

Embleton & District Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on the 21nd January 2015 at Embleton Village Hall at 19:15pm

Present: Councillor Petecki (in the chair), Cllr Brown, Cllr Graham, Cllr Brandwood, Cllr Richardson, Cllr Nelson, Cllr Boardman, Cllr Hewitson, Cllr Teasdale, Cllr Hinde, Cllr Wilson

Apologies: Cllr Wood, Cllr Pickering

Also Present: Becx Carter (Clerk), Adrian Furness, Cllr Bowness (CCC)

01.15 Declarations of interest

Cllr G Hinde declared an interest in item 5b Tenancy of Land
Cllr R Petecki declared an interest in item 14e

Both councillors left the room at the appropriate points in the meeting and were invited to re-join the meeting once the relevant matter had been concluded

02.15 Police Report

Apologies had been received from PCSO Megan Jones. The clerk read out a written report from the police which raised three incidents of note (2 Road Traffic Collisions & 1 abandoned vehicle).

The Clerk notified the council that a response had been received from the police stating that they can no longer accept items of Lost Property. The clerk notified the meeting that whilst the Police will no longer accept lost property they will still accept items of a sensitive nature e.g. ID documents. Two posters were provided stating where key documents should be handed in, with regard to other more general property the guidance suggests handing to the manager of the nearest publicly accessible venue e.g. shop, pub, public transport hub.

Action: Clerk to forward a copy of the posters to all councillors for inclusion on the noticeboards
Action: Clerk to upload the information to the website.

Resolved that Embleton & District Parish Council felt that this wasn't a satisfactory response and the matter should be raised with the Police & Crime Commissioner to see what other arrangements were being put in place to take over this service, and also to enquire as to if this is a national policy change or a local one.

Action: Clerk to write to the PCC regarding this matter.

03.15 Minutes of the previous meeting

Cllr Teasdale requested the addition of the words 'and one objection' to item 140.14a. The item should read:

Resolved by the majority with 1 objection 1 abstention that now professional advice has been procured it should be followed.

Subject to the above amendment the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19th November 2014 were accepted as a true and accurate record by the councillors present and the chair duly signed them. All in favour. **Resolved.**

Action: Clerk to make the required amendment and send copies of the minutes to all councillors responsible for noticeboards.

04.15 Actions Update

A) Forestry Commission Tree Trimming on the road to Routenbeck

It was confirmed by Cllrs Teasdale & Petecki that some trimming of the trees on this stretch of road had now taken place

B) Valuation of Tenancy Land

Cllr Hinde declared an interest in the coming item and left the room.

The Clerk informed the council that a letter had been received from Mr G Hinde (Cllr) stating that he was unwilling to pay the increased rent of £80 a year for the two parcels of land.

Proposed by Cllr Boardman and seconded by Cllr Brown that the council has undertaken professional advice and this should be followed. As such the tenant should be issued with 12months notice and the two plots of land should be advertised at a rental of £80 per year from the end of the tenancy.

Resolved with 1 abstention that the above proposal be adopted.

Action: Clerk to write to the tenant explaining the above decision, and giving him 12 months notice.

Cllr Hinde re-entered the meeting.

C) Newsletter

The Clerk raised the issue that the ideal time for the next Newsletter would be in early Spring prior to the May 7th Elections to encourage public engagement with the council.

Cllr Petecki noted that he had received positive feedback on the Christmas Newsletter, a number of persons had found it informative and interesting. A number of councillors had similar feedback.

Action: All to think of potential articles for the Spring Newsletter and bring them to the February meeting.

D) Traffic Data Count

The Clerk informed the meeting that the traffic data count information has now been received from the CCC. The count took place between the 15th-22nd November 2014 24 hours a day. The sum of the total vehicles over the week at the three locations were:

Location 1: Total up to 40mph- 5157 Total over 40mph-2977	Location 2: Total up to 40mph- 3179 Total over 40mph-3335	Location 3: Total up to 40mph- 4597 Total over 40mph-2001
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Action: Clerk to send a copy of the raw data to all councillors for their information.

The Traffic Data Count was requested from the CCC as the Police refused to provide the speed breakdowns from their checks (they stated that the average speed was acceptable).

Resolved that now evidence has been received showing a significant problem with speeding on this stretch of road the matter be raised with the police.

Action: Clerk to write to the police enclosing a copy of the data and ask for their comments and information on how they propose proceeding from this point.

E) Response from S.106 agreement queries (Maysons Lodge)

The Clerk read out a letter received from Kevin Richards of the LDNPA which laid out the reasons for the removal of the S.106 agreement in this instance.

Embleton & District Council noted receipt of this letter but requested that Mr Richards be invited to a future meeting of the Council (March) to enable questions to be asked regarding S.106 agreements in general, their application, removal and enforcement.

Action: Clerk to invite Mr Richards to the March Embleton & District Parish Council meeting.

F) Response from queries re planning permission for adverts (Lakes Distillery)

The Clerk read out a response from Julie Birkett at the LDNPA which confirmed that some adverts can be displayed with 'deemed consent', other adverts will need an application for advertisement consent. This information was noted by all present.

Action: Clerk to send the information to all councillors for information.

G) Community Speedwatch

PCSO Megan Jones has now undertake the relevant training, and the equipment has arrived to enable her to provide training to interested parties on the Community Speedwatch Scheme

Action: Cllr Brown to liaise with the other interested parties and send a list of possible dates to the Clerk for the training.

Action: Clerk to liaise with PCSO Megan Jones to set up the training.

05.15 Public Participation

One member of the public was present, but no matters were raised

06.15 Chairman's Report.

A written copy of the Chair's report had been received and read by all Councillors. A copy is available from the clerk on request.

No queries were raised in response to this report.

Chairman had attended 2 further meetings since this was written and reported verbally briefly on both. Further reductions in the police budget following a presentation by the chief constable at one of the meetings was of some concern.

07.15 Clerks Report

All councillors had received and read a copy of the clerks report, unless otherwise listed the receipt of correspondence was noted and no further action was requested.

Correspondence Item 15- Nominations for the Royal Garden Party 2015- Resolved that Cllr Petecki & his wife be nominated to attend on behalf of Embleton & District Parish Council.

Action: Cllr Petecki to complete the relevant paperwork and submit it to CALC.

Correspondance Item 17- Increase in S.137 Limit- The Clerk confirmed the S.137 limit for 15/15 has been raised to £7.36 per elector.

Correspondance Item 24- Funding Threat to ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England)- Receipt of this information was noted and it was agreed that this item be agenda'd for the February meeting.

Action: Clerk to agenda this matter for the February meeting, and provide councillors with information on what the subscription would include.

Correspondance Items 27- Consultation regarding footpath closures in Wythop Woods during forestry works-Embleton & District Parish Council have no objections to these proposals, a full explanation of the proposed works was provided by Gareth from the Forestry Commission at the November meeting and the council were in full support of these works.

Clerks Actions from the Previous Meeting

Unless otherwise mentioned below all actions are deemed to have been completed.

Fluoridation in Water- Clerk informed the council that she had tried to obtain answers to the relevant queries but had received a response from Ian Stewart of CCC stating that ' Whilst recognising the local concern regarding this issue, at this time there are other issues which will receive the focus and attention of Cumbria County Council'. The matter has now been passed to CALC to raise with CCC to try and encourage a response.

Action: Item to be placed on the agenda for the February meeting.

Action: Clerk & Cllr Petecki to liaise with CALC regarding any response received to the queries.

Connecting Cumbria Phase 2- An overview of the current Broadband position and this consultation was provided to all councillors present.

Resolved that Embleton & District Parish Council would like to request a meeting with BT to obtain detailed postcode by postcode information on which localities will/will not receive superfast Broadband.

Action: Clerk to contact David at CALC and request that this meeting be arranged. Cllrs Petecki, Brown & Hewitson to attend this meeting along with the Clerk.

Resolved that due to the lack of detail available with regard to possible service provider provision within the Embleton & District Parish no response be submitted to the Connecting Cumbria Phase 2 consultation. (Significant proportions of the parish are 'white areas' which would make them eligible for Phase 2 funding if it were to be successful).

08.05 Procedures & Committees Workflow

This matter was raised during the Clerks Annual Review, that with regard to some consultations e.g. LDNPA Management Plan they are too large to be considered by all councillors at a council meeting due to time constraints. The Clerk and the Chair suggested that in cases such as this a small working group of 1 or 2 Councillors could fully read the relevant documents and table a report of suggested comments at the next full council meeting for approval.

Resolved by all present that this was a practical and sensible way forward and this should be utilised where necessary.

09.05 Local Council Award Scheme

A paper had been prepared by the Clerk and circulated to all with the meeting papers. This paper suggested that Embleton & District Parish Council commence work towards the first level of this scheme. (The Council already satisfies a number of the relevant areas). This scheme will help further improve transparency of the council, and demonstrate compliance with best practice.

Resolved by all present that Embleton & District Parish Council commence work on the Foundation Level of this scheme.

Action: Clerk to action the above. Updates to be provided at future meetings.

10.15 Planning

Grants of Planning Permission

The below decisions were noted:

7/2014/2208	Engineering operations to re grade ground levels – Adjacent to Dubwath Beck and Bassenthwaite Lake- APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS
7/2014/2240	Construction of a new detached double garage and domestic store- West Barn, Stanger, Cockermouth- APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS
7/2014/2223	Conversion of redundant agricultural buildings to three new residential units. – Esps Farm, Embleton, Cockermouth-APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS
7/2014/4094	Confirmation of compliance with conditions no. 8 & 6 of planning approval – Lakes Distillery, Low Barkhouse, Setmurthy- COMPLIES WITH CONDITION
7/2014/2273	Signs providing information and directions for the new distillery-Lakes Distillery, Low Barkhouse, Setmurthy- ADVERT APPROVED
2/2014/0381	Hybrid planning application comprising a full planning application for 96 residential units incorporating landscaping, open space, access, highway works and a Blue wildlife biodiversity corridor including SUDS and the construction of a highway crossing over the Tom Rudd Beck, and an outline application for up to 224 residential units including open space, surface water attenuation, landscaping and access. – APPROVED with traffic plan conditions.

11.15 Consultations

a) Lake District National Management Plan 14-20

A collated documents of all comments received had been circulated by the Clerk with the papers for this meeting.

Resolved that subject to the following alterations the paper be approved as the comments of Embleton & District Council in response to this consultation.

-The comments be broken down under the headings as in the Consultation document e.g. Vibrant Communities etc

-That the location of the stables in Item 9 be changed to Embleton

Action: Cllr Petecki to make the relevant changes and send the document to the Clerk

Action: Clerk to submit the relevant document to the LNDPA

Action: Clerk to send a copy of the document to the council representatives at CCC, ABC & our LDNPA member.

Action: Clerk to send a copy of the final submitted document to all councillors

b) ABC Draft Council Plan Consultation

This document had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Resolved by all present that the following comments be submitted on behalf of Embleton & District Parish Council

- The Consultation mentions the creation of affordable housing, but makes no mention of the fact that the LDNPA is the planning authority for a significant proportion of the ABC area. How ABC working with the park as a planning authority on relevant matters?
- The document mentions the creation of Transport Hubs but makes no reference to how this fits with the significant reductions in bus services that have taken place over last few years. How do these cuts and the future proposals link together?
- Has the impact of the potential increase in affordable housing on local services been considered and how will it be addressed? E.g. Medical & education services?

Action: Clerk to submit the above comments on behalf of Embleton & District Parish Council

c) ABC Budget Consultation

The Clerk had circulated a paper on this matter prior to the meeting and it had been received and read by all councillors.

Resolved that Embleton & District Parish Council will submit the following responses to the 6 questions raised in the consultation document.

- 1) Embleton & District Parish Council supports proposals to make waste services operate more commercially.
- 2) Embleton & District Parish Council supports the proposed way of using the BEC money
- 3) The Council supports the proposal that the 7 main towns should continue to receive funding to support the vibrancy of the towns
- 4) Embleton & District Parish Council disagrees with the proposal to consider fewer toilets in the borough. The toilets that are currently in the locations need to be improved to a much higher standard, and in some area the provision of more toilets should be considered
- 5) The Council support the proposal to raise Council tax by 1.9%
- 6) Embleton & District Parish Council disagrees with the proposal to reduce the funding provided to Parish Councils via the CTRS grant.

Action: Clerk to submit these comments

d) Government Consultation on Parish Polls

Resolved that Embleton & District Parish Council fully supports the proposals laid out in this consultation.

Action: Clerk to submit these comments.

12.15 Highways & Parish Maintenance

Mirror at Lambfoot Junction- Cllr Boardman requested that the Clerk chase up the CCC regarding the provision of painted on road 'slow signs' at various locations within the parish as agreed at the meeting held between Cllr Boardman, Graham & Steph Davies Johnson

Action: Clerk to chase this matter up

Gully Cleaning- Cllr Brown updated the meeting that every gully & culvert & drain within the Parish has now been identified, and marked on maps with a unique identification number. Copies of these maps are now held by the Parish Council and the CCC Highways department team (which will pass them to the contractors). CCC are delighted with the detail provided on the maps and are now using them to try and encourage other parishes to do the same.

The Parish Council formally thanked Cllr Brown and Pickering, and Mr Thomas Wilson for their work on this matter.

Action: Clerk to send a letter of thanks to the CCC Highways team thanking them and their contractors for their help and support on this matter.

Noticeboard Maintenance- Deferred until better weather. Cllrs Pickering & Brown will undertake the work once the weather improves.

Action: Clerk to agenda this matter for the next meeting.

Water running down Routenbeck Brow- Cllr Petecki confirmed he had spoken to the landowner and the landowner was intending to commence repairs to rectify this matter.

13.15 Council Finances

A) Reconciliation for January

The reconciliation of finances for January was approved by all & signed by Cllr Petecki. **Resolved by all present.**

B) Authorisation of Payments

CALC	Good Councillor Training Course	£147.50
Becx Carter	Expenses	£70.08
Firpress Printers	Newsletters	£140.00

Resolved that all cheques listed above be signed by two signatories (Cllr Teasdale & Cllr Petecki).

Action: Clerk to process the above payments

C) Update of Asset Register

Resolved that the version of the asset register circulated to all prior to the meeting be approved as a true and accurate working draft, it was signed as such by the Chairman.

Action: Clerk to continue working on the first registration of the playground land.

D) Request for funding from Allerdale Credit Union

It was agreed that this matter be removed from the agenda as despite a number of attempts by the clerk to obtain further information from Allerdale Credit Union non has been received.

E) Request for funding from Keswick & District First Responders.

Cllr Petecki declared an interest and left the room.

The Clerk informed the meeting that a request for funding support had been received from the above organisation, for financial support towards the cost of pagers (£60 per pager per year). The Clerk notified the council that a donation had been provided last year.

Cllr Brown confirmed this request was inline with the Embleton & District charitable donations policy

Proposed by Cllr Graham that a £60 grant be given to Keswick & District First Responders. **Resolved** by all present that this be approved. A cheque was signed by Cllrs Teasdale & Brandwood

Action: Clerk to process the donation.

Cllr Petecki returned to the room.

F) Consideration of budget for 15/16

All councillors had received a copy of the budget proposal with various options detailed.

A robust discussion was held by all councillors present on the level to set the precept at for 15/16.

Proposed by Cllr Graham with Cllr Brown as a second and all in favour.. **Resolved** that the precept be raised to £5137 for the financial year 15/16.

The reasons for this decision are:

- The second year the Council Tax Reduction Scheme grant from ABC has been reduced
- After reducing the costs where possible, it still costs £4936 to run the Council without any discretionary grants for works, maintenance etc.

It is anticipated that between 15-20 street lights within the parish are likely to be at risk in the coming years with the maintenance and replacement cost of £80 per light needed to be at least partially funded by the Council. This increase in precept will allow the council to start building a modest reserve to deal with this eventuality for the lights, which may be considered essential

G) Chairman's Expenses

Deferred until the February Meeting.

Action: Cllr Petecki to complete a claim form for his expenses.

Action: Clerk to agenda this matter for the February Meeting

H) Savings Account for Council reserves

Cllr Hewitson offered to undertake some research into an appropriate account for the Council reserves and present a paper on the possible options to the most appropriate meeting.

Action: Clerk to provide details to Cllr Hewitson on the type of account needed

Action: Cllr Hewitson to undertake this research and notify the Clerk when the matter is completed to enable it to be agenda'd for the next meeting.

14.15 Matters for the next meeting

Cllr Petecki to look into the matter of the Lakes Distillery sign sending traffic along an inappropriate route

Clerk to contact the LDNPA regarding the building on the piece of land opposite the Derwent Lodge which is growing in size and now has a full access road to it, and no planning application has been received by this council for this development.

Action: Clerk to agenda both the above matters for the February meeting.

15.15 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 18th February at 19:15

Meeting closed 21:11

Signed..... (Chair)
Dated.....