

**Holme Low Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 9 February 2016 at 7.30pm at Silloth Community Hall**

**Present**

Cllr. J. Graham (JG) – Chairman

**Councillors**

M. Wright (MW), A. Sowden (AS), D. Findlay (DF), N. Dainton (ND) & M. Pearson (MP)

Also present: Wendy Jameson – Town Clerk (WEJ) & Cllr. A.J. Markley.

<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies</b> PCSO Peter Nichol.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> None.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Exclusion of Press &amp; Public</b> None.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Minutes</b> Minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2015 were approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b> None.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Police Report</b> Police Report was sent by email.	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Financial Report</b> The Clerk provided an up-to-date financial report which showed a balance of £2,121.61 in the bank.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Requests for financial assistance</b> It was agreed that a donation of £100 be given to the Great North Air Ambulance but no contribution made to the printing of the Solway Plain Magazine.	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Payment of Accounts</b> Cheque payments to 9 February 2016 were approved for payment by the Parish Council.	
<b>12.</b>	<b>Correspondence</b> a) Connecting Cumbria – November Newsletter. b) North West Air Ambulance – Annual Update 2014/15. c) CALC Circular – December/January 2016. d) NuGen News – Newsletter. e) West Cumbria Mining Community Update Newsletter – December. f) Connecting Cumbria Newsletter – 2016. g) Clerks & Councils Direct – January 2016 Issue 103. h) Allerdale Borough Council – re: Recycling. The plan is to provide communal recycling bins for co-mingled recycling (plastic bottles, glass and cans) in areas that don't have the purple bag scheme. i) Cumbria in Bloom – Agenda for the AGM to be held at Newton Rigg on 16 November 2015. j) DVSA – re: Speed of HGV's. Email to acknowledge receipt of letter from the Parish Council. k) Email from Vic Barnes thanking the Council for taking action re: Speed of HGV's. l) Cumbria Highways - re: Speed of HGV's. Email from Philip Groom to say there is no scope to reduce the speed limit from Causewayhead to Silloth. As the existing 40mph is suitable for the nature of the road. Also no possibility of a 30mph limit on West Causewayhead Lane. m) NALC – Guide to understanding procurement – April 2015. n) Email from Pauline & Tony Park thanking the Council for taking action re: Speed of HGV's o) Allerdale Borough Council – Car Parking changes – Consultation.	

- p) Open letter from health leaders across north Cumbria outlining commitments around the West Cumberland Hospital for patients and staff.
- q) Details of a Community Led planning seminar to be held in Ambleside on Tuesday 19 January 2016 7pm-9pm which is a FREE event aimed at Parish/Town Councils, Community groups and anyone with an interest in Community Led Planning.
- r) CALC – Copy of draft minutes of the AGM of CALC held on 14 November, together with a copy of the presentation made by Chairman on the Cumbria Deal and the wide impacts of devolution and presentation by John Scott on Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site.
- s) Allerdale District three tier meeting – Agenda for the meeting on 10 December 2015 at Allerdale House, Workington and minutes of the general meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015.
- t) CALC – Email following Storm Desmond with information about fund raising efforts and how CALC is part of the county-wide flood recovery programme.
- u) CALC – Email from C.C.C. with information on where to send donations and how to volunteer.
- v) CALC - Summary report on the North West Coast Connections workshop held in November which looked at the different ways in which the National Grid can mitigate the impact of the pylons.
- w) Connecting Cumbria – Getting businesses back trading following the aftermath of Storm Desmond.
- x) CALC - North West Coastal Access Monthly Update - December 2015.
- y) CALC – Web addresses for councils and households to use to apply for funding from the Cumbria Foundation. Application form for flood affected households <http://www.cumbriafoundation.org/archives/8422>. Application form for groups affected and supporting organisations <https://ukcf.secure.force.com/forms/GrantApplicationForm>
- z) NuGen News – NuGen has signed a major contract with Fugro, worth approximately £20m, to carry out a thorough programme of sire characterisation work – starting in December.
- aa) CALC – Community Recovery Sub-Group initial meeting - More information about the Cumbria Foundation appeal, as well as application forms.
- bb) CALC – Email from the Chief Executive of NALC with an important update in that the government has made the decision that it will not cap parish councils in 2016-17.
- cc) CALC – Flood Recovery Update. Update on the work going on around the county regarding the impacts of flooding
- dd) ACTION with Communities in Cumbria – Updated funding information for those affected by the recent flooding in Cumbria.
- ee) CALC – re: Allerdale Local Recovery Group Meeting – Wed 23 December at Cockermouth Town Hall at 11am.
- ff) Allerdale 3 tier meeting is to take place at Allerdale House, Workington on 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016 at 7 pm.
- gg) Allerdale Borough Council was due to forward the final 2016/17 council tax base figures in mid to late December. Due to flooding and ministerial decision to award Council tax relief to those affected, it will be necessary to recalculate the Council tax base to accommodate the impact of discounts. Updated figure will not be available until early in New Year.
- hh) Home Office – Reply to letter sent in relation to Police budget cuts. The Chancellor has since announced that police spending will be protected in real terms over the Spending Review period, when the locally raised police precept element of council tax is taken into account. This is an increase of up to £900 million in cash terms by 2019/20. Further efficiencies can however be delivered by forces.
- ii) First communications release from the Chairman of the company created to procure audit for smaller authorities. Deadline for councils to opt out has been extended to 31 March. The intention is that fees will not exceed those charges in the 2014/15 financial year.
- jj) NALC – Letter and guide about how parish and town councils can be involved in HM Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 21 April 2016.
- kk) CALC – re: Information about the LGA leadership programme for town and parish councillors from larger councils.
- ll) CALC – North West Coast Connections National Grid – formal consultation prior to the planning application will now not start before June 2016.
- mm) CALC – Details of additional funding available for flooded communities.

<p>nn) CALC – The Flood Advisory Group are bringing their 40ft wagon to Cockermouth between 9,10,11 February to raise awareness of practical solutions for homeowners and businesses to reduce their flood risk.</p> <p>oo) CALC – Low Carbon Neighbourhood Planning event – Finding Solutions to climate change in your community – Thursday 11 Feb 6.00pm – 9.00pm at Town Hall, Alston.</p> <p>pp) Silloth-on-Solway Coastal Community Team: Economic Plan – Comments requested on the draft plan.</p> <p>qq) CALC – Details of Healthwatch Engagements in conjunction with The Success Regime.</p> <p>rr) CALC – 2nd communication from the Chairman of Smaller Authorities’ Audit Appointments Ltd.</p> <p>ss) Letter from Sue Hayman MP re: letters received by people across her constituency, from Lord Egremont claiming mineral rights on their properties. The Parish Council are not aware of any letters having been received by local residents.</p> <p>tt) Additional emails from Vic Barnes re: Speed of HGV’s at Causewayhead and copy of email from Philip Groom. There are more and more wagons going down West Causewayhead lane. The grass verges have been worn away. There is a steady stream of Harrisons wagons using the lane. Armstrong’s use it early morning but not as much as they used to. It was agreed that letters be sent to both firms to ask if they could use an alternative route and be more considerate of other roads users and local residents.</p> <p>uu) Allerdale Borough Council – re: Cemetery, Causewayhead. After consultation with bereavement services etc, Allerdale is proposing to demolish the building due to the business case regarding the value of burial plots. A permanent water supply will be installed for cemetery users. There is approximately 2 acres of land behind the cemetery which was earmarked for burials and it was questioned why this land can’t be used? If it was drained properly it would be suitable. Allerdale are unlikely to refurbish the building. To demolish the building will cost money. The cemetery is also used by Silloth and the Town Council may wish to support Holme Low in objecting to the building being demolished. There is funding there to renovate the building i.e. Hellrigg Community Fund, Coastal Community fund etc. It was questioned what Allerdale are intending to do with the extra land if they don’t use it for burials. Where will they bury people after the 50 burial plots have been filled? Email to be sent to Cllr. Markley to ask that the building is retained which he will take up with Allerdale. It has been heard that St Paul’s church at Causewayhead is closing on 15 May which would be a sad loss to the community. Parking has always been an issue but very few people attend the services now. Letter to be sent to the vicar Bryan Rothwell, to find out if it is true and what plans there are for the building.</p> <p>vv) Allerdale Borough Council - Rural Parish Fund (2015-16). £50k has been earmarked for a scheme for parish councils to benefit villages all across the Borough. Estimates will be required for renovating the building at the cemetery before funding can be obtained. If the building was Listed they would not be able to knock it down but there would also be funding available to refurbish the building. Quotations to be obtained for the work.</p> <p>ww) Email from Vic Barnes requesting the Parish Council consider co-funding fibre access in the community. The broadband box at Causewayhead is not up to standard. The more populated areas are being upgraded to fibre broadband first but the rural areas will be done eventually. The Parish Council are not able to provide any funding.</p> <p>xx) Cumbria County Council – re: Service 60: Skinburness – Silloth – Allonby – Maryport – Workington. Notification that the service will cease operation from 26 March 2016, with an explanation. It is not viable to operate the service especially now the route is no longer subsidised by the County Council. When a person uses the service with a travel pass, the operator only gets a percentage of the fare. CCC is in discussions with an operator to hopefully take over the service. It could cause a problem to the community especially when the new houses are built.</p> <p>yy) Email from Norman Hughes raising various concerns. Ditches are being dug out and the waste piled up the verges which will cause an issue long term with verge maintenance. Letter to be sent to Karl Melville. From Robinson’s at Wolsty towards the main road, the road has been flooded which is a problem. Letter to be sent to Karl Melville at Cumbria Highways. The coast road being closed is a problem. The signs have not been working properly and have been left on when they should be switched off. The road has been closed for safety reasons.</p>	<p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p> <p>WEJ</p>
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	Cumbria County Council are looking at the possibility of installing CCTV to monitor the situation and react quicker.	
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Planning Applications</b>  <b>Allerdale Borough Council</b> have approved the following:-  <b>Ref No:</b> 2/2015/0624 <b>Proposal:</b> Rear and side extension to dwelling <b>Location:</b> Wayside, Calvo, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Mr Mark Harrison  <b>Ref No:</b> 2/2014/0544 <b>Proposal:</b> Erection of a 1.5 storey dwelling <b>Location:</b> Longwood Garden Centre, Silloth <b>Applicant:</b> Mr M. Orchard</p>	
<b>14.</b>	<p><b>County Council Report</b>  The budget is ongoing and the County Council needs to try to save £m's. It may get to the stage where services will be affected. County Council is moving into the new HQ on Warwick Road in a couple of months. County Council are busy trying to reinstate the roads and bridges damaged in the floods. The public services have worked well together during the flooding.  Cllr. Findlay raised a question about the transfer of whey permeate. Previously Farmgen were granted a transfer licence by the Environment Agency but now need to obtain planning permission but they have had problems getting in touch with the person responsible at Allerdale. Cllr. Markley recommended that a letter be sent to Andrew Seekings or the Chief Executive and a copy be sent to him.</p>	
<b>15.</b>	<p><b>Transparency Fund</b>  The Clerk submitted an application to the Transparency Fund to cover the cost of a laptop and printer amounting to £374.98 which has been successful. Payment should be received within the next couple of weeks.</p>	
<b>16.</b>	<p><b>Parish Plan</b>  Plan will be updated in April.</p>	
<b>17.</b>	<p><b>Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies</b>  <b>Longcake Education</b> – Honours board has been found at the AONB Discovery Centre and they need somewhere to house it. It could possibly be put in the building at Causewayhead cemetery.  <b>Sea Dyke Charity</b> – new tenant is putting the farm back in order. He is having a problem with Allerdale regarding the new shed because the farm is listed which is causing a problem. It was suggested that the tenant contact Cllr. Markley.</p>	
<b>18.</b>	<p><b>Chairman's Announcements</b>  The street light at Barracks Bridge needs replaced. The light was taken away leaving only the pole. People are finding it difficult to catch buses. Clerk has already reported it to Cumbria Highways but will contact them again. Some fence posts are needed in the Parish field and it was agreed that they be replaced.  The Chairman thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and also thanked the Clerk for the work she has done.</p>	
<b>19.</b>	<p><b>Reports from Councillors</b>  Joe Broomfield had offered to supply bags and equipment to help tidy up the footpath from Causewayhead corner leading to Barracks Bridge. The path could do with the edge cut back using a machine which would need signs put up to warn motorists. The event could be advertised in the Solway Buzz to ask for volunteers.  The sign at the crossroads at Seaville spins on the post and needs to be repaired. Cumbria Highways to be contacted.</p>	<b>WEJ</b>
<b>20.</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b>  Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 10 May 2016 at 7.30pm in Silloth Community Hall.</p>	

Signed.....

Date.....