

Hawkshead Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held in the Lower Market Hall, Hawkshead on Tuesday 21 June 2016 commencing at 7.30 pm.

present

Councillors

William Barr (Chairman); Kenneth Fordham; Lynn Larkin; Ian Moulton; David Spedding and Charlotte Wood.
Clerk – John Poole.

Members of the public

Mrs B M Brown; Mrs K K Coggan; Mr J Coggan; County & District Cllr D Fletcher and Mr D Vaughan.

Apologies

168 Cllr A Brown (business commitments).

Minutes

169 The Chairman was authorised to sign, as a correct record, the Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 17 May 2016.

Declarations of interest

170.1 All Councillors present handed Declaration of Interests forms to the Clerk. **Action** – Cllr Brown.

170.2 **Resolved** that it be noted that no declarations of members' disclosable pecuniary and other registrable interests were made in respect of items on this Agenda. Members were reminded that, in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, it is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting.

Requests for dispensations

171 **Resolved** that it be noted that no requests had been received since the last meeting for dispensations to speak or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Police liaison and public participation

172 PCSO Emma Forrester was unable to attend but since the last meeting only one crime (fraud by a holiday maker) had been reported.

173 A heated discussion took place about the use of the recreation ground for an event organised by Hawkshead Trails. Doubt was cast on land ownership despite many previous references, particularly at a council meeting on 21 October 2014, (Minute 341/2014) when the questioner was present but raised no concerns. **Action** – Clerk to write to Temple Heelis Solicitors to obtain written confirmation that the land belongs to the Parish Council.

174 The hedge between the old Grammar School and the Old School House was obstructing the pavement. **Action** – Cllr Moulton see the owner to arrange trimming.

175 The legality of a balcony at the rear of one of the old police station apartments was questioned as it was considered incongruous in a Conservation Area. **Action** - Clerk to contact LDNPA.

176 The poor quality of the village website relating to Hawkshead Parish Council was discussed again. This was a free page option provided by the businesses but a better service would be a dedicated site built by and maintained by a service provider. (See 188 below)

Action results

- 177 Cllr Wood was in the process of seeking the co-operation of local traders regarding the siting of A-Boards outside their premises. **Action** – Cllr Wood.
- 178 The Clerk gave an account of a CALC District Meeting on 9 June 2016 when there was a presentation about flood prevention.

Correspondence

- 179 South Distinctive Area Election
- 180 CALC – Developing your skills programme – September to December 2016. **Action** – Clerk to establish if CALC would deliver ‘The Good Councillor’ course at Hawkshead.
- 181 LDNPA – Local Plan Refresh. It was noted that there were neither any Bed & Breakfast establishments for sale in the parish, nor were there any empty traditional barns. **Action** – Clerk to reply.
- 182 Hawkshead Surgery Patient Participation Group – application for a donation to equip their proposed new premises. This matter was discussed fully including the fact that Hawkshead Surgery operates as a private business. There was agreement to make a donation but delay action until building work had commenced and a charitable trust had been established. **Action** – Clerk to reply.
- 183 Hawkshead First Responders – informing the Council that BT intended decommissioning the telephone kiosk in The Square which the Responders could use as storage for a defibrillator yet maintain a 999 facility. The meeting had no objections to this plan and wished the project every success.
- 184 Cumbria County Highways – had received a letter of complaint from a visitor who had experienced an electric shock from an unmarked stock control fence in Vicarage Lane. A description of the location identified it as belonging to Mr J Taylforth, Keen Ground Farm. **Action** – Clerk to request Cumbria Highways contact Mr Taylforth.

Brathay Marathon

- 185 This event had caused unnecessary disruption for local people in general and the business community in particular although it was considered that loss of trade during a four-hour period was probably compensated by increased visitor numbers staying in the village over the weekend. It was resolved to meet the organisers in an attempt to alleviate future complaints. **Action** – Cllrs Fordham and Spedding.

Better highways

- 186 No new issues.

Finance

- 187 The snowplough/gritter had not been used since the last meeting but no invoice had been received for a previous occasion. See Minute 158. **Action** – Cllr Barr to follow-up.
- 188 A surplus of £4,477.20 was in the accounts for YE 31/03/16. It was resolved to earmark some of this for the following purposes:-
- £1,700 for repairs to the old police station car park;
 - £300 for repairs to Main Street car park;
 - £1,000 for website and
 - £1,000 for verges/lengthsman. **Action** – Clerk to register this in the accounts which may be changed by future resolution.
- 189 A salary increase of 12 pence per hour for the Clerk was approved without comment.
- 190 The following accounts were approved for payment:- M E M Sandys 1956 Settlement - £259.20; Clerk’s May salary - £280.68; PO Ltd - £70.20; Clerk’s reimbursements - £28.60p.

Hawkshead project

- 191 Hawkshead Delivery/Regeneration Group Constitution was briefly explained. This was being established to enable access to some funding agencies which would not otherwise award grants to parish councils.
- 192 The group would not be a committee of the Parish Council but would act under the auspices of the Parish Council so the Clerk may, from time to time, be called upon to advise on law and procedure and for the holding of funds. Therefore, in order to preserve objectivity and avoid conflicts of interests, the Clerk has been advised not to be a member of the group.
- 193 An inaugural general meeting to elect members and officers has been arranged for 7 pm Tuesday 19 July 2016 to be followed immediately by the next ordinary council meeting. **Action** – Clerk to circulate Notice/Agenda together with constitution and roles of members.

Planning

- 194 Notification – that Ken Fordham had applied for a felling licence for the extraction of Larch and some deciduous trees at School Wood, Roger Ground.
- 195 Result – Change of use of part of the upper floor offices at Hawkshead Co-op to two apartments has been granted.
- 196 Result – Conversion of an existing garage into a house for local occupancy at Field Head has been granted.
- 197 Result – Alteration of an existing window to form a new access at the Outgate Inn has been granted.
- 198 Application 7/2016/5353 & 5354 (Listed building) – Proposed interior alterations and roof lights to Jessamin Cottage, Red Lion Yard, Hawkshead. Following consideration, no objections were raised. **Action** – Clerk to write.

Items for inclusion in next agenda

- 199 Dedicated Parish Council Website.
- 200 Internal Audit of the First Quarter – 1 April to 30 June 2016.

Date of next meeting

- 201 Tuesday 19 July 2016, immediately following an inaugural general meeting of the Regeneration Group, which commences at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 9.35pm.