

Minutes of a meeting of Underbarrow & Bradleyfield Parish Council held at Underbarrow Institute on Thursday 7th December 2023 at 7pm.

Present were Councillors Peter Swindlehurst (Chairman), Richard Carruthers, Stuart Fairclough and Sally Soady, Westmorland & Furness Councillor Steve Bavin, and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Charlotte Cartwright.

23/42 Public participation: None.

23/43 Requests for Dispensations: None.

23/44 Declarations of Interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters on the agenda.

23/45 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2023, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

23/46 Westmorland & Furness Councillor:

Councillor Bavin mentioned the following matters:

- a. The A5074 is now fully open again.
- b. Thorns Lane is going to be closed for a few days in mid-January.
- c. Green bins were not emptied recently as scheduled and are now very full.
- d. Some recently repaired potholes are sinking again.
- e. Grit bins are being re-filled after the recent severe weather.
- f. Outstanding reports are being followed up, in order to ensure they are not forgotten.
- g. The culvert at Mount Joy/Red Scar junction has been reported a number of times and it will be followed up. During icy weather it is an extremely dangerous corner.

23/47 Planning:

The following applications were considered:

7/2023/5691 Nook Cottage, Underbarrow, Demolition of existing single-storey extension and porch with replacement two-storey extension and porch following withdrawal of 7/2023/5210 No objection in principle but concerns were expressed regarding the footpath which runs very close to the house, the size of the glazing and the 'modern' front façade.

7/2023/5679 Fallen Yew Barn, Underbarrow. Demolition of Barn and Erection of Dwelling. No objections – this is a retrospective application.

7/2023/5718 Low Greenriggs, Underbarrow. Retrospective planning approval for the demolition and rebuild of the replacement farmhouse approved as part of planning permission reference 7/2020/5680 with associated infrastructure and ancillary facilities. No objections.

23/48 Finance:

a. *It was resolved to pay the following account:*

K M Price £96.70 Back pay to 1st April 2023

b. The cash and budget statements were noted.

c. The Budget Report was considered and it was resolved make a Precept upon Westmorland & Furness Council in the sum of £8,343 for the financial year 2024-25. There is therefore no increase in the parish element of the Council Tax.

It was agreed to include the maximum amount allowed for payments made under S137 which will enable the Council to consider further grants to suitable bodies.

d. The Pay Award for Clerks, notified to the Council via CALC/NALC was approved. This is for £1 per hour across all salary points and backdated to 1st April 2023. The Clerk of this Council is employed for 18.25 hours monthly on salary point 20.

e. An application for funding was received from Crosthwaite C of E School and it was resolved to contribute £1,000.

f. The Clerk agreed to action the opening of a new bank account at Lloyds Bank and the transfer of the present banking arrangements to Lloyds. The signatories are to be Councillors Carruthers, Fairclough and Swindlehurst and the Clerk, any two to sign.

23/49 Daffodil bulb planting day:

Although there had not been a lot of support from the village, the day had gone ahead and all the bulbs purchased had been planted. Thanks were expressed to all who helped in any way.

The Clerk will thank Geoff Blyth and Gary Richardson for their assistance on the day.

23/50 Communications:

Councillor Soady reported that there are now 54 members on the Council's Facebook page and this is being usefully employed.

23/51 Village maintenance:

There was nothing further to report regarding the painting/maintenance of the concrete bollards and railings around the village. Councillor Bavin will follow this up. (minute 23/37 refers).

23/52 Defibrillator:

The present round of grants has finished but it may be possible to apply for a 50% grant and Councillor Carruthers will follow this up.

23/53 Date of the next meeting:

Thursday 22nd February 2024 at 7pm at Underbarrow Institute.

23/54 Open Forum:

Councillor Soady has booked on to an Emergency Plan session for Parish Councils and this will be an agenda item for the next meeting. No such plan exists in the village, and the severe weather last weekend underlined this lack.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed:

Dated: