

**MINUTES OF OUGHTERSIDE AND ALLERBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 14TH FEB' 2017 AT 7PM IN PROSPECT VILLAGE HALL**

Present

O&A Parish Councillors

Mr P Milton (chairman)
Mrs L Preston-Miller
Mrs P Lukeman
Mrs L Milton
Mr J Cowan.

Parish Clerk

Mr M Milner

Allerdale Borough Councillor

Mr J Lister ABC

Cumbria County Councillor

Not present

Apologies

None

Members of the Public

6 members of the public present

Meeting Opened:

The chairman declared the meeting open at 7.00pm.

120.00 Apologies

Duly noted as above

121.00 Declaration of interests

Cllr L P-M declared her interest in Allerby Hall Farm planning application.

**122.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last meeting held on
Thursday 15th December, as a true record.**

122.01. The minutes were proposed for acceptance by Cllr J.C and seconded by Cllr P.L and unanimously accepted by the council. Chairman signed as a true record.

123.00 Public Participation Session. 15 minutes allowed.

123.01 Clerk advised chair that members of the public present wanted to discuss one of the development applications, so would he agree to change in standing order procedure to allow public discussion at that point. Chair agreed.

123.02. Clerk advised that dog mess problem in Osbourne Place had been referred to Home Group housing management who would visit and discuss with resident involved.

123.03 The hole in Chapel Terrace, clerk thought that had been resolved.

123.04 Sink hole on U2085, investigated and Cllr J.C present, tests confirmed not a sink hole.

123.05 The standard of repairs to U2085. The clerk had attended the OPARA meeting on 29th Jan'. The issue was raised during that meeting had been passed to Cumbria Highways, the Highway Stewards had visited and agreed that there was some damage to local gulleys, which would be repaired. Over butting at the joints would be monitored.

123.06 At same meeting clerk asked to establish why only part of pavements and paths cleared. He had rung first thing on the Wednesday morning and cleaning resumed at 9.30am and continued on Friday. Job complete.

123.07 Again at same meeting the Prospect Village Noticeboard cover was raised. Clerk advised then that he had the cover and had done remedial work and it just need to be rehung. At this meeting, he could now confirm noticeboard repair was completed Friday 10th and new padlock also attached to the door.

123.08 Clerk had been in discussion with Cumbria CC about the river erosion along the River Ellen bank by the "weak" bridge. Clerk and Cllr J.C had met with CCC representative Robbie Manchester on site at 9am on Friday 10th. Problem acknowledged, Environment Agency would be involved to establish best solution and whether river bed gravel be removed to direct flow away from the bank. Work would not start before new financial year in April 2017. In the meantime, a temporary barrier would be put in place.

123.09 Clerk was having continued dialogue with Allerdale about the 2 dumped chairs by the "weak" bridge and also the 3 tyres dumped further along the bank. Hopefully before the next meeting all items would be removed. Location was a problem with Allerdale.

123.10 Clerk then asked for public participation problems, if any, from public present. The dropped kerbs at Osbourne Place was again raised and clerk would continue to monitor that request.

123.11 Owner of Greenways on the U2085, where the road repairs were recently carried out in December, was now experiencing water from the carriageway running down their driveway, a problem that never occurred prior to the carriageway repair. Clerk to contact Highways about the problem.

No other problems or comments public session ended.

124.00 Police Matters.

124.01 No police report and their website logs showed no problems.

125.00 Applications for Development

125.01 Chairman advised public participation on this application only. 2/2017/0005 Graham’s Garage Prospect. Clerk reported that he had attended a public meeting on 29th Jan’ at which one of the property owner’s Brian Graham, had made a public presentation of why the site, currently registered for commercial use, should be changed to residential development. Mr Graham had produced a pamphlet, which the clerk had and circulated, plus owner doubted that the property would pass a 2018 government energy performance requirement. Property in poor state of repair and 2 of the current 3 tenants were close to retirement age plus rental income not true economic market value and leases were, “back of fag packet” standard. Clerk had looked at Allerdale website, the 3 tenants had logged objections to the change and United Utilities were also objecting as main sewer currently runs under the area and they would need 24-hour easement to it.

125.02 Chairman invited the 2 tenants of businesses on the site to state their reasons for no change. Both have no intention of retiring. There are 20 folk employed at the site. The garage business has a lease until 2024 which was signed by current site owners, before he invested in £100k of MOT and garage equipment to ensure he got a return on the outlay. No suitable local rental properties. Both maintained that they had done work on the buildings and a recent apprenticeship scheme for the upholstery business had successfully passed a Health and Safety inspection. The tenants were asking that the parish council support the continued use of the site as a commercial area to sustain local employment.

125.03 The chairman thanked them for their contribution. Cllr L.M who has a knowledge of development application, that at the end of the day the professional planner employed by Allerdale would advise the planning panel on their views, but she supported the continued use of the site as a commercial unit, not changed to residential development. She proposed that O&A PC reject that planning change, which was seconded by Cllr J.C and unanimously approved by all.

125.04. Planning app 2/2017/0027 Allerby Hall, Cllr L.P-M left the room. The application was discussed and agreed unanimously for approval. Cllr L.P-M returned to the meeting.

125.05 Planning app 2/2017/0033 Blue Dial Farm change of use of a storeroom to an A1 Sop. Discussed and unanimously approved.

125.06 Clerk had also received a document covering the Allerdale Local Plan (Part 2) preferred options consultation. He had emailed all councillors with the details and numerous web links. For Prospect, there is the addition of a preferred site on U2085, to accommodate 20/25 dwellings below Osborne Place. Fuller discussion at next meeting.

126.00 Matters concerning District and County Councillors

126.01 Allerdale Borough Councillor Jim Lister reported that there was nothing of great significance to report to the meeting.

126.02 Cllr J.C thanked Cllr J.L for his prompt attention to dealing with the tree that had fallen across the pathway that Cllr J.L had given local residents permission to use on his land. Cllr J.L left the meeting at 7.58pm, chair thanked him for his attendance.

127.00 Village Hall Financial Grant report.

127.01 The application to the Robin Rigg West Cumbria Fund, ref 19428 had been successful and a grant towards the heating of £2997.00 had been awarded and would shortly be in the village hall bank account.

127.02 The application had been submitted by VHC chair, Alan Morris and parish clerk. One thing that was highlighted by the application was that the VHC Constitution does not contain any reference to disposal of the building. The funders had picked up on that. However, the clerk had a copy of the original 1928 trustee document and the 1952 one, so had forwarded that to the funders, pointing out clause 12 which clearly deals with that event. Funders accepted the legality of the trustee document.

127.03 Clerk requested that the parish council, as the trustees, authorise him to write to the VHC and ensure that their constitution acknowledges the village hall is actually governed by that, the original trustee. Their constitution document certainly needs acknowledgement of clause 12 as being the manner in which the building would be disposed of and the monies dealt with. That request was unanimously agreed by the parish council.

128.00 Bus Shelter Replacement

128.01 Clerk confirmed that the insurance company of the vehicle which had demolished the bus shelter had agreed the repair quotation and instructed WW Builders to carry out the repair. The shelter was now up to roof height and within the next couple of weeks should be complete.

129.00 April to December 2016 Financial report.

129.01 Clerk had circulated a full set of 9 monthly accounts prior to the meeting. Councillors had no queries with the accounts and congratulated the clerk on his accounts presentation package. The chairman signed the bank statement No 19 to confirm that the bank reconciliation figure agreed with the bank statement as of 31st December 2016.

130.00 O&A Emergency Plan and community plan.

130.01 Cllr J.C has been dealing with this and it was agreed he would write a 2 page A5 piece for March INSIDE to gauge public enthusiasm for the project.

131.00 Councillor Vacancies

131.01 Clerk reported no response to the request in December INSIDE for possible residents to contact him about the 4 vacancies.

131.02 Chairman asked all councillors to consider possible candidates to fill the vacancies and forward names to the clerk within 10 days.

132.00 Progress Report, Clerk.

132.01 Clerk had made a VAT refund claim on 12th Jan 2017 for the period July 2015 to December 2016 totalling £1218.38 and that had been approved and paid 24th Jan 2017 by Bacs payment.

132.02 Clerk had dealt with Pensions Regulator correspondence, the PC has no current liability to provide a pension scheme, but has to be registered to that effect.

132.03 As per minute 113.02 clerk completed the precept application to Allerdale BC requesting £10161.99.

132.04 Clerk had written to ISS the contractor who cut the grass for the parish requesting the 2017 figure. They had confirmed by email, £1905.50 ex VAT, the charge for 2016 had been £1852.00. The figure though would include at no additional cost the cutting of the grass in front of Skiddaw View on a cut and leave basis. Councillors agreed unanimously on acceptance of the quotation.

132.05 Clerk to investigate fencing off in some manner of the grass in front of Skiddaw View as a motor car was now parking on it again. If it was properly cordoned off the area would repair itself.

132.06 Clerk has received and circulated the draft proposals for Allerdale BC ward boundary changes. O&A to become part of Silloth & Solway with 3 councillors.

132.07 Website www.oughtersideallerbypc.org.uk now fully functional and up to date. Cllr L.P-M to help the clerk create a Facebook presence.

132.08 March INSIDE print run to be reduced to 300 copies. All material ready for 15th March.

133.00 Councillors Reports.

133.01 No report as all topics already covered.

134.00 Correspondence

134.01 Copy of Wigton Baths Newsletter circulated to local Parish Councils

134.02 Letter from St James Church, Hayton, thanking the PC for its £400 contribution towards annual Graveyard Maintenance costs.

134.03 Oughterside Foundation School had used all its £2000.00 funding grant from the parish council to purchase books for its new library. The clerk read out a letter of thanks from the headmistress and its invite for a grand opening on World Book Day at 1.30pm on 3rd March 2017.

134.04 Two invoices from CALC, one for £170 to cover Good Councillor training, of which £25 back charged to Lowca PC to cover Cllr Paul Todds attendance, plus 2nd invoice for £25 to cover 10 copies of Good Councillor books distributed to the councillors.

134.05 Notification from Jacqueline Mounsey of a defibrillator course in the barn at Orchard House, all residents of Allerby circulated about the course. Clerk confirmed O&A PC would be covering the insurance but electricity cost would be paid by Grow West on whose wall the apparatus is fixed.

135.00 Cheque Payments for approval.

Cheque No 000286 Calc training and booklets £195.00

Cheque No 000287 Oughterside Foundation School book grant £1500.00

Cheque No 000288 M Milner Salary £230.15 Exp' £99.68 U/Pay £15.36 Total £345.19

Cheque No 000289 HMRC PAYE £57.60

Cheque No 000290 Oughterside Foundation School balance of book grant £500

All approved.

136.00 Date and time of next meeting, Tuesday 14th March 2017 at 7pm in Prospect Village Hall

Meeting closed 8.52pm