

NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held by ZOOM
At 7pm on Monday 15th March 2021

21/14 Present:

Cllr David Peters in the Chair, Cllrs Clark, Houghton, Rhian Peters, Roberts and White, District Councillor Jonathan Brook and Parish Clerk Kevin Price.

21/15 Public participation: None.

21/16 Declarations of Interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters on the agenda.

21/17 SLDC and CCC Reports from the elected representatives:

Councillor Brook mentioned the following matters:

- a. '20's plenty' signage is planned in Kendal for Heron Hill. These signs are possibly more likely to be provided than ordinary 20mph signage.
- b. There are currently a lot of road works in the area. Helm Lane, Natland Road, Crowpark Bridge and the A65 were mentioned.
- c. There had been a Stakeholder Workshop to discuss priorities for a Kendal LCWIP (local cycling and walking infrastructure plan) to bid for government funding. Councillors White and David Peters had attended. Councillor Peters had written to stress the importance of a footway on Natland Road and on the Natland side of the A65 opposite The Helm towards the evolving network of walking/cycling desire lines.
- d. A footpath is needed on the Natland side of the A65 and there is hope that a developer may provide this. Councillor Rathbone is following this up through the consultant.
- e. There is an open meeting on 18th March to hear the four options for a future Unitary Authority outlined. A decision from government is not likely until late summer. Elections for the new Authority would then take place in 2022 and it would come into position fully in 2023.
- f. It seems unlikely that the government will extend the legislation for holding remote meetings beyond 7th May. (NALC/CALC and Tim Farron MP are all pressing for remote meetings to continue for the time being).

21/18 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 25th January 2021 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

21/19 Matters arising:

- a. Natland phone box (21/7a refers). This has finally been removed, following correspondence from both residents and the Clerk. The ground has also been covered with soil since its removal.
- b. Crowpark Bridge (21/7c refers). An email from CCC Highways, outlining the plans for repairing the bridge in the summer of 2021, had been circulated to all Councillors.
- c. CIL payments (21/10d refers). Details of the dates by which the CIL money needs to be spent had been circulated to all Councillors and this will, in future, form part of the annual report submitted each December.

21/20 Natland Speed Limits:

Discussion took place on the desirability of '20's plenty' advisory signs in Natland, following recent publicity given to this issue but it was narrowly agreed that these are not desirable for Natland. Following a vote, three Councillors agreed with this position, two against and one abstention. The Council's policy continues to be for a mandatory 20mph limit in the village and the Clerk was asked to write to remind the Highway Authority of this longstanding request..

21/21 Local Government Reorganisation - Unitary Proposals:

There are at present four options being submitted to central government for a future Unitary Authority in Cumbria. It was resolved that this Council's preference is for 'no change' but if this is not possible, then 'The Bay' bid from SLDC is the preferred option. The Clerk and Chair will liaise over the wording of the Council's response to the current government consultation before 19th April 2021 deadline.

21/22 Reports:

Highwayman: Councillor David Peters reported as follows:

- a. Two road gulleys and soakaway have been installed by CCC at Helm Lane, by the railway bridge, which might marginally reduce flooding on the Village Green.
- b. At the CALC/CCC meeting last week, LCWIPs (minute 21/17c refers) had been discussed in connection with a sustainable transport strategy and possible government funding for a transport scheme embracing walking and cycling.

Footpaths: Councillor Rhian Peters reported as follows:

- a. The stile on the footpath between Hawes Bridge and Watercrock has been inspected and is not impassable, although it is awkward to use. Ideally a gate would be better but installing it in a massive stone wall would not be a small job..
- b. The above footpath is also worn away and muddy. A hazardous section had been reported to CCC and signage requested some time ago.
- c. The fingerpost at Crowpark Bridge is now pointing in the right direction.

21/23 Planning:

The following comment, submitted to the Planning Authority by the Clerk, under his delegated authority was noted:

SL/2021/0074 Appleton, Oxenholme Lane, Natland. First floor side extension. Approval recommended.

21/24 Finance:

The cash and budget statements were noted and the following payment was retrospectively approved:

Open Spaces Society £45.00 Annual subscription

21/25 Correspondence (including emails and phone calls):

21/26 Open Forum:

Councillor David Peters had been approached by a resident, with concerns about biodiversity, following the Council's contribution towards the maintenance of St Mark's churchyard. The Clerk agreed to contact Martin Jayne to say that the Council understands the PCC has been contacted by the enquirer and asking that the Parish Council be kept informed of any discussions/decisions. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

21/27 Date of the next meeting:

Monday 26th April 2021 by ZOOM at 7pm.

(There will be no Annual Parish Meeting on 13th May 2021 as originally planned)

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed:

Dated: