

## Embleton & District Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at Embleton Village Hall at 19:15pm**

**Present:** Councillors Hewitson (In the Chair), Cllr Boardman, Cllr Richardson, Cllr Brown, Cllr Pickering, Cllr Teasdale, Cllr Hind, Cllr Brandwood

**Apologies:** Councillors Petecki, Wood, Wilson & Graham

**Also Present:** Becx Carter (Clerk)

### **108.14 Declarations of interest**

None were received.

### **109.14 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:

-27<sup>th</sup> July 2014 police attended commercial premises in Embleton after they were alerted of an intruder alarm being activated. It transpired it was a false alarm.

-27<sup>th</sup> July 2014 a local male was issued with a Cannabis warning after being found in possession of a small amount of the drug near to Bassenthwaite Lake

-8<sup>th</sup> August 2014 there was a damage only road traffic collision near to Bridge House.

### **110.14 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2014 were accepted as a true and accurate record by the councillors present and the chair duly signed them. **Resolved.**

### **111.14 Matters Arising**

36.14- Overhanging branches at Vicarage Hill/Lingarth-Cllr Brown informed the meeting that he understood that the owners of Vicarage Hill had not received any of the councils correspondence regarding the over hanging trees from their property, and that they were disappointed that no-one had been round to the house personally to raise this issue.

The clerk confirmed that an email to this effect has been received. The Clerk also noted that two letters had been sent by her, and it was understood that a letter had also been sent by Mr D Smith when he was in post as clerk.

**Resolved** that Cllr Boardman speak with the owners regarding the trees in question (higher trees that are causing larger vehicles to move into the middle of the road), and draw to their attention the fact that issue has been on-going for longer than the 18months noted in the email, and also that the council was following a process regarding reporting the issue (as per C/CC Cllr Bowness's advice that the council write to the occupiers once, and then refer the issue to the CCC- Which has been done). It was further felt that Cllr Boardman should explain that the reason why letters have been sent is to enable the council to have an auditable evidence trail, a personal visit to the house wouldn't provide this.

**Action: Clerk to send a copy of the letter that has been sent to the residents to Cllr Boardman along with clarity on the dates the letters were sent.**

**Action: Cllr Boardman to visit the property and explain the above to the homeowners.**

*Tenancy Agreements and Maps for Mr G Hind Agreement-* The clerk confirmed that she is trying to source a map of the two fields in question to support the tenancy agreement, but the RPA have said

they are only able to provide a map to the land tenant who receives the Single Payment Scheme, and has an SBI number. Cllr Hind confirmed that he had these relevant numbers and would be happy to request a map of the relevant parcel numbers if the clerk helped with the form of words.

Cllr Brown noted that if this wasn't a practicable way of sourcing a map due to copyright that he would be willing to draw up a map of the fields using the google maps application.

**Action: Clerk to draft a form of words for Cllr G Hind to use to request a copy of the map.**

**Action: Cllr Hind to request a copy of the relevant map/s.**

#### **112.14 Co-option of new councillors**

No applications had been received for co-option for the remaining 1 vacancy.

Cllr Teasdale asked the council if they would be willing to consider an application from a person living just outside of the parish (by a few hundred metres). The clerk confirmed that as long as the applicant lives within 3 miles of the parish they can be a parish councillor.

**Resolved** that all present were happy for an application for co-option to be received from this resident.

**Action: Cllr Teasdale to pass this information back to the person, and invite them to attend the October meeting.**

#### **113.14 Public Participation**

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

#### **114.14 Chairman's Report.**

Cllr Hewitson reported that she had attended a meeting on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September in Cockermouth with regard to the locality plan for Cockermouth. The meeting considered the draft plan for Cockermouth (which includes Embleton & Wythop but with no mention of Setmurthy); the issue of land allocations for housing in Cockermouth, there are no specific sites in Embleton as the planning authority for Embleton & District is Lake District National Park Authority. The meeting also briefly looked at the issue of street lighting and the removal of certain lights, in particular the fact that concern has been raised that if certain street lights are removed it may affect the speed limit (e.g. for a 30mph zone street lights are required at a certain set of intervals).

Cllr Hewitson noted that attendance at the meeting was rather low.

#### **115.14 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 5-* Notice of withdrawal of scheduled bus services (X5 Evening)- It was noted by the council that as of the 7<sup>th</sup> September the evening services of the X5 was withdrawn. Cllr Hewitson requested a comment for the press who will be contacting the council on the 18<sup>th</sup> September.

**Resolved** that Embleton & District Parish Council authorised Cllr Brown to speak to the Times and Star regarding this issue, with a comment along the lines of the parish council were disappointed by the withdrawal of this service but understood that services have been very quiet and under used. The council would also like to note that whilst CCC try and encourage the use of public transport one of the reasons why people don't use the services is that they are not practical e.g. not possible to move a

weekly shop via public transport, therefore cars are a vital part of rural village life. Public transport wasn't practical prior to the withdrawal of these services, they are even less practical now.

**Action: Cllr Hewitson to provide the press with contact details for Cllr Brown  
Action: Cllr Brown to speak with the press on this matter.**

*Correspondence Item 12-CALC New Regulations- Open & Accountable Local Government- The council noted receipt of the guidance regarding new regulations allowing members of the public to film, photograph etc council meetings.*

*Correspondence Item 27- Notice of Allerdale General Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014- Covering issues including street lighting, the clerk notified the councillors that three lights in Embleton & District have been identified as being removed:*

-Street Light Number 9- Opposite Bridge House  
-Opposite Embleton School  
-O/S The Crossings

There was some confusion regarding the above, the council knew that two lights were scheduled for removal, concern was raised if the extra light scheduled for removal was the one opposite bridge house that this light is necessary for pedestrian safety.

Due to other commitments no other councillor express an interest in attending this meeting.

**Resolved** clerk to pass the above comments on to Cllr Petecki ahead of his attendance at the meeting, and see clarity on which two lights the council knew would be being removed.

**Action: Clerk to action the above.**

*Clerks Actions from the Previous Meeting*

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

Fluoridation in Water- This item is on-going.

**Action: Clerk to continue work on this matter.**

Traffic Data count on the old A66 through Embleton- CCC will install this unit once the works on Cockermouth main street are completed to prevent this providing a skewed set of results.

**Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with CCC on this matter.**

Clerk to check on the legality of reducing the number of Embleton & District Councillors- No response received from Allerdale Borough Council.

**Action: Clerk to continue working on this matter.**

Clerk to continue working with Tim Shields regarding the highways work needing completed (Re water crossing the road near the old chapel & flowing down the road at the vicarage)

**Action: Clerk to continue working on this matter**

Asset Register- A revised and updated asset register hasn't yet been received from Cllr Petecki & Graham, Cllr Brandwood noted that she had passed her photographs & grid references to Cllr Petecki

**Action: Clerk to raise this matter with Cllrs Petecki & Graham and agenda for the next meeting.**

Clerk to do land registry search on the land on which Lambfoot bus shelter & play area sits, and also on the land on which Dubwath Bus Shelter sits. The Clerk confirmed the land on which the Dubwath shelter sits is owned by Cumbria County Council, the searches on the Lambfoot land is outstanding.

**Action: Clerk to continue work on the Lambfoot search**

**Action: Clerk to check with CCC if the Dubwath bus shelter is covered on their asset register, to seek clarity on if it should be on our asset register & insurance or not.**

Clerk to check on the legalities of email summons to meetings in light of the July/August CALC Circular. CALC have confirmed that the legislation proposed in the latest CALC circular will put the matter beyond any doubt. However precedent has been for many years that electronic summons are acceptable as long as those that wish are provided with a paper copy (and this is reflected in the standing orders). It was also noted that the validity of a meeting would not be affected for want of the prescribed method of service of the summons.

### **116.14 Planning**

7/2014/2162 Hybrid planning application comprising a full planning application for 96 residential units incorporating landscaping, open space, access, highway works, and a blue wildlife 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, landscape & access- Land Off Strawberry Road, Cockermouth.- AMENDMENTS to landscape plan

**Resolved** that Embleton & District Parish Council have no comments to the suggested amendments.

The clerk updated the council that following the last meeting an objection to the original application on the basis of traffic & highways concerns, a copy was sent to CCC. A dialogue has since taken place which in summary states that the highways don't have a traffic objection to this, as the developer states that the vast majority of traffic will depart from the development through Cockermouth.

**Resolved** that Embleton & District Parish Council continue to have SERIOUS concerns regarding the potential traffic impacts of this development on the lambfoot junction and the old A66, and also to request information on how construction traffic is proposed to access the site.

**Action: Clerk to raise these concerns again with CCC and also request a traffic data count be installed on Strawberry How road to provide a baseline on traffic moving east. With a view to this being used if necessary to provide a comparator after the development.**

### **117.14 Consultations**

*ABC Local Plan Part 2 Site Allocations:* **Resolved** that Embleton & District Parish Council have no comments on this as it doesn't apply to the parish area as the LDNPA are the planning authority for the area.

*HGV Speed Limits on Dual Carriageways:* **Resolved** that Embleton & District Parish Council have no comment on this consultation (and noted that HGV's are now speed limited to 56mph anyway).

*National Grid North West Connections Project:* The clerk notified the council of this consultation, and informed the council that in her opinion based upon the documentation this consultation does not affect the parish council area (non of the proposed routes would be within the Embleton & District Parish Council land). **Resolved** that Embleton & District Parish Council have no comment on this consultation.

*DCLG The Right to Challenge Parking Policies- Resolved* that Embleton & District Parish Council support the proposals laid out in this paper.

**Action: Clerk to submit a letter of support in favour of the proposals laid out in this document.**

*Rights of Way Issue- Malcolm Wilson Rallies- Whinlatter & Wythop 7<sup>th</sup> March 2015- Resolved* that Embleton & District Parish Council had no comment on this consultation.

#### **118.14 Highways & Parish Maintenance**

*Request for mirror at Lambfoot Junction-* The clerk confirmed that she had requested this mirror but had been informed by CCC that mirrors were no longer installed as they are 'non standard' signs. Steph Davis-Johnston confirmed that she would be willing to do a site visit to discuss options for this matter, Cllr Petecki suggested that a list of issues be considered before organising a meeting. Along with the mirror the following issues were raised:

- Access up to Highham Hall/issues with lorries following the sat nav's to Caterite- Could improved signage be placed on this road? Height? Size restrictions?
- Pavement from Caterite to Derwent Lodge Hotel is in a very bad state (Crumbling away)
- Pavement near Lambfoot where there was a patch, this has now come away and is in a bad state

**Action: Clerk to contact Ms Davis-Johnston and raise the above issues, and if necessary organise a site visit.**

*Gullies & Gully Clearing-* CCC have now commissioned Mayson Bros to work for them one week a month to work on gully clearing. Mayson Bro's have stated that they will be on site to do the gully clearing w/c 10/11/14 and would like to organise a meeting with parish representatives the week before (w/c 3/11/14).

**Resolved** that Cllr Wilsons husband be contacted and asked if he would be willing to attend this meeting, Cllr Brown to also attend this meeting (and will mark on a map where all the gullies are for reference).

**Action: Clerk to contact Cllr Wilsons husband and ask about availability w/c 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

**Action: All to bring their lists of obscured/hidden gullies to the October meeting for Cllr Brown to raise during this meeting.**

*Overhanging Forestry Commission Trees-* These trees are still overhanging, Cllr Petecki was going to speak to the Forestry Commission last year.

**Action: Clerk to raise this issue with Cllr Petecki and ask if the issue has been discussed with the Forestry Commission.**

*Grit Heaps-* Cllr Teasdale reported that CCC have started putting out the grit heaps in inappropriate places. Near Embleton Church (where it is flat), between Rosebank & Moorlands (where it floods), On the right hand side of the road at Abbey Brow in the gutter (which is a pollution issue).

**Action: Clerk to raise these issues with the relevant CCC team.**

#### **119.14 Council Finances**

*Reconciliation for August & September*

The reconciliation of finances for August & September was approved by all & signed by Cllr Hewitson  
**Resolved**

#### *Authorisation of Payments*

All items for payment were approved by the council (proposed by Cllr Hind & Seconded by Cllr Richardson with all in favour) and signed by two signatories (Cllr Brandwood & Teasdale):

1. Firpress Printers	Newsletters	£65.00
2. CALC	New or aspiring chairman course	£29.50
3. Becx Carter	Salary	£491.45
4. Becx Carter	Expenses	£112.78
5. HMRC	PAYE	£122.80
6. Cumbria Payroll Services	PAYE Services	£14.00

**Action: Clerk to process the above payments**

#### *Update of Asset Register*

Deferred to the October meeting

**Action: Clerk to agenda this for the next meeting**

#### *Blackrock account*

The clerk informed the meeting that Blackrock have confirmed the two options available for the funds in this account are a) donate the funds to a charity, b) close the account and request transference of the funds back into the councils current account.

**Resolved** that the council should close this account and request the transfer of the money back to the councils current account.

A letter to this effect was signed by Cllr Teasdale, Cllr Hewitson & the Clerk as RFO

**Action: Clerk to process & send this letter.**

#### *Reimbursement to St Margaret's Church Wythop*

As per the resolution passed in January 2012 a receipt has been produced showing works on the graveyard for a total of £126.75.

**Resolved** that all were in favour of the £100 be reimbursed against this receipt. The cheque was signed by Cllr Brandwood & Teasdale

**Action: Clerk to process this donation.**

It was raised by Cllr Brown that at the moment this is an on-going resolution to reimburse £100 against a receipt for graveyard works to each church in the parish every financial year, should consideration be given to reviewing this resolution e.g. every 5 years?

*Concurrent grant 13/14* – It was the opinion of those present that no concurrent grant had been received.

**Action: Clerk to research this and complete the forms accordingly.**

*Change in HSBC Terms & Conditions*- Embleton & District Parish Council noted receipt of the change in conditions to their bank accounts.

**120.14 Matters for the next meeting**

- Asset register review & approval
- Tenancy for Mr G Hind
- Superfast Broadband update
- Noticeboard maintenance

**121.14 Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at 19:15 in Embleton Village Hall

Meeting closed 20:54

Signed..... (Chair)

Dated.....