

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Underbarrow & Bradleyfield Parish Council held at Underbarrow Institute on Wednesday 22nd May 2024 at 7.15pm.

Present were Councillors Peter Swindlehurst (Chairman), Richard Carruthers, Charlotte Cartwright, Stuart Fairclough and Sally Soady, Westmorland & Furness Councillor Steve Bavin, one member of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price.

24/14 Election of Chairman:

Councillor Peter Swindlehurst was elected Chairman for 2024-25. He then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

24/15 Requests for Dispensations: None.

24/16 Declarations of Interest:

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

24/17 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2024, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

24/18 Councillor Vacancies:

It was noted that there are still two vacant seats on the Council. Low-key advertising continues. Anyone interested should contact either the Chairman or Clerk.

24/19 Planning:

The following application was considered:

7/2024/5245 Fallen Yew, Underbarrow, Reinstate some of the existing openings, restore original fireplace, lime wash the outshoot, strip paint / varnish from existing trusses, expose beams to ground floor, increase extent of limecrete floor at ground floor, install a French drain, construct a new stone boundary wall and new external lighting

The Council raised no objection but to ask that the extension should comply with Dark Skies policy.

24/20 Finance:

a. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

Alan G Fawcett	£239.40	Roadside cutting.
Zurich Municipal	£192.10	Insurance premium
CALC	£183.48	Annual subscription
T Flitcroft	£203.20	Website

K M Price	£65.70	Repayment (bank error)
K M Price	£121.76	Quarterly expenses to 31st March, including use of home office and travel.

- b. The Interim Accounts for 2023-24 were noted.
- c. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Certificate of Exemption, the Annual Governance Review and the Accounting Statements, all of which were circulated to Councillors. The Clerk explained the importance of each document.
- d. The further purchase of daffodil bulbs was agreed. The Chairman will enquire if natural bulbs are available. Many favourable comments had been received from residents and visitors, following the last planting.
- e. The Clerk is making slow progress in the transfer of the Council's banking arrangements to Lloyds.

24/21 Open Forum:

- a. The Charity Commission record for the Poor's Allotment has been updated by the Clerk but the Council is still concerned about the Underbarrow Institute Trustees listed on the Charity Commission website.

Councillor Carruthers said the arrangement, whereby the Parish Councillors were always Trustees of the Institute, has established as far back as 1980.

The Council felt that only individually appointed individuals should constitute the Trustees for the Institute and the Clerk agreed to contact the Institute Trustees to ask for the system to be changed. Of the present Council, only Councillors Carruthers and Swindlehurst are listed as Trustees but there are three Trustees listed who are no longer Councillors.

- b. Defibrillator. Councillor Soady agreed to make enquiries regarding a possible training session on its use.

An electric connection at the Institute is required for the ongoing use of the defibrillator. Councillor Carruthers will furnish the Clerk with details of what is required; the Clerk will then approach the Institute committee.

Clearly, the position needs to be clarified.

24/22 Date of the next meeting:

Thursday 1st August 2024 at 7pm at Underbarrow Institute.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed:

Dated: