

NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Council Meeting
Held at Natland Village Hall at 7pm.
On Monday 27rd November 2023.

23/98 Present: Councillors Smith (Chair), Ball, Clark, Harkness, Kelly and Ibbs, Westmorland Furness Councillor Doug Rathbone, two members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ellison and Westmorland & Furness Councillor Jonathan Brook.

23/99 Public participation:

A resident spoke forcefully in support of the 20mph speed limit. He explained that in his view safety would be significantly improved particularly for pedestrians. He also made the point that traffic flow would be eased as drivers would have more time to choose passing places as they met oncoming traffic.

23/100 Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Smith declared a personal interest, as a member of the Village Hall committee, should anything be discussed regarding the Hall.

23/101 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 23rd October 2023 (circulated) were agreed and signed by the Chair.

23/102 Westmorland & Furness Councillors:

Councillor Rathbone explained the proposal from the Head Teacher at St Mark's School for a voluntary one-way system at the start and close of the school day for parents driving their children to school. A meeting had been held with both the school and the Highways Authority and the school is now consulting with parents and carers. The Highways Authority will add new school warning signs and road markings. In the longer term the school will consider the possibility of a drive-through drop-off lane within the school grounds.

23/103 Traffic issues:

Some signage in the village is faded and needs renewing. The Council looked forward to the replacement of the faded 30mph signs with 20mph signs.

It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Highways Authority to request what follow up action was being taken on the Council's letter addressing traffic issues on the A65.

23/104 20mph Speed Limit:

Councillor Rathbone assured the Council that the application from Natland has been registered but that it is not a quick process. Traffic Regulation Orders are required and this will be done together, covering a number of applications.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders in order to allow a member of the public to reiterate the public support for the proposed limit.

It was agreed that the Clerk will send a 'follow-up' letter, confirming the Council's continued desire to see the early adoption of the 20mph speed limit throughout the village.

23/105 Parents Voluntary Traffic Flow:

The concerns of residents on Helm Lane that a side effect of the one-way flow meant that parents were driving faster up Helm Lane to the danger of pedestrians were noted. Increased speed and volume of traffic also made it more difficult for residents, farm vehicles and tradesmen to come down Helm Lane. It was agreed that the impact of the scheme will be monitored.

23/106 Defibrillator:

Councillor Kelly outlined the history of the present defibrillator. The Village Hall pay for its running costs. However, there has been no training since 2017 and it was agreed the Council will support any training that is arranged. Councillor Kelly and Pam Mansfield will progress arrangements for this. Endmoor First Responders are happy to provide some training and Councillor Kelly will draft a letter publicising proposals in the new year.

23/107 Planning None.

23/108 Community Emergency Planning:

The proposed Emergency Information Sheet for Natland had been circulated. A full emergency plan had been considered by Councillor Clark but this was considered to be more suitable to a larger community than Natland. Councillor Clark agreed to update the Emergency Information Sheet and submit it to CALC.

23/109 Finance:

- a. It was resolved to pay the following accounts:

T Flitcroft	£90.00	Payroll Administration – annual payment
K M Price	£18/80	Back pay October
K M Price	£166.02	Pay Award – backdated to 1 st April 2023.
Continental Landscapes		
	£600.00	Grasscutting
Lakes and Dales Window Cleaning Ltd		
	£48.00	Cleaning bus shelters
CALC	£30.00	Councillor training

- b. The monthly cash and budget statements were noted.

- c. The Clerk updated the Council on the transfer of the Council's banking arrangements to Lloyds Babk. One signatory needed to record his detail with the bank, but otherwise it seems to be proceeding according to plan.
- d. The Pay Award for Clerks, notified to the Council by CALC/NALC was approved. This is for an increase of £1 per hour across all salary points.
- e. The Clerk will circulate the Draft Budget in advance of the next meeting when the Precept will be set. Councillors were reminded of the need to submit proposals for costing in the budget so that the Precept could be calculated.

23/110 Reports:

- a. **Highwayman:** Potholes outside the Village Hall were reported. The Chair agreed to discuss with the Chair of the Village Hall Committee the responsibility for maintaining the forecourt.

Councillor Harkness reported the flooding/standing water just south of the village and opposite the bus shelter (this had been reported to The Highways Authority by the Chair). The Chair encouraged all Councillors and the Clerk to continue making these reports.

- b. **Footpaths Officer:** There was nothing to report.
- c. **Village Hall:** The Chair had attended the recent committee meeting, when there had been discussion on the future location and layout of the toilets. One of the lights in the main hall also needs replacing.
- d. **CALC:** The Chair had attended the new Chairman's course.
- e. **Common Land:** No report.

23/111 Correspondence (including emails and phone calls):

All relevant correspondence had been circulated to Councillors during the past month.

23/112 Date of the next meeting:

***Monday 15th January 2024 at 7pm at Natland Village Hall
(This will be the Precept Meeting)***

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed:

Dated: