

Embleton & District Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th November 2014 at Embleton Village Hall at 19:15pm

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

Apologies: Cllr Wood, CCC Cllr Bowness.

Also Present: Becx Carter (Clerk), Gareth Browning (Forestry Commission)

136.14 Declarations of interest

None were received.

137.14 Gareth Browning- Forestry Commission

Gareth Browning attend the meeting to provide an update on the works that have been taking place in Wythop Forest. He is hoping to attend at least one parish meeting a year to keep parishes in the loop on the work of the Forestry Commission in their locality.

Gareth showed the parish updated maps identifying which areas are being clear felled (red), those that are being thinned which have been thinned before (blue & orange), and the green areas (never been thinned). During this work the A66 has been closed west bound due to the required safety zone (2 tree lengths). The work is progressing well and the carriage way should be open by the end of the month.

The team are currently working in the South of the forest and over the coming months will work back North. There is still work to be done around the old A66 into Braithwaite, and around the road to Wythop Mill (Peil Wyke & the Phesant). The work on the road to Wythop Mill/Peil Wyke will require some temporary traffic management e.g. traffic lights/stop go boards and this is likely to take place between Feb- May 2015. During the period they are working in the forest they will need to close all public rights of way for safety.

The overgrowth of trees and shrubs on the road to Routenbeck from the forestry tunoff had been reported to Chris Watson but had not yet been done. Gareth confirmed that he would organise for this matter to be resolved (via cutting and chipping).

Action: Gareth to organise the cutting back of the vegetation.

Gareth confirmed that the reason Sale Fell has been so significantly felled is that during storms some years ago the wind got in and blew down some trees. This enabled the wind to get in and cause on going damage. The clear felling has taken place to what is believed to be the wind edge to prevent/mitigate against further storm damage. The area won't be replanted immediately it will be allowed to naturally regenerate and then any areas that require additional planting will be stocked up to a stocking level.

Setmurthy- There are no currently planned works but some thinning will take place in 2015.

Isel- The Larch has been removed due to a Phytophthora Ramorum infection it is expected that this will naturally regenerate.

Howgill & Messenger Mire- Large areas have been felled, they are waiting for it to regenerate which it hasn't done as well as expected. They are looking at planting oak, hornbeam, birch and aspen (in light of the fact that it is a PAWS site).

Gareth confirmed the timber is going to a number of different companies (some of the largest diameter is being shipped to Germany for use on repairs to shipping ports). Other products are being sent to Jenkinsons & Iggusunds.

138.14 Police Report

Apologies had been received from PCSO Megan Jones. The clerk read out a written report from the police which raised one incident of note:

- 15th October- Fail to stop RTC near to Embleton Spa Hotel
- 18th October- Missing female, found later on in the day safe and well
- 26th October- large branch on the highway. Highways attended and made the area safe.

139.14 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15th October were accepted as a true and accurate record by the councillors present and the chair duly signed them. All in favour. **Resolved.**

Cllr Teasdale requested that it be noted that two items that were listed on the previous minutes as future agenda items were missed off this agenda.

- Noticeboard Maintenance
- Police role in Lost Property.

Action: Clerk to agenda these items for the January meeting.

140.14 Actions Update

Cllr Hinde declared an interest in the coming item and left the room. He had arrived late and had missed the declaration of interest item.

A) Valuation of Tenancy Land

Mitchells land agency report had been received and showed that the rent to be expected from the fields was a total of £80 per Annum. If the land were to be sold Mitchells would expect it to generate in the region of £10,000 .

Cllr Petecki confirmed that the present rent was £15 per annum. On a 3 year Farm Business Tenancy.

Resolved by the majority with 1 abstention and 1 objection that now that professional advice has been procured it should be followed. Clerk to write to the tenant and offer him a renewed tenancy agreement at the rate of £80 per year.

Action: Clerk to draft a letter to send to the tenant and pass this to Cllr Petecki for his approval.

Action: Clerk to re-agenda this matter for the January meeting once the tenant has had an opportunity to respond.

Cllr Hinde re-entered the meeting.

B) Gullies Meeting.

Cllr Brown updated the meeting on the outcome of the Gullies meeting that was held on the 5th November between Embleton & District Parish Council, Robbie Manchester of CCC and Ian Mayson of Mayson Bros (contractor).

An action plan has been agreed that Embleton & District Parish Council (Cllr Brown, Pickering & Mr Thomas Wilson) will mark all gullies and drains on a map provided by CCC and alpha numerically identify them. At the same time Cllr Brown will meet with Mayson Bros when they are in the parish and will take them to the problem gullies, Mayson Bros will then try to identify the problems (within their contract). Once the map is annotated a copy will be provided to CCC and a copy maintained by the parish. CCC will then provide a copy of this map to the contractors.

There is no budget for on-going works further than the Mayson Bros contract which requires them to clear the gully to 3m. If it goes beyond this or involves civil engineering then it reverts back to being the CCC's concern.

It was noted by various councillors that Mayson Bros had been in the parish recently.

Action: Cllr Brown to contact Mayson Bros to discuss this matter and establish when they are next attending the parish and to organise meeting with them.

Cllr Petecki asked if we knew what the regular maintenance schedule was. Cllr Brown confirmed that there is a schedule but we don't have a copy of it. All concerns/issues should be raised via CCC who will then direct the contractors accordingly.

Action: Clerk to request a copy of the maintenance schedule from CCC for reference.

The council thanked Cllr Brown and MR T Wilson for their work on this issue.

Action: Clerk to write to Mr Thomas Wilson and thank him for his help with this matter.

141.14 Public Participation

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

142.14 Chairman's Report.

Cllr Petecki had circulated a chairman's report (copy available on the website)

Cllr Petecki further confirmed that he and Cllr Boardman had attended the LDNPA North Tour today (full update to be provided in the next Chairs' report). One key piece of information that came out of this meeting was that the LDNPA may have some funding available for new footpaths

Action: Cllr Petecki to express an interest in this fund for the footpath along the top of Bassenthwaite.

Action: Clerk to complete the relevant application paperwork.

Cllr Petecki informed the council that in this year he has driven 363 miles in the course of his role as Chairman, in addition to those where expenses were the responsibility of other bodies. Cllr Petecki requested that he claim £150 in expenses, which he will donate to the Air Ambulance.

Resolved all present agreed to Cllr Petecki receiving £150 towards his costs and making this a donation to the Air ambulance.

Action: Clerk to agenda this matter for the January meeting

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

143.14 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 6-NJC Local Government Pay Award- The clerk informed the council that since the production of the agenda this pay award has now been agreed upon. The impact on the Clerks salary would be £57.48 per year.

Correspondence Item 21- Nominations for 3 directly elected members of Smaller Councils Committee 2015- No nominations received.

Further Correspondence- Invitation to commissioning of the stills at Lakes Distillery Saturday 22nd November- Confirmed that Cllrs Brown (2), Cllr Graham (1), Cllr Boardman (2), Cllr Brandwood (2), Cllr Petecki (2). Would attend this event.

Action: Clerk to respond on behalf of the council confirming the above attendance at the event.

Clerks Actions from the Previous Meeting

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

Fluoridation in Water- Clerk to continue working on this matter continuing to focus on the concerns Why is the fluoride being added to water? Who (reference to the minute of the relevant decision) gave the order to add it? What is the scientific rationale for it being added? Is this still valid? What are the grounds for such a decision being reviewed? What level is in the water in Cumbria? How does this compare to elsewhere in the country? What grade of fluoride is added? Clerk to raise these issues with Cllr Bowness and ask him to reply to the letters already received from Cllr Wood.

Action: Clerk to continue to working on this matter.

Action: Clerk to agenda for the January Meeting

Traffic Data count on the old A66 through Embleton- The Traffic Data Counter is now in place and results will be received in time for the January meeting

Action: Clerk to agenda this for the January meeting

Grit Heaps- Cllr Teasdale confirmed that the revised grit heaps have now been placed and covered with plastic.

144.14 Newsletter

Articles already received:

- What is a council- By Cllr Brown
- Gullies- By Cllr Brown
- Lakes Distillery- Update on progress

Cllr Petecki will also write a chairman's report.

Resolved that the newsletter be produced in time for Christmas in colour.

Action: Clerk to create the newsletter and send to Cllr Petecki for approval & sign off.

Action: Clerk to organise printing of the newsletter

Action: Cllr Petecki to deliver to the relevant councillors for distribution.

145.14 Planning

7/2014/2273 The Lakes Distillery, Low Barkhouse, Setmurthy- Signs providing information and directions for the new distillery- 2 fascia, 2 hanging & 8 other signs

Resolved by all present that Embleton & District Parish Council had no objections to these signs but would like clarity on if planning is or is not required for signs and to see a copy of the relevant legislation.

Action: Clerk to communicate these comments to the LDNPA

7/2014/2285 East Lodge, Hundith Hill- Single Storey extension

Resolved by all present that there no objections to this planning application.

Action: Clerk to communicate these comments to the LDNPA.

Grants of Planning Permission

The below decisions were noted:

7/2014/2254 High East House, Embleton, Cockermouth –Replacement building to store agricultural equipment- Notification of intention (no approval required)

7/2014/2038 Maysons Lodge, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth- Replacement dwelling and independent living accommodation including facility for young adult with learning difficulties- Justification for non application of highway conditions and local occupancy condition- APPROVED

Cllr Petecki updated the council that he had had the opportunity to remind the LDNPA that the council response to the application had asked for clarification of the use of S106 orders if this application was to be approved.. Kevin Richards from the LDNPA has agreed to provide this written rationale and to attend a future meeting of Embleton & District Parish Council if required to explain further.

Action: Clerk to liaise with Kevin Richards on attendance at a future meeting.

Action: Clerk to agenda written response for the January meeting AC

Action: Clerk to circulate the full written officers report to all councillors via email.

146.14 Consultations

a) Lake District National Management Plan 14-20

This matter was deferred to the January meeting. All councillors were asked to read the relevant documentation prior to this meeting.

Action: Clerk to circulate the link to the full consultation document.

b) CCC Budget Consultation

The clerk had circulated a written summary of this consultation to all councillors. Following a robust discussion the following was **resolved**:

- That the parish council support further investigation into the possibility of unitary authority/ies
- That the parish council support a 2% rise in council tax to support the keeping of as many services as possible.

-There is no specific comment on the individual proposals, Embleton & District Parish Council support CCC in making the decisions to take costs out by make savings wherever possible without affecting vital services

Action: Clerk to submit the above comments

c) *LDNPA Woodland Plan for the Bassenthwaite Woods*

Resolved that Embleton & District Parish Council are happy with the proposals laid out in this document.

Action: Clerk to submit these comments

d) *Charging for Residents Parking Permits in Allerdale*

Resolved that Embleton & District Parish Council didn't feel this consultation was relevant to the council.

147.14 Highways & Parish Maintenance

Mirror at Lambfoot Junction- Cllr Graham updated the meeting that following a meeting with Steph Davis-Johnston it was agreed that no mirror could be sited (CCC don't site them) but that slow signs will be written on the road to warn drivers of the junction. (There will also be a couple of others installed further down the road near the Old Bluebell).

Caterite- Ms Davis Johnston informed the council she was happy that the signage was adequate, but also that she would be willing to have another sign sited if someone paid for it.

Action: Clerk to write to Caterite and let them know that this is a on-going problem and that it is concerning residents; vehicles using the road by Close Barn to try and access their site and ask them to pay for a sign to help resolve this problem.

Water flowing down Routenbeck Hill

Action: Cllr Petecki to speak to the land owner regarding this matter and the potential dangers of water flowing on to the carriageway.

148.14 Council Finances

Reconciliation for November

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

Authorisation of Payments

Becx Carter	Salary	£491.45
HMRC	PAYE	£122.80
BDO	Audit Fee	£36.00
Becx Carter	Expenses	£118.47
Mitchells	Land Valuation Fee	£120.00
Society of Local Councils	CILCA Fee	£125.00
Cumbria Payroll Services	PAYE Fees	£ 14.00

The clerk asked the council to consider supporting 50% (£125) of the cost of the Certificate in Local Council Administration for further professional development for the Clerk and to assist with the work of Embleton & District Parish Council.

Resolved by all present that they were happy to support the £125 (50%) fee for this training course.

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

Action: Clerk to process the above payments

Update of Asset Register

It was confirmed that noticeboards were purchased in 04/05 with a 80% grant from the LDNPA. The cost of the noticeboards were around £450 each.

Cllr Pickering provided additional information to the council regarding two of the seats.

Action: Clerk to update the asset register with the above information and re agenda for the January meeting

Request for funding from Allerdale Credit Union

This matter was deferred to the January meeting to give Allerdale Credit Union time to respond to the request for further information on how they work within the parish area.

Action: Clerk to action the above.

Consideration of budget for 15/16

Clerk circulated a draft budget to all, and informed the meeting that Allerdale Borough Council hadn't yet confirmed the exact Council Tax Reduction Scheme figures or the actual costs of an election.

This matter was deferred until January when hopefully more clarity would be received on the above matters. The council confirmed that the proposed budget looked acceptable in principle.

Action: Clerk to continue to work on this matter with ABC and re-agenda this matter for the January meeting.

149.14 Matters for the next meeting

- Noticeboard maintenance
- Lost Property/Role of the police
- Budget

150.14 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 21st January 2015 at 19:15

Meeting closed 21:024

Signed..... (Chair)

Dated.....