

AINSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Nigel Vear, Ainstable (01768) 896360 ~ chairman@ainstable.org.uk

CLERK: Rachel Lytollis (01228) 670451 ~ clerk@ainstable.org.uk

A meeting of Ainstable Parish Council held in Ainstable Church Institute at 7.30pm on Tuesday 15th January, 2013.

Present: Cllr Miller, Cllr Brown, Cllr Vear, Cllr Smith, Cllr Findlay & Cllr Bellis

DRAFT MINUTES

OPEN MEETING- For discussion of matters of general Parish concern (10 mins)

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

1. **Declaration of interests-** None
2. **To receive apologies for absence-** Cllr Thirlwall (Ill), Cllr Guise (Ill) & County Cllr Robinson (Away)
3. **To resolve to accept the minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 20th November, 2012 as a true record**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 20th November, 2012, as a true record (proposed by Cllr Miller, seconded by Cllr Vear, unanimous vote).

4. **To discuss the co-option of new councillors onto the Parish Council**

Mr Howard Bellis of Ruckcroft introduced himself to councillors and volunteered to be co-opted onto the council. Cllr Smith proposed that Mr Bellis should become a parish councillor and Cllr Brown seconded this. There was a unanimous vote in favour and Mr Bellis joined councillors as the table. It was agreed that Cllr Bellis would send his contact details to the Clerk and she would send him out the paperwork for new councillors.

5. **To discuss the repair of traditional road signs in the Parish**

Cllr Findlay and Cllr Guise invited Mr David Gosling from Signpost Restorations to come along to the meeting to brief councillors following his and Cllr Findlay's tour of all the parish signposts. He had produced a quotation for the repair of the 25 posts. The tour allowed him to assess the damage and repairs needed. It was reported that there are five styles of post including Cumberland County Council posts (black and white stripe), cast iron boss signs, Warbuoys posts and modern Cumbria County Council signs. Mr Gosling said that the cast iron signs are about 100 years old. He also said that the total costs for the posts would be in the order of £24900.

It was noted that there has been an announcement that £20,000 is being made available by Cumbria County Council Eden Local Committee for repairs to signs. It was resolved that the Clerk write to County Cllr Martin Stephenson and say that the parish is looking into renovating its signs and has 5 non-functioning cast iron signs (i.e. they have finger signs missing).

It was agreed to approach English Heritage, Awards for All, Cumbria Waste Management & Lottery funding for potential grant funding. Councillors agreed that it was important to maintain the signs in order to preserve local distinctiveness.

6. **To receive a report on crime in the Parish** – none reported

7. **Report from attendance at outside bodies-** It was agreed that the Clerk send Cllr Miller a list of future CALC meetings and also the log in details for the CALC website to Cllr Bellis.

8. **To discuss any Highways matters arising**

- Winter planning/ grit- It was noted that the grit piles are now being used. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Cumbria Highways Department to get stickers for each bin with details of how to report empty grit bins (50 stickers needed).
- Sign posts- covered above
- Holes and damage- It was noted that some repair work has been carried out recently but that potholes are appearing faster than they are being filled. Cllr Vear agreed to go out and photograph problem areas. Parishioners are advised to report highway problems to Highways Hotline on **0845 609 6609**.
- Street lights are not working behind the pub in Ainstable. It was agreed that the Clerk request a map of the street lights to report those causing problems.

9. **To discuss the protection of red squirrels**

Councillors were concerned about the reduction in red squirrel numbers over the last few years. It was proposed that Ainstable Parish Council support the charity which works locally to maintain numbers and Cllr Miller agreed to contact them and ask what help they actually need.

10. **To discuss the maintenance of benches and bus stops**

It was agreed to ask Mr Eric Bell to have a look at the benches and bus stops and advise what is needed. The Clerk agreed to photograph the six noticeboards in the parish and circulate them to councillors. It was agreed that some work was also needed to these.

11. **To receive a report on the Millennium Green and the adoption of its maintenance by Eden District Council**

The Clerk reported that she had received a bill from Eden District Council for the first 6 months of the maintenance programme. Cllr Smith said that he is still waiting for his onsite meeting to check that all the requested work was being carried out. Councillors said that they would like a sign to be installed by the gates to the Millennium Green. Cllr Smith agreed to take the matter forward.

12. **To receive an update on Croglin Educational Foundation**

13. **To receive an update on councillors' special projects-** already covered

14. **To discuss any matters relating to communications**

- Website
- Parish news
- Newsletter- Cllr Vear reported that a newsletter had gone out recently with good results- volunteers have come forward to help with the repair of road signs, the trimming of vegetation and Mr Bellis had responded to the call for new councillors.
- Parish File

15. **To consider planning applications made and other planning matters-** None

16. **To notify the Council of planning decisions received** – None received.

17. **To consider correspondence received-** None

18. **To discuss finance**

- To receive an update on Parish finances- the Clerk updated Councillors with balances of each bank account held.
- To resolve to make payments due- it was resolved to make the following payments (proposed by Cllr Miller, seconded by Cllr Findlay):

Eden District Council (Maintenance of the Millennium Green)	£282.52	(Chq 100631)
CALC (Annual Subscription)	£146.00	(Chq 100632)
Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£504.06	(Chq 100633)

- Parish precept- The Clerk reported that there have been changes to the way parish councils have to ask for the precept for 2013/14. In order for councils to receive the amount they want they have to ask for a larger amount and then this will be reduced by a set formula to the amount that they actually want. She explained that councillors from other parishes were concerned that by using this administrative process it would appear that parish councils have significantly increased the amount of precept that they want, when this is not the case.

19. **To receive a report from County Councillor Robinson-** Unable to attend

20. **Points to be raised at the next meeting**

- Ainstable- Tidying up the village
- Parish litter pick
- Dog fouling
- Weeding along roadsides

21. **Date of the next meeting-** 7.30pm on Tuesday 19th March, 2013 in Ainstable Church Institute

Signed: *R.E. Lytollis*

Clerk to Ainstable Parish Council

15.01.13