

LEVENS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday, 12th January 2016 in the Methodist Meeting Room, Levens at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. R. Atfield (Chairman), R. Mason, J. Thacker, S. Bagot, C. Hammond, H. Burrow, D. Martin + County Cllr. J. Bland + 6 members of the public.

134/15 Apologies for absence: District Cllr. A. Rawlinson

135/15 Declarations of interest: None

136/15 Minutes: Several corrections were made to the official Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2015 and these were then signed as correct by the Chairman.

137/15 Public Participation: No comments.

138/15 Reports:

- a) **Police** – the new Community Policewoman for Levens village is Jayne Park who will be based in Windermere. She apologised by email for not sending a report to the meeting.
- b) **County Council:** Cllr. Bland reported on various matters relating to the recent flooding.
- c) **District Council:** Knowing that she would be absent, Cllr. Rawlinson had circulated by email a report on various matters:
A collection of personal experiences of the flooding and the payment of compensatory grants to those affected.
Environment Agency events to be held in Levens on 18th January and Brigsteer on 27th January concerning the possible creation of an Internal Drainage Board. Her attendance at the Drop In Event held by the Environment Agency at Brigsteer on 7th January regarding the recent floods in the Lyth Valley.
106 Agreement – no action to report and Simon Fawcett who is dealing with this at SLDC will be away until 26th January. Cllr. Rawlinson will contact on his return.
Carpet Showroom: The Empty Homes Officer has informed the owner that certain actions must take place before this can proceed in any way.

Community Resilience – Cllr. Rawlinson will work with the Parish Council on this.

Councillor Burrow suggested that any discussion on the topic of community resilience should be open to all villagers, and Cllr. Mason will write to the Environment Agency requesting that the Parish Council be kept informed of any reports or actions affecting the parish.

139/15 Finance:

a) The Precept for 2016/17 was discussed and the Chairman suggested that it should be left at the present rate as the PC had not had to pay the Clerk's salary for six months. This was passed unanimously.

b) Payments:

Marcus Knipe for grass cutting - £100

Advertisement in Westmorland Gazette for new Parish Clerk - £342+VAT

140/15 Planning:

a) SL/2015/1142 Massey Fold for Mr & Mrs S. Routledge – no objections.

b) SL/2015/1128 7 Dove Cottages, Sizergh. Retrospective planning – no objections.

141/15 Levens Community Project:

Cllr. Mason reported that the 106 Agreement had still not been issued despite being passed by the Planning Committee in November. It had been handed on to the Housing Department by the Planning Department. Tony Hills the architect has been asked for affordable housing values in order to link Sizergh Fell Quarry in with the Village Hall Project. The Hall must be built within five years.

Business Plan: This will be placed on the village website. A meeting of the working group has to be arranged before the Business Plan can be finalised.

Demolition at SFQ: The Garages have been removed and the rubbish sifted through and removed. Some pieces of sandstone might be sold. Nick Buckley will clear the trees. The sale cannot proceed without the 106 agreement.

142/15 Offer from Mr. Bannister: No update.

143/15 Wayside Cottage: Milne Moser hope to complete sale on 22nd January. Two signatures will be needed – Cllrs. Atfield and Mason.

144/15 Community Resilience: see 138/156c) above.

145/15 a) Woodland Management: No action to report.

b) Allotments –no action

c) Letter to flood victims – Cllr. Mason read this out and it was agreed.

Cllr. Hammond will photocopy and all will help to circulate.

146/15 Correspondence:

Emails: Support following the flooding from Stoke St. Gregory Parish Council – to be put on the PC Noticeboard.

Kevin Price from Crosthwaite & Lyth Parish Council notified the PC that the SID was damaged in Crook and an insurance claim made. Request for each parish to cover the outstanding amount for the repair – agreed to contribute £25 and noted that each village should insure the SID in future.

Fibre optic broadband installation – offer from George Martin Welsh to come and talk regarding the installation of this in Levens. It was suggested that he be asked to come to the Annual Parish Meeting on 15th March to talk to residents.

Sustainability of the new village hall – Cllr. Mason to talk to Tony Hills the architect regarding this.

147/15 Future Agenda Items: new Parish Clerk (Cllrs. Burrow and Bagot to assist with recruitment), the Annual Meeting.

148/15 Date of Next Meeting: 9th February at 7.30 in the Methodist Chapel.

Meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

Signed..... (Chairman) Date.....