## **Wetheral Parish Council**

# Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 7.50pm in the Wetheral Village Community Hall PRESENT

## Chairman – B. Earp

Councillors

D. Hughes G. Round M. Higginbotham C. Oliver

I. Evans S. Higgs M. Somers
J. Searle J. Routledge D. Poole

### Also, Present; County Cllr N Marriner & District Cllrs Bowman & Christian

# Prior to the meeting a presentation was given by resident Mr. R Barnes and Ms. J Payne of Eden Rivers trust.

A work party was formed 4 years ago to pull the Himalayan Balsam on the Wetheral riverbank.

The balsam is an invasive plant which establishes itself in damp places, shading the native plants and spreading rapidly. (Each plant contains 800 seeds and can spread over 7m). When the plants die, they leave bare ground which can cause a problem with erosion on the riverbanks. Mr. Barnes is looking for more volunteers to pull the balsam along the riverbank and it is apparent in fields close to the river.

It is hoped that each ward could form a volunteer group to tackle this issue, members supported this. Next event - Cairn Beck Balsam Bash 17<sup>th</sup> July 2.30-7pm.

# 33/19 Apologies for absence

(i) Resolved to accept and approve the apologies for absence from Parish Cllrs Bainbridge & D. Pattinson.

# 34/19 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th June 2019.

(i) Resolved to authorise the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

#### 35/19 Requests for Dispensation

None were requested.

#### 36/19 Declarations of Interest

(i) Cllrs Higgs, Bowman & Christian declared an interest in items relating to Carlisle City Council.

#### 37/19 Public Participation

- a. Residents No residents were present.
- b. Police report circulated.
- c. Councillor Reports

Cllr Marriner raised an issue with Stuart Young, Cumbria County Council regarding the lack of cycle routes east of the city and would continue to lobby the council.

Cllr Christian commented that the Southern bypass includes a number of cycle routes however there are issues with crossing the M6 to the east. Additional funding may be accessed through the European Regional Development Fund.

Cllr Higgs informed members that there is a Community Events panel who support events with marquees, tables etc. Clerk to obtain and circulate the relevant information.

Volunteer drivers required to support Meals on wheels and the Border Rambler, information to be circulated and promoted.

Cllr Bowman reported that the abandoned caravan at High Stand has been removed and more recently there has been 3 arrests as stolen equipment was found in the same area.

Corby Hill- issues with traffic congestion due to the changes in the traffic light sequence.

# 38/19 Minutes of Committee Meetings & Working Groups

<u>Resolved</u> to receive the minutes of the following Committee meetings/ working groups and to accept any recommendations contained therein;

- a. **Planning Committee** meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019.
  - (i) **Cemetery Committee** meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
    - a. Specifically;
      - (i) **Resolved** to approve the proposed fees and charges,
    - b. cem /19/06 vi. Suggestion of a permanent toilet. further investigation is required as there is no foul drainage.
  - (ii) Appointment to Committee
    - a. <u>Resolved</u> to appoint Cllr Round as a committee member to the Wetheral Playing Fields Association.

#### 39/19 Bank Reconciliation

(i) Resolved to receive the balance reconciliation dated 30th June 2019

 Current Account
 £17,127.81

 Deposit Account
 £187,246.40

 Cumberland BS
 £66,854.17

 Total in the bank
 £271,848.00

Allocated funds brought forward £81,384 .00

Available funds £190,464.00 (inc capital expenditure 19/20)

# 40/19 Payment of Accounts.

- (i) <u>Resolved</u> to authorise payment of the accounts listed in the schedule of cheques dated 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 VIN 59-75 totalling £7411.35
- (ii) <u>Resolved</u> to request a donation for the use of village greens for commercial use, an appropriate fee shall be considered agreed by the Chairman and Clerk.

#### 41/19 Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr Higgs updated members that the Housing needs model is not yet complete.

#### 42/19 External Representation

Resolved to receive reports from Parish Council representatives on outside bodies

- (i) Hartley Trust AGM; maintenance is planned for the new football pitch and the playground inspection has raised a few issues that are being dealt with. A revised patronage scheme will be introduced shortly, promoted through the Pow Maughan magazine.
- (ii) Wetheral Village Hall meeting- minutes to be circulated on receipt.
- (iii) CALC Summer conference, most members who attended found it very useful

#### 43/19 Schedule of Correspondence. Notices and Publications

To receive and note schedule of correspondence, notices and publications received since the last meeting and not on the agenda.

(i) Thank you letter from Rev Isaac Lawrence for the donations for the Church yards maintenance in Cotehill & Scotby.

- (ii) Thank you letter from Wetheral PCC for the donation for the church yard miantneance of St Leonards Church, Warwick on Eden.
- (iii) Wedding 5.09.20, information received as requested min 32/19 (i) **Resolved** to request a donation and to limit the preparation work to erect the marguee to 2 days, not 3 as requested.

## 44/19 Clerks Report

<u>Resolve</u> to receive the Clerks report; specifically confirming the erection of the Cocklakes village sign. The residents thanked Cllr Earp for his persistence & the Council for funding the sign.

Date of next meeting of the Council August 7th 2019, In Wetheral Village Community Hall

# **PART B**

**Resolved** due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, members with a personal/prejudicial Interest, the press and the public be excluded.

- (i) Members were updated on the legal issue and it was stressed that all communication with either party must be through the Parish Councils solicitor.
- (ii) <u>Resolved</u> to call a meeting of the Personnel Committee to review the Councils procedures relating to this matter.

# Following the meeting

A message of thanks was received after the presentation from Mr Barnes.

May I ask you to record my thanks for the opportunity to speak to the Chairman and members of the Parish Council about the threat posed by the spread of Himalayan Balsam to our river banks and our native species. If members are successful in promoting the formation of their local volunteer teams, they may wish to have Jenni Paynes's contact details to hand to provide any further advice to the group. Jenni Payne | Community Engagement and Volunteer Co-ordinator |Eden Rivers Trust | Dunmail Building | Newton Rigg College | Penrith CA11 0AH | Tel 01768 866788 | <jenni.payne@edenrt.org>