

# NATLAND PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Council Meeting Held in Natland Village Hall At 7.30pm on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012.**

### **12/36 Present:**

Cllrs Peters in the Chair, Cllrs Bowley, Chandler, Parnham and Rhian Peters, Sgt John Stephens, four members of the public and the Clerk Mr K M Price. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Outhwaite and County and District Councillor Brenda Gray.

### **12/37 Public participation:**

- a. Mr David Ratcliffe informed the Council of the petition to be sent to SLDC concerning the Land Allocations DPD, especially the proposed development of R62, the field opposite the Rowan Gardens development. This consists of 130+ names. The signatories feel the Parish Council has not supported the residents' views on the proposals.
- b. Mr John Hetherington stated that he felt the voice of local residents is not been listened to, and that the Parish Council should take the lead in influencing CCC and SLDC concerning future developments. The Chairman responded that it is now too late to provide feedback on the proposals as they have been approved by SLDC in January and the present consultation is only concerned with the 'soundness' of the proposals.
- c. Mrs Patricia Allen said she is upset at the amount of building that is proposed for Natland, especially the proposed development of the Home Field. She also mentioned the problems on Helm Lane, where the volume of the traffic, especially buses, is wearing the verges away.

### **12/38 County and District matters:**

None.

### **12/39 Police Report:**

Sgt John Stephens, Community Sergeant for Sedbergh, Kirkby Lonsdale and Kendal, addressed the meeting. South Lakeland ranks in the bottom 14% nationally for low crime rates, which makes it a very safe place to live. There have been four incidents in Natland since the last meeting. PCSO Jess Bullock has passed on requests concerning the legal issues surrounding vehicles driving on the Helm and on the Village Green. Sgt Stephens agreed:

- a. To check with the Lord of the Manor as to whether permission has been granted for anyone to drive on the Helm.
- b. To check with the local schools concerning 'leaving parties' and thereby discourage the holding of these events in the parish with the attendant litter problems.
- c. To check with a local haulage contractor as to whether exemptions have been granted

them to the 6' 6" width restriction on Helm Lane.

#### **12/40 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> February 2012 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

#### **12/41 Matters arising:**

- a. 12/24(a). Bus service. The re-routing has now taken place but there is, as yet, no sign of the promised Bus Board Meeting taking place. It is not yet clear whether a permanent bus stop will be made, the present temporary one being unsightly, and whether the Council will be consulted on proposals. The Clerk will request a permanent bus stop sign.
- b. 12/24(c), 12/6(a), 11/131(a), 11/113(a). Salt bin. A reply had been received from Kelly Alty, in response to which the Clerk agreed to ask if the bin at Helm Lane above the railway bridge (which is damaged) could be replaced with the yellow bin from the village, and a green one supplied to replace this.
- c. 12/25 Path along west side of Village Green. Cllr Chandler reported that it would cost approximately £100 to supply around 2 cubic metres of gravel, which would then need to be spread. He agreed to ask Mr Wolstanholme, who raised this matter, if he would like to take over this matter, possibly asking for volunteers to help and contributions from those benefitting.

#### **12/42 Outstanding highways issues:**

Cllr Parnham reported on the recent site meeting with Joanne Parker of the Highways Authority. This had been a useful meeting but no clear statement had been made as to what reinstatement of Sedgwick Road could be expected. The Clerk agreed to contact Rob Huck for clarification of various matters, not least the adoption of St Mark's Fold which the Council believed was imminent. The reinstatement of the highway at Yew Lodge has been requested many times, but to no avail. It was also noted that the site meeting with John Bath had not yet materialised. It is hoped that representatives of the Parish Council will in future be able to meet up with developers in order to mitigate problems.

#### **12/43 Land Allocations DPD:**

The Council resolved to make no further comments on the Land Allocations DPD, the present consultation being confined to the 'soundness' of the proposals.

#### **12/44 Natland Spring Litter Hunt – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2012:**

The Spring Litter Hunt, held the previous weekend, had been a success. 18 volunteers had taken part (26 last year). The Chair will write a report of the event for the notice board and the blogsite.

#### **12/45 Natland Parish Council Elections 2012:**

The Chair outlined the arrangements for the Parish Council Elections, the deadline for

nominations to be received by SLDC being Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon. The present position is that two Councillors have already indicated they will not be standing and it is likely that insufficient nominations will be received. The Chair has appealed for expressions of interest via the blogsite, and these should be directed to either the Chair or the Clerk.

**12/46 Natland Broadband champion:**

This position has been re-advertised but there has been no response.

**12/47 Annual Report 2011-12:**

Volunteers have come forward to distribute the Annual report between 26<sup>th</sup> April and 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

**12/48 Planning:**

None.

**12/49 Finance:**

The monthly cash and budget statements were noted.

**12/50 Reports:**

- a. Church. Cllr Chandler reported an 'Experience Easter' panorama, depicting the Easter Story, would be on display in the Church. There is to be a holiday club for three days next week. The 'wedding event' will take place from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> April (St Mark's Day) and a special service will be held for couples married in the Church over the years. Over 100 people have been invited to attend.
- b. School. Cllr Outhwaite reported that years 5-6 had taken part in the Kendal Schools' swimming gala. The girls came second and the mixed 'A' team were denied the winner's trophy by only half a finger's length. During the last few weeks of Lent, school and Church have joined together to experience the lead up to our Easter celebrations and all pupils have been visiting the Church. Pupils throughout the country have been producing self portraits which will be included in a composite portrait of the Queen as part of the Jubilee celebrations. There will be an exhibition of these in the school hall, after the Easter service in church, on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March, and coffee will be served.
- c. Village Hall. Cllr Parnham reported that the Art Exhibition had raised £623 for hall funds. Thanks are expressed to all who gave their time and supplied cakes.
- d. Footpaths. Colleen Harrison had indicated that she would present a report at the next meeting. She would not be continuing as Footpath Officer after that.
- e. Highways. Nothing further to report.
- f. LAP. The next meeting of the LAP is on 29<sup>th</sup> March at Preston Patrick but it is likely The Council will not be represented on this occasion.

**12/51 Correspondence (& phone calls):**

It was noted that Ruth Taylor, currently Village Agent for Age UK for Milnthorpe, Holme

and Burton will also become Village Agent for Natland from 1<sup>st</sup> April. This will be advertised on the notice board.

**12/52 Any other business:**

Arrangements were made to conduct the Clerk's annual appraisal during April.

*The meeting closed at 9.25pm.*

*The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012 in the Village Hall.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)

Dated: