

Drigg and Carleton Parish Council**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

Held as a Virtual Meeting because of the Corona-19 virus restrictions on social contact

On Tuesday 10th November 2020

Members present Mr J Jennings (Chairman), Mr A Pratt, Mr K Hitchen, Mr J Naylor, Mr K Murray, Mrs S Browne and Mr H Lace

Clerk: Mr D Millington.

Responsible financial Officer (RFO): Mr H Lace shadowed by Mrs J Robinson.

1. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 13th October 2020

There were no amendments to the Minutes of 13th October 2020

2. Resolution to approve and signature of Minutes.

A proposal by Mr Murray, seconded by Mr Pratt that the Minutes of 13th October 2020 were a true and accurate record was agreed unanimously by members.

3. Apologies for absence. All present.

(7); Public Participation.

Change in the order of the Agenda:

Four members of the public had requested access to the meeting via the Zoom link to participate in discussions on one or more of:

- Copeland Local Plan 2017-2035: Preferred Option Consultation.
- Update on the Residential Housing Planning application on land adjacent to Southerly Drigg.

- Launch of the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) Working Group.

The Chairman proposed a change in the order of the Agenda to deal with Public Participation ahead of other business and to then consider item 8.7 Other Parish Matters: Consideration of the Copeland Local Plan immediately after this, so that the public had an option to observe through the whole meeting, or not. The proposal was agreed by Members.

a) Copeland Local Plan 2017-2035: Preferred Option Consultation.

Mr Pratt opened the discussion with a summary of the background to the Plan, particularly in relation to settlement hierarchy and housing development. He noted that it represents the Council's current preferred options, based on a desktop evidence analysis, and is currently open for public consultation. It looks at geographical features and talking to potentially interested landowners in arriving at projected numbers in each defined area. Mr Pratt noted that responses to the consultation can be made to the Parish Council, it is important that they are also made directly to Copeland Borough Council, as the principal planning authority. Mr Pratt noted that this consultation is the next step which will lead to publication of a Local Plan in Spring 2021, followed by; submission of the Plan to the Planning Inspectorate in Autumn 2021; examination in public in Winter 2021; before potential adoption in Spring 2022.

A question had been received about whether a procedure was in place for conducting a consultation of this type, Mr Pratt confirmed that there was and it had been followed, despite this having been complicated by the Covid19 restrictions on holding face to face meetings. A comment was made from a public attendee that the proposal to cluster Drigg and Holmrook into a Local Service Centre was not consistent with the criteria for this given in the Plan and that this was being challenged.

b) Update on the proposed residential housing development on land adjacent to Southerly, Drigg.

It is understood that this application has been withdrawn, though a formal letter to confirm this is awaited.

1.

Chairman's Authorisation

c) Geological Disposal Facility:

A member of the public attended and reminded the meeting about the formation of a Copeland Geological Disposal Facility Working Group and the launch of a website.

8. Main Business:**Any Other Parish Matters:**

Copeland Local Plan 2017-2035: Preferred Option Consultation.

The Clerk reported that he had received 12 responses to the consultation up to date. These had all been e-mailed to members for their information. For the benefit of the meeting, He presented a summary of the responses receive, which was discussed.

Following the discussion members agreed the following proposal, by a majority vote:

The Parish Council oppose the clustering of Drigg and Holmrook into a Local Service Centre and consider that they should be classified as two separate Sustainable Rural Villages.

The two villages should be clearly separated by the creation of Protected Green Spaces: one between Smithy Banks (as now exists) and Groundy Croft Lane; one in the open area to the east of St Peter's Church; and an additional area to the railway end of LLWR site which may be returned to community use at a future date.

The Parish Council recognise that there is a need for some future house building in the Parish and believe that there are some potentially suitable areas. For example, the area between Wray Head and the B5344 (bus stop); roadside infill, for example adjacent to Southerly; and at Hill Farm, Holmrook, which would have the advantage of being a brownfield site development.

The Parish Council believe that there are other brownfield sites not yet identified in the present desktop exercise which could preserve valued agricultural land.

The Parish Council oppose the building of estate type developments which could change the rural and agricultural character of the Parish. Any development needs to be of an appropriate size and scale, such that the sustainability of the community is enhanced by providing access to sheltered accommodation and affordable housing, either for starter homes or to provide opportunity for downsizing, and create property 'flow' in the community.

Action 11/1: Clerk to prepare a draft response to the Consultation for consideration by members.

5. Financial Matters

a) The Chairman announced the appointment of Mrs Justine Robinson as the new RFO and welcomed her to the meeting.

b) Mr Lace (RFO) presented the Parish Council accounts up to end October 2020; copies had been circulated ahead of the meeting. There had been one payment since the last report, a refund to Mr Lace for PAYE payments of £56.60.

c) There were no invoices presented for payment.

d) Budget setting for 2021/22:

A number of budget options were discussed. It was agreed to transfer £100 from the contingency fund to show a balanced budget. A final decision on the budget and level of Precept was deferred until the next meeting to allow consideration of any new funding requirements for footway lighting payments.

Action 11/2: Clerk and Mr Pratt to prepare a flyer for Wray Head residents about footway lighting costs.

2.

Chairman's Authorisation

6. Actions and matters arising from previous meeting of Council.

Action 3/5 (19): Mr Pratt to register D & C PC needs with ICO.	Ongoing
Action 10/1: Mr Hitchen to raise speed bumps and damage to Rose Cottage	Ongoing
Action 10/3: Chairman to arrange interview for RFO post.	Complete
 Action 10/4: Clerk to invite Greengarth Business Park to a future meeting.	 Ongoing.

7. Reports from County and District Councillors

There were no new issues reported

8. Main Business.**8.1. Highway Matters.**

There were no new issues raised

8.2 PROW

Mr Hitchen took the opportunity to announce that CCC Highways have conducted a site inspection of the emergency bridleway repair undertaken in early Autumn and declared it as satisfactory.

8.3. LLWR.

Update on the re-siting of a public seat on Shore Road,
The Chairman reported that LLWR had begun refurbishing the old seat on Shore Road, However, recently both seats adjacent to the Manhole overbuilding have been removed by a farmer who grazes the land, presumably as a gesture of disagreement about their location. The seats were deposited in the car park area. The seats were recovered courtesy of LLWR and have been placed in safe storage by them. I was agreed that we should seek confirmation from Muncaster Estates that they have no objection to the siting of the bench on the headland, then seek an amicable agreement with the farmer to site one bench that he will not again remove.

8.4. Village Tidying.

There were no new issues raised.

8.5: Community communications. Mrs Browne reported that we are now ready to start uploading information onto the new website.

8.6: The Community Led Plan. There were no new issues raised

8.7: Any other Parish matters:

a) Copeland Local Plan: Preferred Option Consultation:

See above.

b) Greengarth Business Park:

The Clerk reported that he had deferred the invitation to Greengarth to attend the November meeting because of the fullness of the November meeting Agenda.

Action 10/4: Clerk to invite Greengarth representative to the December meeting.

10. Receive communications placed before the Meeting.

There were no new issues raised

11. Planning Matters: There were no new issues raised.

11. Cumbria Association of Councils. There were no new issues raised.

12. Received Reports from representatives. There were no new issues raised.

13. Matters to be considered at the next Parish Council meeting:

- Presentation on Greengarth Business Park.
- Discussion of the future for footway lights
- = A review of the Parish Council Standing Orders,
- Members were invited to submit items for Inclusion 5 working days ahead of the scheduled date of meetings 3. Chairman's Authorisation

14. Date of the next meeting.

Tuesday 8th December 2020.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Distribution;

County & District Councillors; K Hitchen, A Pratt & D Moore.

Parish Councillors, Drigg Charity Trustees and D&C Community web site

Action List:

Action 3/5 (19): Mr Pratt to register D&C PC needs with ICO.

Action 10/1: Mr Hitchen to raise the issue of speed bumps and damage to Rose Cottage.

Action 10/4: Clerk to invite Greengarth Business Park to November meeting.

Action 11/1: Clerk to prepare a draft response to the Copeland consultation for consideration by members.

Action 11/2: Mr Pratt and the Clerk to produce a flyer about the future of footway lights.