

Minutes of a meeting of Underbarrow & Bradleyfield Parish Council held by ZOOM on Thursday 21st January 2021 at 7pm.

Present were Councillors Ben Cunliffe (Chairman), Richard Carruthers, Charlotte Cartwright, Sylvia Gibson and Peter Swindlehurst, County Councillor Jim Bland, District Councillors John Holmes and Kevin Holmes and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Mark Simpson.

**21/1 Public participation:** None.

**21/2 Requests for Dispensations:** None.

**21/3 Declarations of Interest:**

Councillor Cunliffe declared an interest in planning application 7/2020/5852 (Tullythwaite House) and took no part in the discussion.

**21/4 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2020, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Minute 20/23b (22nd September 2020 minutes) had been queried by a member of the public as to the legality of vehicles using bridleways.

*It was resolved that any enquirer should be informed that 'the use of green lanes and bridleways depends on their specific designation and the legal use of individual routes should be checked with the LDNPA first'.*

**21/5 Council Vacancies:**

There had been no expressions of interest in the one remaining vacancy. This will now be taken off the agenda but it can be reinstated should anyone come forward.

**21/6 Updates to various projects in hand:**

- a. Planting of daffodils (minute 20/39b refers). Bags of bulbs had not been obtainable at the time of year the matter was discussed so this may become an agenda item later this year.
- b. Mushroom on Scout Scar (minute 20/33 refers). The Chairman had continued to follow up the matter of getting the panel installed by Piers1 metal work, but without success. Councillor Swindlehurst agreed to obtain an alternative quotation.

**21/7 Reports:**

**CCC:** *Councillor Bland reported as follows*

- a. 'Kendal Futures' had employed three consultants but had still not proposed anything that was practicable.

- b. Following the last meeting, the road to Crook had been swept soon afterwards.
- c. An ash tree near the village hall may need to come down, but its ownership is uncertain.

**SLDC:** Councillor Holmes had circulated his report prior to the meeting and this will be appended to these minutes in the file. Matters covered included the ongoing debate to combat Climate Change and increase Biodiversity, Local Authority re-organisation, Council Tax on empty properties and the cost of COVID-19. He said Council Tax is likely to increase by 5% for 2021-22.

#### **21/8 Finance:**

- a. The cash and budget statements were noted and any payments approved.
- b. It was resolved to contribute £500 each to the Great North Air Ambulance and the North West Air Ambulance. Councillors Holmes suggested suspending contributions to the Lyth Valley First Responders Group in the light of the present pandemic.
- c. The Budget Report was considered and it was resolved that this Council makes a Precept upon South Lakeland District Council for the financial year 2021-22 in the sum of £8,343 (this is the same as the current year).

#### **21/9 Planning:**

- a. *The following decision, notified to the Council by the Planning Authority, was noted:*

7/2020/5636 High Gregg Hall Lodge, Underbarrow. Amendment to agricultural occupancy condition on planning permission 7/1982/5034 - house from part of existing barn. Granted.

- b. *The following application was considered and approval recommended:*

7/2020/5852 Tullythwaite House, Underbarrow. Amend condition no 2 (plans) on planning permission ref 7/2020/5439 (Proposed minor renovations to grade II listed Tullythwaite House, renovation of Coach House and demolition of lean-to workshop, and new build garage with workshop/ garden store) - drawing no PL02 200715 Tullythwaite - Site Plan to show change in location of proposed garage.

#### **21/10 Date of the next meeting:**

***Thursday 18th March 2021 by ZOOM at 7pm.***

#### **21/11 Open Forum:**

- a. Councillor Gibson reported a low BT cable by Becksides. Councillor Carruthers had reported it and had received a reference number.

- b. Councillor Carruthers asked what the current situation is regarding a possible phone mast being erected in the parish. Councillor Cunliffe said he would check on the original application for this and see if it might be possible to re-ignite local interest in the project.
- c. Correspondence had been received from Gary Richardson relating to land owned by himself and Chris Holt (the old mill pond and dam in Underbarrow) which is fairly overgrown. On entering through the gate into the field, there is a small triangular plot of land on the right (between the old mill race and the road) and there is a stone wall between their field and that triangular plot of land (the wall boundary being their responsibility). In the triangular plot of land there are some trees – all fairly small, hazelnut and the like – which have grown out over the wall and way over into their field, with some of them lying on the wall. Permission is being sought from the Parish Council for those branches to be cut back to vertically in line with the boundary wall. This will be done at their own cost and liability.

The Council agreed to this proposal.

This prompted a discussion about other possible pieces of parish land that the Council may own or have responsibility for. The Clerk said that in 2001 SLDC had handed back to the parishes small pieces of land that were owned by the Parish Councils but this was before he became Clerk to this Council. He will contact Linda Fisher at SLDC to ascertain if there is other land that the Council should be aware of. This could be a suitable future project for the Council, to make a list of these and possibly produce a digital map of them. It will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

- d. The Clerk reported on the success of the recent charitable distribution (the trustees of the Enclosure Charity met on 3rd December) and it was agreed that, in future, the distribution would be made at a similar time of year, ie late November/early December. Councillor Cunliffe thanked Councillor Carruthers and the Clerk for the arrangements and all who helped to distribute the money.
- e. As it is very unlikely that a 'public auction' of the letting rights at Smithymire will be possible in March, it was resolved that enquiries will be made as to anyone who might be interested in bidding. (last year mutual agreement had been made that the present tenant continued for a further year). Councillors Carruthers and Swindlehurst will lead on this and notify the Clerk of the outcome before 31st March 2021.

*The meeting closed at 8.15pm.*

*Signed:*

*Dated:*