

ROCKCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Rockcliffe Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 18th September 2017 in Rockcliffe Community Centre at 7:30 p.m.**

RO 31/9/17 Apologies for absence

Cllr R Park & City Cllr J Mallinson.

Chairman advised that he had recently reluctantly received a letter from Cllr S Sidgwick, advising of his wish to resign from the Parish Council (PC). Members hoped that Cllr S Sidgwick would take some time to re-consider and retract his resignation.

RO 32/9/17 Present

The Chairman, Cllr J Harper, H Graham (entered at 7:35 pm), M Irving, G Moss, G Mounsey-Heysham, G Percival & J Twentyman.

RO 33/9/17 In Attendance

City Cllr R Bloxham. No members of the public attended.

RO 34/9/17 Declarations of Interest or Requests for Dispensations

Cllr R Bloxham declared an interest in planning items, due to being a member on Carlisle City Councils Development Control Committee;

Cllr G Mounsey-Heysham declared an interest in planning application No. 17/0025 - Land between the Old Forge/Beckside & No. 1 Lonning Foot due to being the applicant.

RO 35/9/17 Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17th July 2017

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 17th July 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

RO 36/9/17 Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

RO 37/9/17 Administration & Governance

37.1 Consultations Received

- Cumbria County Council – Cumbria Design Guide Consultation
RESOLVED: No response considered necessary.

37.2 Meetings

- War Memorial Workshop, Carlisle – 4th October 2017, 9:45-1:00 pm
No Cllrs are available to attend the workshop. It was suggested that a member of the parish may be interested in attending on behalf of the PC. Cllr H Graham suggested that Mr Jim Henderson may be interested and would contact him.
- Connecting Cumbria Digital Inclusion Event, Rockcliffe Centre – Wednesday 11th October 2017, 7:00 pm
Cllr G Moss advised that the Scouts had distributed leaflets for the event throughout Rockcliffe but they had not been able to distribute them in the Todhills & Harker areas. Additional leaflets were to be left within the Rockcliffe Centre and posters had been displayed on notice boards, advising of the event.
- Cyber Crime Training Session, Carlisle – 13th September 2017
Clerk advised of her attendance at the event and that it had been considered an informative training event on internet security. Information regarding the 'get safe on-line' initiative is available to all at www.getsafeonline.org

HG

RO 38/9/17 Clerks Report

Highway Items

- *Floriston Rigg Unsuitable for HGV's Sign* - Chairman advised that although contact had been made with Highways regarding the erection of a sign, no time-scale had been provided as to if and when this would be undertaken. Clerk to advise Cllr Tarbitt;
- *Repair of cast-iron road sign* – advised that this had been repaired and re-erected;
- *Redhills highway flooding & subsidence* – Chairman advised that Highways were currently dealing with this and they had advised that a permanent road closure/re-routing may be necessary. One routing to be down the Kirk Style road down over the beck. This road is also considered un-suitable as it is subject to flooding at times of tidal surges. The Chairman pointed out that debris is left on the road after the floods. Mr G Scott, Highways representative said that highways would remove the rubbish if it was placed in piles for collection. Highways had also suggested that a barrier could be built on the village green to stop debris being washed onto the road from the high tides and blocking the road. Chairman had advised Highways that this was a SSSI and would have to be pursued through Natural England;
- *Lonning Foot 18T weight limit sign* – Chairman had also discussed that the weight limit sign for Lonning Foot was incorrectly positioned, as HGV's have to be into the village before they see it. Mr G Scott had agreed to investigate this;
- *Rockcliffe Village 7½T Weight Limit through village* - Chairman advised that he had requested that an 7½T weight limit could be progressed by Highways for Rockcliffe village. Mr Scott had responded that this is not a simple task to carry out and that, in his opinion, it would not be of benefit to the community.

VT

Purchase of flag for Merchant Navy Day

G Moss advised that he had purchased the flag and it had been displayed on Merchant Navy day.

Bunny Hill, Blencarn Park – Tree Seat

G Moss had circulated via e-mail, pictures of a tree seat and requested approval to purchase the item on behalf of the PC. Also advised that some additional costs for post-crete, etc. may also be required.

RESOLVED: Agreed.

GM/AM

Vandalised Phone Box - Rockcliffe

Clerk had reported that the glass had been smashed within the phone box. BT had previously advised that they would remove the box, but Cllrs reported that the box was still there and the glass had been replaced. Clerk to determine when BT are to remove the box.

AM

Summer Play Scheme 2017

Clerk advised that 18 children had attended the scheme on Wednesday 16th August and 21 on 30th August 2017, creating income of £195. Cllrs Bloxham & Mallinson had also contributed grant funding of £300. The scheme was now likely to have a deficit of £405 and this was to be supplemented via the Beckburn Wind Farm Community Fund.

Blencarn Park – Village Green Registration

Clerk advised by the Commons Registration Officer that the application was to be determined at a Committee meeting to be held in November/December.

Beck Burn Wind Farm Community Foundation

Clerk advised that a new Grants Officer will be administering the Community Fund from September - due to Nigel Pattinson leaving the Foundation. The Clerk was pursuing (on behalf of the Scouts & School) permission to clear provisionally agreed grants for payment.

AM

RO 39/9/17 Correspondence

- *Keep Carlisle Clean Campaign* – G Moss advised that dog fouling leaflets had been distributed to Rockcliffe households by the Scouts. Chairman advised Cllr R Bloxham that he still awaited stickers that are to be attached to lamp-posts to advise on fines enforceable for dog-fouling. Cllr R Bloxham to further progress the lamp-post sticker delivery.

RB

RO 40/9/17 Financial Matters

40.1 Resolved that the following payments be approved:-

A McCallum – August & September salary (D/D 1/9 & 1/10/17)	240.25
A McCallum re-imburements for July/August 2017	55.90
HMRC – PAYE & NI Aug/Sept	44.80
NEST – Clerks pension contributions (D/D 16/08/17)	57.48
St Cuthbert Without PC – contribution toward IT support 2017-8	25.00
St Cuthbert Without PC – printing re-charge March-Aug'17	38.95
Envirocare Ltd – grass cutting July & August	234.00
G Moss – re-imburement for flag purchase	33.60
BDO LLP – audit correspondence fee 2017/18	36.00
GLL – summer play scheme x 2 days	800.00

Clerk advised that following the resignation of Cllr S Sigwick, a new cheque signatory was required.

RESOLVED: Agreed for Cllr J Twentyman to be a PC cheque signatory.

AM/JT

40.2 Financial Statement

A financial statement for the period up to the 31st August 2017 was received and approved:-

Opening balance 1st April 2017	4,310.72
Income to 31 st August 2017	10,262.19
Expenditure to 31st August 2017	2,468.74
Bank reconciliation at 31st August 2017	12,104.17

40.3 Income Received

Reported that Carlisle City Council (Cllr R Bloxham & J Mallinson) had awarded grant funding totaling £333.60 towards the summer play scheme and flag purchase.

40.4 Quarterly Monitoring Report

A report on income and expenditure for the period 1st April to 30th June 2017 had been circulated, alongside the agenda.

Resolved: Approved.

40.5 External Audit 2016/17

Clerk advised that the external audit had been completed, the annual return approved and the Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been displayed. Clerk advised that a query had been raised by the auditor due to an incorrect figure entry and this had been amended to the auditors satisfaction. Approval of the annual return was requested.

Resolved: Approved.

RO 41/9/17 Village Matters

41.1 Solway Coast AONB Boundary Extension

Clerk advised that she had written to J Hale, Principle Planning Officer, Carlisle City Council and Mr B Irving, Natural England to request that a review of the AONB Boundaries is undertaken, but that she had not received a response as yet, from either parties on the next steps to be taken.

Agreed: Clerk to further progress this item through City Cllr T Sidgwick, Carlisle City Council Representative on the Joint Advisory Group.

AM

41.2 Rockcliffe Village - Flooding

Discussion was undertaken on flooding experienced in the village, following the high levels of rainfall experienced on the 22nd July 2017. Chairman advised of a site meeting that had been held between himself, Cllr R Bloxham, Helen Renyard, Lead Officer of Development & Peter Allan, Flood & Development Manager, Cumbria County Council alongside two residents of Rockcliffe who had experienced recent near flooding incidences. County Council representatives had advised that no funding was available to undertake a full drainage survey of the village. Cllr R Bloxham had suggested that an independent survey is undertaken by the PC and this could be financed via a grant funding application to the Beckburn Windfarm Fund. The Chairman had obtained a quotation with costs estimated to be in the region of £17,500. Cllrs agreed that justification of this figure was difficult and it was:-

Agreed: that no grant application is to be progressed, at this time.

Further discussion on drainage issues being experienced in the village included that:-

- ambiguity exists as to where the outlet drain from Blencarn Park is located;
- some of the issues experienced in Blencarn Park are thought to originate from grass cuttings being left within drainage channels by Carlisle City Council contractors/staff and that the channels within the area have become overgrown. Cllr H Graham provided photographic evidence to City Cllr R Bloxham to demonstrate this;
- water from additional new housing developments was to be eventually channeled (via attenuation tanks) into Rockcliffe Beck and this was of concern to residents with properties situated alongside the beck that had experienced near-flooding incidences;
- a collapsed drain existed behind Blencarn Park that resulted in water backing-up in the Lonning Foot area and flow down the road and flood a residential property. Cllr G Mounsey-Heysham advised that this was due to residents of Blencarn Park claiming the land as gardens and piping the ditch to achieve this. Previous efforts to locate drainage and land ownership maps via Cllr R Bloxham and Carlisle City Council had proven futile;
- it was considered that Carlisle City Council and/or Cumbria County Council should undertake and fund drainage surveys on behalf of residents of the village.

Resolved: Clerk to write to Cllr V Tarbitt & Helen Renyard to advise on the quotation received for a drainage survey to be undertaken and to ask how the issues being experienced by residents could be resolved.

Also **Agreed:** Parish Councilor's to compile a list of drains that are currently blocked.

AM/VT

ALL

RO 42/9/17 Councillor Matters

Cllr J Harper reported that he had received an e-mail from a resident advising on their concerns on the the speed of vehicles and HGV's on Kingmoor road. This was of particular concern, as the resident frequently cycled with children on the road. Resident enquired if a cycleway could be made; additional signage erected advising caution or that a bike lane could be provided.

Agreed: Clerk to contact County Cllr V Tarbitt to determine what could be progressed via Highways.

AM/VT

Cllr J Twentyman requested further information regarding the Carlisle City Councils announcement that a £30 charge could be levied to householders for the collection of green waste. Cllr R Bloxham advised that the City Council was looking to save over £400k/annum through the ceasing of green collections - which is not a statutory duty. Concerns were raised as to if ceasing of the service would increase the amount of fly-tipping witnessed.

Cllr H Graham requested an update on when the Millennium Bridge was likely to be completed – work seeming to have stalled. Cllr G Mounsey-Heysham advised that work had been temporarily suspended to allow recently laid concrete foundations to set.

Cllr J Harper reminded members that this would be his last year as Chairman and that he would be retiring from May 2018. He intends to remain as an ordinary member of the PC until May 2019, to facilitate a smooth transition to the newly elected Chair but that he would be retiring after that.

City Cllr R Bloxham left the meeting at 8.49 p.m.

RO 43/9/17 Planning Matters

43.1 Applications

17/0682 Redhill Foot & Salt House, Red Hill, Rockcliffe – change of use of agricultural land to domestic use and engineering works to provide parking/play area for Redhill Foot & Salt House.

Resolved; to request that the following items are adequately investigated prior to determination:

- that adequate drain and surface water discharge surveys have been undertaken to minimise any further risk of flooding being experienced due to excess run-off;
- that the excavation works and concrete panels already installed are compliant with civil engineering standards & building regulations;
- to request that the parking of vehicles is restricted to domestic and light commercial vehicles only.

Cllr G Mounsey-Heysham advised the meeting that he would be submitting an application for Demesne Farm in the near future, before leaving the meeting at 20:55 pm.

17/0781 Field adjacent to Harker Service Station, Harker – change of use of former compound for the display and storage of 11no. vehicles for sale together with additional parking for staff & customers.

Resolved: to submit 'no observations'.

The following applications have been agreed or commented on by the Clerk under Delegated Powers and after consultation with members by e-mail, in view of the time constraints for submission of observations:-

17/0025 Land between The Old Forge/Beckside and No. 1 Lonning Foot, Rockcliffe – formation of a vehicular access to serve No. 1 Lonning Foot and Agricultural land.

Resolved: Objection' submitted 2nd August 2017 was ratified. Reasons for objection include highway concerns on the proposed access/exit point; pedestrian & cyclist safety due to the lack of footpath; technical inaccuracies contained within the application and it being considered that sufficient agricultural access already exists from other points.

Permission Notices Received

1/17/9006 Hespian Wood Resource Park & Landfill Site, Todhills – extension to existing materials recovery facility;

1/17/9008 North West Recycling, Rockcliffe Industrial Estate – Section 73 variation of conditions 1, 10 & 11 of planning permission reference 1/11/9001;

16/0866 The Hill, Blackford – erection of 1No. detached 6 bedroom holiday letting house; 5No. holiday units; replacement stable block and amenity spaces including pool hall and associated access;

17/0485 Land to the rear of Croft Cottage, Lonning Foot, Rockcliffe – erection of 1No. single storey dwelling (outline);

17/0616 Land south of Blackdyke Farm – development of energy storage system and associated infrastructure (within south eastern corner of previously approved solar farm reference 15/0688);

17/0443 Land to North of 10 Lonning Foot, Rockcliffe – erection of 4no. dwellings (reserved matters, pursuant to outline application 14/0584).

Notice of Appeal Received:-

15/0812 Kingmoor Park properties – erection of up to 300 no. dwellings including associated open space and infrastructure (outline).

RO 44/9/17 Date of Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Monday 20th November in Rockcliffe Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9:03 p.m.