

Buttermere Parish Council

Minutes of Buttermere Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd September 2019 at Old School Room, Buttermere at 7.30pm.

Meeting opened at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs R Beard (chair), Y Kahane, E Beard, L Kyle, A Beard, J Temple.

District and County Councillors:

Clerk: Mike Milner.

Apologises for absence: M Richardson (BPC), Alan Bowness (CCC). Cllr Carmel Bell (ADC)

116.00 Apologises. As noted above. The chairman also read out the following statement.

As you will know, Cllr Gwyn Evans died unexpectedly last month, at his home in Chester. Some local residents travelled down in a mini bus for his funeral, which was held at his former Parish Church in Chester.

Gwyn had been quite ill with heart problems for a while, but he was still planning ahead with his life, building new extensions to his house at Palace How and renewing walls and fences.

It was a big shock to learn of his death.

Gwyn served on the Parish Council for seven and a half years and as far as I know is the first serving Councillor for Buttermere to pass away.

He will be a big miss for the council. He always attended whenever possible and had a wealth of knowledge and a lot experience with council meetings. He won't be easy to replace. Our sympathy goes out to Jan and their family.

115.00 Declaration of Interest. None

116.00 To approve and accept the minutes of the last Buttermere parish council meeting held on 28th May 2019 as a true record, including the minutes of the Buttermere AGM meeting held on same day at the start of that meeting.

116.01 Cllrs unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 28th May 2019.

7.40pm Cllr E.B joined the meeting.

117.00 Public Participation.

117.01 Chair welcomed Rev Sandra Ward and Hugo Thomson, who had requested an opportunity to up date the parish council on the proposed plans to refurbish the building that the meeting was being held in. They circulated notes on the plans to all present. At the end of the presentation Chair Cllr R.B thanked them for their attendance.

117.02 Two representatives from the Natural Trust were present, Jessie Binns and Mark Astley, to advise about proposed new signage at car park entrance and possibly in Buttermere village.

117.03 All the signs have to be approved by LDNP planning department; this was just a consultation at this time. Buttermere village has an array of individual advertising signs and A boards, which are probably all within planning requirements but would more central signs and finger posts acceptable? Cllrs thought central signs would be helpful and reduce clutter, but how local businesses would respond was something perhaps NT ought being asking business owners was council's observation.

117.04 At the end of their presentation Chair Cllr R.B thanked them for their attendance.

118.00 Police report

118.01 Clerk had not received a police report.

119.00 District and County Councillors Reports

119.01 Neither were present and no reports to go back to either, by clerk.

120.00 Applications for development.

120.01 Clerk reported that he had received a planning request PB/2019/0016 concerning the pay phone in Buttermere from Allerdale BC about it being decommissioned and removed by BT. He confirmed that he had emailed all Cllrs early August about the request. The response was that although it was probably rarely used, it was a lifeline for 999 calls due to poor mobile signal strength in the area and when businesses and hotels were closed its facility was immeasurable. Clerk had advised Allerdale BC that its removal was strongly objected to.

120.02 As per minute 110.01 clerk could now advise that the Secretary of State had decided not to "call in" the Honister Dual Zip Wire development. Therefore, it would become reality.

120.03 ref minute 110.02 Gatesgarth Farm, clerk as instructed advised LDNP Planning that Buttermere objected to the proposals. Clerk reported the application has been withdrawn.

121.00 Receive and approve the parish council accounts for 5 months to 31st August 2019.

121.01 Clerk had circulated the accounts prior to the meeting, there were no questions raised, so clerk requested the chair to sign bank statements confirming their correctness.

122.00 Combined parish council project concerning volume of traffic and associated problems in Loweswater valley through Buttermere to Honister.

122.01 Clerk outlined the contact he had had with Steve Ratcliffe, Director of Sustainable Development for LDNP, concerning traffic problems. Clerk also had contact with Lancaster Uni about getting their support to carryout graduate research projects based on air quality and loss of environmental assets if just new car parks were developed. Also, perhaps a proper traffic survey of the effect of all vehicles to the area and how that compared with other tourist area.

122.02 Clerk advised that a combined community group involving parishes of Buttermere, Lorton and Loweswater would be a better option than Buttermere on its own. Clerk to discuss with the other councils over the next 2 night, but Cllrs E.B and Y.K are to be Buttermere councillors to be directly involved the process.

123.00 Domestic and Trade waste collection schedule update.

123.01 Simple observation, according to Allerdale BC, normal waste collections to resume on Monday 9th September. Cllr Y.K had confirmed that Buttermere to remain on Thursday collection, not Tuesday as original schedule. Cllr Y.K to keep clerk advised if any problem.

124.00 Buttermere Broadband update.

124.01 Clerk and Cllr Y.K had been involved with Openreach about broadband to Buttermere. It is the last village in England to be connected. Openreach wanted to explore the views of the community, clerk had confirmed that there was enthusiasm for the project. 124.02 Openreach would investigate the options, it would have to be fibre to property NOT fibre to a cabinet. They wanted to make Old School Room the community central point for the receipt of the supply and then out from there. Cost could be £300k, not the parish's responsibility, but there would be planning hurdles to overcome as fibre would have to be overhead cable not underground supply. Clerk would keep chasing the project.

125.00 Parish Council vacancy.

125.01 Cllrs debated the vacancy created by the untimely death of Cllr G.E and a name was proposed for an individual from Honister side of the parish. Cllr E.B to make contact and then provide clerk with the details for him to make the appropriate contact.

126.00 Clerk's Progress report.

126.01 clerk confirmed that most items covered by agenda, but the dropped manhole covers on the way down the hill from Lorton direction still unattended to. Highways had advised not their problem, UU responsibility so clerk will chase UU. 126.02 as per minute 113.02 clerk had contacted LDNP and Friends of the Lakes to confirm Buttermere's support for the dark sky project. 126.03 clerk had put in the noticeboard on the building confirmation of December's meeting date and those for 2020, he would circulate all Cllrs with the draft minutes.

127.00 Buttermere Councillors reports

127.01 Cllr Y.K advised the council of the latest position on the hydro project for Buttermere's Mill Beck. She circulated a report on the situation to Cllrs, all other schemes in the area have been rejected. Whether Mill Beck would actually proceed was not guaranteed but she sought and was granted permission to continue to drive the project on behalf of the council at the Melbreak Communities committee. 127.02 Cllr Y.K had also attended the Calc Three Tiers meeting on behalf of the council, which had discussed underground nuclear storage in the Lake District. Neither Allerdale BC or Copeland BC are keen to join the scheme, the obligations and restrictions are far too prohibitive. 127.03 Cllr Y.K commented that the Calc membership was money well spent. It had enabled her to meet and discuss topics backed by a wide knowledge base. 127.04 Cllr A.B raised the issue of white lines or lack of visible ones, especially at junctions in the village and at the give way junction of the B5289 from Buttermere where it meets the Lorton to Loweswater road. Clerk to approach Highways on the matter.

127.05 Cllr Y.K raised the state of the verges coming down the hill from Lorton towards the Bridge Hotel car park entrance. She wondered if a local working party could move the earth back and so correct the water course which has become silted. Clerk noted problem.

128.00 Correspondence

128.01 Clerk had received a new template for parish Finance Code from Calc. He would study and see what if any changes were need to the current Buttermere Finance Code. Report back in December.

128.02 The parish's Data Protection registration had fallen due since the last meeting so clerk had made the appropriate submissions ICO and paid the annual £40 registration fee which he was reclaiming in his expenses.

128.03 Clerk confirmed that the Lake District had submitted its local plan proposals, clerk had circulated the email and that contained the link for the report.

129.00 Payments for Approval

Payments made, 31st July Intpay 34 M Milner £144.48 salary Jun/Jul, Intpay 35 HMRC £36.00 clerks PAYE Jun/July.

Intpay36, M Milner salary August £72.04, Exp' £58.00 total £130.04

Intpay37 HMRC, PAYE August, £18.20.

All approved

130.00 Date and time of the next meeting.

130.01 Next meeting Tuesday 3rd December at 19.30 at the Old School Room Buttermere.

Meeting closed 9.02pm.