

SATTERTHWAITE PARISH COUNCIL

Reference No: MO68

Minutes of the meeting held in the Parish Room, Satterthwaite on Monday 23rd February 2009 at 7.30pm.

Present: Dr S Tiplady (Chairman), Mr A Stoker, Mr T Gill, Mr M Dickinson, Mr D Fletcher (Councillors), Mrs C Salisbury, 21 members of the public, The Clerk

68.1 **Apologies**

All councillors were present. District Councillor Mr C Davies sent his apologies.

68.2 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on January 12th 2009 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

68.3 **Co-opting of Councillors**

Since no one had requested an election the Returning Officer had informed the Clerk that the council could co-opt a new Councillor. Mr Fletcher had been approached and he had accepted.

68.4 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

68.5 **Open Session**

Ms Lague informed the meeting that there had been a number of house breakings in Coniston and Hawkshead and also a theft from a vehicle. Residents were advised to review their security arrangements.

68.6 **Review of decision on Planning Application no. 7/2008/5668 Stricely Fell caravan site, Use of land for 6 additional caravans**

The Chair explained that since there had been considerable public response to this planning application and several members of the public had approached the Council expressing concern about the decision made at the January meeting this specific agenda item had been inserted to allow the public to express their views.

The Chair explained that at the time the Council had only three councillors and the decision had been a majority one. The letter to the planning authority had, whilst broadly supporting the application, expressed concerns over the suitability of access, the potential over development of the site and the preservation of the footpaths. The two Councillors who had supported the development were asked to explain their reasoning.

Members of the public were asked to comment about their concerns. During the debate concerns were raised over:

- The definition of a caravan and the interpretation of this as a cabin
- The historical issues about development of this site and the enforcement difficulties that had occurred
- The destruction of a designated quiet area
- The excessive over development of the site
- Refuse collection from the site

Having heard the concerns of the public two councillors proposed a special resolution to rescind the decision referenced as M067.10 in the minutes. The resolution was passed with a majority of 4:1.

It was resolved to object to the development on the following grounds:

- The site is a designated quiet area
- There is a covenant relating to the site that prohibits development
- The access road is unsuitable
- Whilst the development may meet the definition of a caravan, the proposals appear to stretch the definition to an unrecognisable degree. It appears to be a new log cabin village rather than a caravan site.
- The site is in an unsustainable location with no local shops or public transport and consequently an increase in traffic is inevitable
- Wild life will be affected as will people's enjoyment of the area as two public footpaths cross the site.

68.7 **Planning Application no. 7/2009/5008 Revision of previously approved orientation block**

It was resolved to support this application and to suggest that it was a necessary amenity.

68.8 **Matters Arising**

a. Gritting of roads

Following the letter a response had been received offering to consider upgrading the Colton-Satterthwaite-Grizedale to a Priority 2 gritting road, subject to budget constraints. In addition we have been requested to provide potential sites for new grit bins. Councillors were asked to send these to the Clerk.

b. Road maintenance

A response had also been received from the Highways Dept on road maintenance. The response stated that Bethells were attending to cleaning & jetting of gullies and culverts. Middle Dale Park has an order to dig out the catcher after April. Force Mill gullies have been jetted and are running. The problem may be ground water or a spring. It was agreed to monitor the effectiveness of these solutions.

c. Pollution from Sewage pumping station

The Clerk reported that he was still having problems getting a response from United Utilities and sought agreement to elevate the matter if no response was received soon. This was given.

68.9 **Satterthwaite Recreation Area**

Mr Townsend was invited to explain the problem with the recreation area. He explained that he had run the recreation area with the help of Mr Leatherbarrow for a number of years. During this time increasing problems with public liability had emerged and the cost of replacing equipment or making it safe for use had escalated. With the departure of Mr Leatherbarrow from the village he now felt it was a sensible time to revisit how the recreation area was managed. Generally, the financial position is strong. Mr Townsend provided a document to aid discussion.

The Chair expressed gratitude to Mr Townsend for his efforts over the years. Following discussion it was agreed that it was sensible to try and preserve the facility. It was noted that it may be easier to obtain grant aid for repairs if it is run as a separate organisation from the Council. The Clerk offered to help Mr Townsend to formulate an idea on how best to structure and manage a separate entity. Mr Dickinson and Mr Gill kindly offered to repair the fencing.

68.10 **Parish Clustering Proposals**

The Chair and Clerk has attended a Crake Valley meeting with several Parish Councils to explore the proposals from SLDC and CCC on locality working.

They explained that the concept was still somewhat blurred. The Clerk would attend a conference on February 28th to obtain further information. A further meeting of the Crake Valley group had been scheduled for March 11th. Councillors were asked to review the proposals ready for discussion at the next meeting.

68.11 **Reports from representatives to Outside bodies**

Dr Tiplady reported on the Grizedale Consultative Group. The internal alterations were scheduled to be complete by February 28th. Extra funding had been obtained to build the proposed orientation block. The bus service will continue this year with a slight fare increase. The bio mass boiler was working well.

68.12 **Financial and Administrative**

The Clerk provided a financial statement for the year up to January 31st. The payment to the previous clerk was approved.

Mr Fletcher offered to collect the advertising monies for the website.

67.13 **Correspondence**

The items of correspondence were noted.

67.14 **Councillor Matters**

The meeting was adjourned to allow Councillors to ask questions not covered in the agenda.

67.15 **Items for Next Agenda**

- Parish Clustering – locality working
- Enforcement of local occupancy clauses
- Turbine at Farra Grain
- Parish Plan

67.16 **Date of Next Meeting**

6th April 2009 at 7.30pm at Graythwaite. Dates were also set for the rest of the year. The meeting closed at 9.30pm.