that further clearances will be ordered. The work, which has already started, has to be completed by July 2014. This work will change the look and feel of the upper Ennerdale valley. There will eventually

be some new planting but other areas will be left to regenerate naturally. The wood will be transported out of the area using the Croasdale Road once the repair works on the road have been completed by late October. Lorry movements will obey the standing protocol regarding and there will be no movements whilst the school opens or when it closes for the day. The route out of Ennerdale is via Kirkland.

75.09.13: Report from the Police and Neighbourhood Watch:

The Chair welcomed PCSO Willison to the meeting.

PCSO Willison explained that Ennerdale was not his 'patch' but the local officer had been off sick for some time. He also explained that he had been in correspondence with Cllr. Wood regarding a 'spike' in policing issues in the area in July. There had been reports of vehicle damage in the village and anti-social behaviour problems down by the lake. Further investigations had shown that the damage to vehicles was very localised and, with the good weather, there had been an increase in people visiting the lake resulting in some unacceptable behaviour due to alcohol. PCSO Willison reminded those present that the Ennerdale area was generally speaking a low crime area.

The incidents recorded by the police in July were 1 burglary, 1 theft, 3 Road traffic collisions, 1 Adult ASB and 1 suspicious incident. In August there was 1 report of fly-tipping. There were 2 Neighbourhood Watch alerts in July and 14 in August.

Cllr. McMullen raised a concern regarding motorists having to drive 'against the flow' of Sellafeld traffic when going out either way of the village at certain times of the day. PCSO Willison said he was well aware of this issue and would raise it again at the next Cold Fell Communities meeting.

Cllr. Wood raised the issue of Speedwatch volunteers and stated that he felt that for a village the size of Ennerdale Bridge that 2 or 3 volunteers would probably be enough. PCSO Willison will inform the council when the training dates are.

Cllr. Wood thanked PCSO Willison for his attendance.

76.09.13: Progress Reports:

A: Clerk's Report:

The following actions from the May meeting were reported:

- 60.07.13: Clerk to write to Copeland Planning Dept outlining objections to Winder wind turbine application. Done. Application withdrawn.
- 61.07.13: Clerk to arrange a Governance Sub-group meeting: Not done as yet.
- 62.07.13: Clerk to inform LDNPA of the views on planning application: Done.
- 64.07.13: Clerk to pass on names of Speedwatch volunteers to PCSO Willison: Not done as no names given.
- 64.07/13: Clerk to obtain cost of SIDs from Cockermouth TC: Done £3,132.60p (2009) CA Traffic

Two further actions were noted:

- Cllrs Topping and Denham-Smith had met with the Ennerdale Hub team to discuss the marking criteria for the work the PC is to undertake on behalf of the Hub.
- Next meeting of the Governance sub group to be arranged before the November meeting.
- The application to the UU fund, United Futures, has been submitted by Groundwork Cumbria.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange a date for the Governance sub-group meeting before the November meeting.

A list of correspondence was noted and one, the Nat West review of customer information, required action. The withdrawal of the Winder Wind Turbine application was noted.

ACTION: Clerk to complete and return the bank form.

B: RNEC:

Cllr. Lachlan reported that there had been a meeting held in August at which the Facelift Fund for local businesses was highlighted as there had been a lack of demand in the area. Updates are awaited with regard to the West Lakes Extreme proposal from Copeland BC. There are currently still three sites suggested for the project though it is expected that this will be reduced to a single preferred site shortly.

C: ECRAG:

Cllr. Oakley reported that there had been no meeting held since the last PC meeting and hence nothing to report.

D: Bus Service 217:

Cllr. Wood reported that he had received some passenger data relating to the months of April, May and June and that it would appear that the cost to the Parish Council was working out at £6.25p per passenger journey. This compares to an overall subsidy for the 217 service of £5.46p per passenger journey. There is to be a meeting with CCC shortly and Cllr. Wood hopes to be able to present a fuller set of figures to the November meeting.

E: Connecting Cumbria:

Cllr. Topping reported that he had received feedback from United Utilities that they would be amenable to other utilities using their trench but as yet there had been no approach from BT regarding this matter. He felt that there was a real opportunity here for BT to show their willingness to work with others even though there has been little in the way of community engagement shown by the organisation to date.

ACTION: Cllr. Topping to draft a letter to Jamie Reid MP, Cllr. Knowles CCC and Cllr. Salkeld regarding the potential use of UU trenches by BT for fibre optic cabling and the benefits this could bring to so many rural communities.

77.09.13: Planning Matters:

See agenda item 72.09.13 above.

There was one other planning application to discuss:

App. No: 7/2013/4047: Heckbarley, Ennerdale Bridge – replace existing timber windows with upvc and new window in garage.

After some discussion it was decided that councillors had ‘No Objections’ to this application.

ACTION: Clerk to inform LDNPA of the views of the council.

The following Notices of Grant of Planning Permission were noted:

7/2013/4008: Low Moor End, Ennerdale – change of use of farmhouse to agricultural occupancy & holiday let

7/2013/4018: Eirinn Talla, Ennerdale – roof over midden

7/2013/4042: The Barn, Croasdale – erection of shed and enlargement of garden

7/2013/4028: Cathow, Kinniside – roof over midden

The following Withdrawn Application was noted:

7/2013/4027: Renaturalisation of Ben Gill, Ennerdale Water

78.09.13: Highways Matters:

Cllr. Lachlan reported that the new Area Highways manager for both Copeland and Allerdale was Karl Melville.

Cllr. Lachlan reported that he had received the following updates from Kevin Thompson of Cumbria Highways:

- Width Restriction – Croasdale Road: see above, works apparently brought forward to October to accommodate movement of logs from Ennerdale Forest.
- Fingerposts: ML has approached the Ennerdale Views Project team and asked them to include the refurbishment of the five fingerposts in their work.
- Missing Ennerdale signs: Details now in place and order to be arranged.
- 20MPH speed limit: it has now been agreed that this issue should be assessed in detail in 2014. Indications are that Cumbria Highways feel that there is no need for any additional speed restriction.
- Street lighting Church Lane: The order for connection has now been placed.

It was agreed that the discussion regarding the purchase of SID’s for the village should be undertaken during the budget setting at the November meeting.

79.09.13: Council Finance:

The Clerk reported that he had now received a cheque for £348.50p from the Openreach BT Wayleaves team, this being a one-off payment relating to works along the public footpath adjacent to the Old Vicarage. The Clerk reported that the balance of the main account was £13,928.59p as per the latest available bank statement dated 20th August 2013.

The following payments were agreed:

- Clerk's Salary Qtr 2: £266.49p
- Clerk's expenses Qtr 2: £36.00p
- HMRC PAYE Qtr 2: £66.62p

Once the above payments and receipts had been taken into account, the reconciled balance of the main account was £13,907.98p

There followed a discussion regarding the appropriate mileage rate for councillors travelling to meetings on Council business. It was agreed that the rate should be 50p per mile.

ACTION Clerk to send out copies of the updated claim form.

80.09.13: Feedback from meetings:

The CALC Three Tier meeting is to be held on September 25th, venue yet to be announced and |Karl Melville of Cumbria Highways will be one of the speakers.

Cllrs. Denham-Smith and Topping reported that they had met up with Paul Connor from The Ennerdale Hub Ltd. to discuss the criteria and marking of the evaluation of the Hub, should the Lottery application be successful. A further meeting is to take place prior to the submitting of the Lottery application.

Cllr. Wood reported back from a site visit relating to the Winder Wind Turbine application. He stated that the applicant had not negotiated access to the site prior to the application being made and that the visibility of the turbines from the Ennerdale fells was not noted by the applicant. The application has now been withdrawn.

A Miles without Stiles/Ennerdale Views meeting was held on the 9th September and notes from the meeting have been submitted.

81.09.13: Items for the next meeting:

- Report from Governance sub-group
- Draft Budget 14/15
- Councillor Vacancy: Cllr. Oakley informed the meeting that she would be leaving the area and as such felt that she should give notice of her resignation with immediate effect. All those present thanked her for all her work as a councillor and wished her well for the future.

ACTION: Clerk to inform CBC and put up vacancy notices.

- MRWS – after a recent approach by BBC Cumbria, it was agreed that there should be one PC spokesperson and that this should be Cllr. Wood.

Proposed: Cllr Lachlan

Seconded: Cllr. Topping

ACTION: Cllrs. to read through the DEC conclusions to the Review of the Siting Process for a GDF.

82.09.13: Date of next meeting:

7.00pm on Wednesday 13th November 2013 in St. Mary's Community Centre, Ennerdale Bridge

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Chair

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