

STAVELEY IN CARTMEL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish AGM held on 15th April 2019 at the Church Hall, Staveley-in-Cartmel.

The Meeting opened at 6.30pm

Present: Cllrs R Rhodes, D Crabtree, J Addison, A Newby, D/Cllr G Gardner and N Chaloner (Clerk)

1. **Election of Chairman**

As Cllr Crabtree indicated that she would be stepping down as Chairman subsequent to the AGM, the Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman for 2019/20. Cllr Crabtree nominated Cllr Rhodes, seconded by Cllr Addison. All in favour. Cllr Rhodes accepted the role.

The Clerk asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. Cllr Addison nominated Cllr Gorse, seconded by Cllr Crabtree. All in favour. Cllr Gorse (in absentia) accepted the role.

2. **Apologies**

Cllr A Gorse, CCllr S Sanderson

3. **Minutes of Parish Council Annual General Meeting held on 30th April 2018**

The minutes had been circulated and were approved as a true record.

4. **Chairman's Annual Report**

As Chair of Staveley-in-Cartmel Parish Council for the last year, it is my duty and privilege to record the work done by the Council over the past year.

An ongoing requirement of the Council is to scrutinise and comment on the large number of planning applications submitted to the Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA) each year. While the presumption in development control is usually to support proposals, the Council must also look at the wider community view and try to strike a balance between these occasionally competing interests and so the Council (and always at least two) Councillors visit all applications. The Council is aware of supporting local occupancy conditions and developments in keeping with local architectural style on all and will continue to monitor all planning applications with the interests of the whole community in mind. A few particularly contentious applications have appeared before the Council again this year, perhaps the most notable being Predator Experience in Ayside, who submitted a planning application for a new work/live unit after a previous application for cheetahs was again rejected by LDNPA and the Planning Inspectorate. The LDNPA endorsed the Council's opinion that this application should also be refused. The outcome of an appeal to the Secretary of State is now awaited. Fell Foot redevelopment remains the largest concern facing local residents and the Council has asked to be informed about the progress of the various elements of the project and will continue to press the interests of the Parishioners at all stages. A significant parking issue at Fell Foot is continuing to be monitored by the Council which has resulted in a double yellow line consultation.

Environmental issues remain very important to the Council. The Parish Lengthsman works on improving and tidying roadside verges and footpaths. The Highways Department is regularly pressed by the Council to maintain and repair roads and drains within the Parish. I am pleased to report that the flooding issue at the bottom of Staveley has now been resolved. The damaged Parish notice board in Ayside has been repaired and cleaned up.

The Council has now installed a public access defibrillator which is housed on the outside wall of The Newby Bridge Filling Station with the kind permission of Mr S Hockings, who is very kindly supplying and paying for the electricity for the defibrillator.

There has been a slight increase to the 2019/20 precept but has been kept to a minimum and in line with other public bodies and the Council remains conscious of its duty in spending public money responsibly and tries to keep its costs to a minimum.

Staveley United Charities Trust which was set up to originally provide small grants to parishioners in financial hardship has now been widened to include educational grants and is administered by a local resident, two Councillors and the Clerk. This allows small awards and donations to be made to local charities and other charities and this year included Christmas donations to three needy parishioners.

I would like to thank Steve Lawler, our Broadband Representative, for keeping the Council updated with regards to Broadband in the Parish. The Council and Steve as our representative will continue to work at getting better broadband throughout the whole Parish.

My thanks to County Councillor Sue Sanderson for her continued support of our issues in the Parish and for her reports to Council meetings. My thanks also to District Councillor Gill Gardner for her support and reports and also to the PCSO for keeping us informed with statistics of any crime, incidents or RTC's within our area.

I conclude by thanking my fellow Parish Councillors, Vice Chair Arnold Gorse, John Addison, Richard Rhodes and Ann Newby for their support and hard work. Lastly, but by no means least, I thank Clerk Nick Chaloner for his excellent, speedy and efficient management and organisation of Council business.

5. **County Councillors' Report**

Fell Foot Park and traffic issues have been a major part of the work I have undertaken this year. I reported the traffic issues at Fell Foot to the police having been contacted by several residents. The police were aware of the issues and had sent officers to investigate. Unfortunately some people were not respectful as had been in the case in the past. I understood that the overflow car park would be used if weather permitted. As you all know it came to a head over the Bank Holiday and it was decided at the request of the police that we looked at putting double yellow lines in. This process has begun and I allocated some of my members' money to facilitate it. It will go out for public consultation as part of the TRO process although I understand the National Trust may be contributing a significant amount.

I have previously attended meetings with Cumbria Highways and residents at Atkinsons Court about the traffic issues at Fell Foot where residents were greatly affected in the past and there had been a change in road lining and an agreement that changes to the entrances to the park would mean a lower speed limit of 40mph. This continues to be monitored.

I organised a meeting with Highways England at which both Haverthwaite and Staveley-in-Cartmel Parish Councils were represented along with the owner of Newby Bridge Service Station. The LDNPA and Cumbria Highways were represented, and residents from Brow Edge presented a petition to Highways England about safety. We have met with HE for a number of years and discussed a range of issues and possible solutions. There are detailed designs etc., being undertaken with timelines attached. We will meet again in July 2019 and organise some drop in sessions for September. It is hoped that the compulsory left turn at the Swan Bridge at Newby Bridge will be facilitated in the autumn. There are long term plans to improve the road for everyone at the service station.

Currently I am supporting the flooding groups and the traffic management agreements in Cartmel. There is no funding available for flood management at Windermere and the River Leven, although the Lake Levels group and I continue to work hard to keep the issues alive.

I continue to work on schools and learning as Cabinet member at the County Council. We are implementing the inclusion strategy. Cabinet approved funding for two alternative provision schools to provide suitable provision for children excluded from the mainstream. Special schools are having new buildings which are being co - located on secondary school sites. The new build for our local special school, Sandside Lodge, will be relocated on UVHS site opening May 2019. A brand new special school was opened in the West to replace Mayfield School's building. Schools voted to trial the National Funding Formula early so we could have three years to identify difficulties with that scheme, although school funding remains a real issue for all schools.

We recently passed a motion in full Council supporting the schools in their request for additional funding.

I still attend the rural services network representing the County Council they are lobbying government about adult social care and public transport in rural areas

6. **District Councillor's Report**

I have completed my first year during which I moved from one parish council to supporting five. While this has increased my workload significantly, I was delighted to have been welcomed by all and hope that I have been able to provide some worthwhile input in your community.

My work at the District Council still goes on and at present I am on the Planning and Lake Administration which both keep me busy. The planning is SLDC related so unfortunately I am not able to assist Staveley-in-Cartmel directly since the Parish comes under the LDNPA for planning matters.

7. **Annual Financial Audit Reports 2018/19**

a. The Clerk presented the Internal Audit Report for 2018/19 and drew Cllr's attention to the Auditor's comment that the Parish Council could reclaim VAT on certain purchases and that the previous year's annual financial data was not accessible on the Parish Council website. The Clerk will address these issues.

b. The Clerk went through the annual Cash Book statement to 31 March 2019. It was approved by Cllr's.

c. The Clerk advised Cllr's that the Annual Governance Statement and the Annual Accounts statement would be available to be agreed by Cllr's at the next Parish Council meeting.

d. The Clerk advised Cllr's that at the next meeting the Council would also need to agree that it was exempt from an External Audit as the Council's income and expenditure is below £25,000. When this is agreed the Clerk will submit the exemption notice.

The meeting then closed at 7.00pm

SIGNED:

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Chairman

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Clerk

DATE: