

# Ainstable Parish Council

Serving the villages of Ainstable, Croglin, Newbiggin, and Ruckcroft,  
the communities of Dale and Longdales, and the surrounding farms and houses

**Chairman: Nigel Vear,**  
**Tel (01768) 896360 - chairman@ainstable.org.uk**

An Extraordinary Meeting of  
**Ainstable Parish Council**  
held virtually via MS Teams at 7:30pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

## Ainstable Parish Council

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Present: Cllr Vear (Chairman); Cllr Bellis; Cllr H Proud; Cllr G Proud; Cllr D Smith; Cllr D Bradshaw; Cllr C Sproat; Cllr M Robinson

In attendance: Kimberley Lawson (Clerk); 1 member of the public

1. Open Meeting - for discussion of matters of general parish concern (10 mins).  
Councillors have been experiencing difficulties in receiving emails from the Clerk. Cllr Vear has been working trying to resolve this with the parish council's ISP. Councillors should contact the Clerk/Chairman if they think they are not receiving emails.

### Minutes

2. Apologies for absence were received from County Cllr Driver and Hannah Jackson.
3. Cllr Robinson declared an interest in item 5.
4. To consider applications for co-option to Ainstable Parish Council. Applications received from Helen Little and Hannah Jackson.  
**Resolved:** to co-opt Helen Little to Ainstable Parish Council.  
**Resolved:** to co-opt Hannah Jackson to Ainstable Parish Council.
5. Councillors discussed the proposals for local government reorganisation of Cumbria.  
**Resolved:** to respond to the consultation indicating a preference for either a single unitary authority or the North Cumbria/South Cumbria options.  
**Action:** the Clerk to draft a response.
6. To discuss the future of remote meetings:
  - 6.1. The Chair provided an update on the law relating to remote meetings and there was some discussion. Whilst councillors are keen to return to physical meetings, it was acknowledged that it is not yet safe to do so. It is possible that this will be resolved through a pending court case by the time of the May meeting but if not, the parish council will have to make some decisions at that meeting about the way forward.
  - 6.2. The Chair will propose a motion that, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the parish council write to Dr Neil Hudson, MP for Penrith and the Border, and Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to request legislation permitting the ongoing holding of remote meetings.  
**Resolved:** to write to Dr Neil Hudson, MP for Penrith and the Border, and Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to request a permanent change to the law to allow parish councils to hold remote meetings at their own discretion and to allow members of the public to remotely attend a physical meeting of councillors.  
**Action:** the Clerk to draft a letter.

- 6.3. **Resolved:** to respond to the government's Call for Evidence relating to remote meetings.  
**Action:** the Clerk to draft a response.
7. **Resolved:** to open an account with Unity Trust Bank for the Ainstable Millennium Green Trust and transfer all the Trust's funds from CCLA to that account.  
**Action:** Clerk to open the account.
8. **Resolved:** to commission CALC to provide full council training on the subject of planning law. The remaining budget to be used to offer Effective Councillor training to newly co-opted councillors.  
**Action:** The Clerk to recirculate CALC website login details so councillors can explore other training materials on the site.
9. Local Council Award Scheme, Foundation Level.
- 9.1. **Resolved:** that the council confirms that it publishes online the documents outlined on page 6 of "A guide to the Local Council Award Scheme 2016", and the subsequent updates.
- 9.2. **Resolved:** that the council also confirms that it has the documents listed on page 7 of "A guide to the Local Council Award Scheme 2016", and the subsequent updates.
10. To discuss any planning matters arising.  
Planning application 21/0280 – the parish council supports improvements to this property to support a local business.  
Nothing has yet been received from enforcement regarding the generator.
11. Points to be raised at the next meeting.  
Clerk appraisal - Cllr G Proud, Sproat and Bradshaw will conduct the appraisal.  
Speeding through the village – Cllr Sproat.
12. Date of the Annual Parish Meeting, next ordinary meeting and Ainstable Millennium Green Trust AGM - Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via MS Teams.

Meeting closed at 21:14