

# Kentmere Parish Meeting

## Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm

### Present:

Peter Lansberry (Chair), Jackie Green (Clerk), Iain Johnston, Jackie Bettess, Robert Courtier, Clare Courtier, Steph McIvor, Ian McIvor, Sandra Johnston, Hilary Fry, Kathie Fry, Carol Lansberry, Roger Dewhurst, Christine Hevey, Margaret Harrison, Richard Allen, Hazel Brownlow, Jim Sharp, Jean Sturgis, Tim Sturgis, Steve Haywood, Stan Collins (SLDC and CCC Councillor).

#### 1. **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed residents to the Assembly.

#### 2. **Apologies for absence**

Max Biden, Jim Stilling, Maureen Baldwin, Anne Williams, Andrew Williams, Maggie Biden, Andrew Yeats, Jayne Park (Cumbria police), Andrew Griffin, Vanessa Griffin, Gay Talbot, Clara Black.

#### 3. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations made.

#### 4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### 5. **Matters arising from the minutes of 9<sup>h</sup> May 2016**

The following matters arising from the last meeting were discussed:  
11.3 Community Led Plan – it was agreed to have an item on the next agenda to discuss whether the community supported the need for a CLP for Kentmere.

#### 6. **People of Kentmere**

Iain Johnston presented a photo of school children in the valley for residents to identify, possibly from the 1930s.

#### 7. **Finance**

##### **7.1 Budget for 2017/18**

The Chair presented his report on the proposed budget for the next financial year, as circulated. It was clarified that the cost of snow clearing is £25 per hour. Following some discussion on how the accumulated balance could be used by the Parish, the Chair agreed to explore the options available within the statutory framework. The Chair proposed that the precept remains the same as for 2016/17 at £1900, agreed unanimously by the meeting. The meeting agreed the 2017/8 budget as set out with no votes against.

## **7.2 Risk Review**

The Chair presented his report on the requirement for the parish meeting to review internal risks annually and the measures that are in place in Kentmere. It was highlighted that the parish meeting approves all expenditure, not the Chair. There were no further risks identified by the meeting. The parish meeting reviewed all the risks in accordance with the requirements. The full meeting approved the assessment.

The Chair had received the Auditor's report. Only one issue was raised which was not relevant to a parish meeting (rather than a parish council). The report will be available to residents on the website.

## **7.3 Banking arrangements**

The Chair presented the report on the current banking arrangements for the parish meeting and a proposal, for the meeting to consider, changing banks from Lloyds to the Cumberland Building Society. The resolution as presented in the report was fully supported by the meeting. Four signatories are required for the account, as with the current arrangements with Lloyds. The meeting agreed the following four signatories: Peter Lansberry, Jackie Green, Iain Johnston and Christine Hevey. The necessary mandates would need to be completed in order to move the account.

## **8. Planning Notices**

The Chairman reported that there are no current planning applications in Kentmere Parish.

## **9. Parish Reports**

### **9.1 Upper Kent Local Area Partnership (UKLAP)**

The lack of progress to the repair of local bridges was discussed by the meeting, following storm Desmond in December 2015. The poor state of verge maintenance was also highlighted.

### **9.2 Broadband and telephone**

Jackie Bettess (JB) had circulated a brief update regarding the scheduled delivery of superfast broadband to the valley, specifically two postcode areas – LA8 9JL and LA8 9JP. As yet Connecting Cumbria cannot provide a timescale for the installation although the 'green cabinet' is in place, near Low Bridge House. There was some discussion by the meeting as to the visual amenity of the proposed solution (telegraph poles following the road from the Factory to the green box). However, the funding model does not allow for the expense of underground cabling at present. JB will attend the next Connecting Cumbria meeting in early December.

The Chair updated the meeting on the discussions with BT about the quality and capacity of the land telephone lines. BT acknowledged some problems but had no immediate plans to replace the existing wires. JB reported that the national 'Airwaves' contract (emergency services) will end in 2018 and the new contract will run over the 4G network and may allow for other users to have access to the network. This could provide a solution for enabling mobile telephone

communications in the valley. The meeting discussed the recent notice on the telephone kiosk at the Institute, regarding the possible removal of the service. BT is undertaking consultation as part of its review of public phone boxes and some concerned organisations and individuals have responded. The meeting noted that all relevant organisations (such as mountain rescue) needed to respond to have a hope of keeping the box, which can only handle emergency and reverse charge calls. The Parish Meeting will send a response to the consultation in support of keeping the box.

### **9.3 Highways**

Robert Courier informed the meeting that the road to Hartigg had been surveyed and the repair requirements submitted. A new highways information system is currently being tested which should provide better access to information on the status of highways and work programmes.

## **10. Other Village Reports**

### **10.1 St Cuthbert's Church**

Iain Johnston presented Max Biden's report on the works at the church. The re-roofing of the church and fitting of new rainwater goods was completed and signed-off in mid-October. However, some interior work within the church cannot start until the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a £9,000 grant has been successful. We hope to hear in early December and, in the meantime, the church will need to remain closed. The total cost of the roof repairs has been just over £188,000 (plus reclaimable VAT), which makes it some £12,000 over budget. This was due to necessary additional work and complications that came to light during the work. This increased the time taken to scaffold the building, required additional input and site visits from the structural engineer, and more site visits by the architect than originally anticipated. This has been funded by a combination of the £110,000 Listed Places of Worship roof grant, £69,000 other donations and grants raised by the PCC, and the balance of £9,000 from PCC funds.

All parties involved are very pleased with the end result and our architects have asked our permission to enter the project into a restoration competition. We hope to give residents the opportunity in due course to visit the roof space and see the finished work.

### **10.2 Community First Responders**

Jackie Bettess reported on the current position regarding the Kentmere CFR team. It now undertakes training jointly with the Staveley Team, as the numbers are insufficient for effective training on its own. New volunteers would be welcome.

### **10.3 Television for Kentmere**

Max Biden will circulate the end of year report, together with a request for the next annual subscription, early in the new year.

### **10.4 Police Community Support Officer**

The Clerk received apologies from PCSO Jayne Park and a brief summary of the recent jobs attended in Kentmere:  
3 concern for welfare checks; 1 domestic incident;  
1 criminal damage; and 2 suspicious vehicles.

**11. Any other business**

**11.1 Parish Coffee Morning**

The next coffee morning will be on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – all offers of support to Christine Hevey. The date for the 2017 coffee morning has been set as 9<sup>th</sup> December.

**11.2 The Pound**

Ann Williams raised the poor quality of the road surface at the Pound entrance. The meeting considered possible solutions but Iain Johnston suggested waiting until the new connector box had been installed, as there would need to be some surface reinstatement following the work that may be a solution.

**The Parish meeting was followed by the Kentmere Institute Annual Meeting, to which all residents were invited.**