

KPM19810325

25th March 1981

The Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting was held in the Institute on Wednesday 25th March at 7.30 p.m.

Those present:

Mr J. Barkway (in the Chair), Mrs Barkway, Mr C Bayes, Mrs Bialy, Mr & Mrs K. Dawson, Mr & Mrs E. Black, Mrs Driscoll, Mr R. Pighills, Mr & Mrs Reynolds, Mr J. Walker, Mr & Mrs J. Williams.

Apologies Mrs Bayes, Mrs A Williams

- 1.1 *The Minutes of the last meeting held in the Institute on Wed March 26th 1980 were read, approved and signed. Proposed by Mr J. Williams, seconded by Mr C. Bayes & agreed unanimously.*
- 1.2 *Rates. The meeting agreed that the Parish Precept of 0.5p should continue in respect of the year 1982-83 but should re-examine the necessity for a further levy of a Precept for 1983-84.*
- 1.3 *Other matters arising were either referred forward as special agenda items or discussed after the election of Chairman.*

- 2.1 *Election of Chairman and Parish Clerk*
Mr Pighills proposed that Mr J.H. Barkway should continue in office as Chairman. Mr Bayes seconded the proposal and the meeting agreed unanimously.
Mrs J. Williams stated that she did not wish to be re-elected as Parish Clerk and felt that it was unnecessary to fill the vacancy. The meeting agreed. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Williams for her energy & interest and for the success she had had in office. The meeting unanimously supported the motion.

- 3.1 *Matters arising*
Correspondence concerning Rural Transport was read and the meeting felt that the matter should rest for the moment.
- 3.2 *Mrs J. Williams proposed that we should rethink our former decision not to join the Cumbria Council of Local Councils and proposed that we should join for one year to test the strength of the Council. This was seconded by Mr Pighills and agreed unanimously*
- 3.3 *Mr Pighills felt that the matter of Quarry Waste had resolved itself and that Mr Gilmartin had indicated that he wished to make use of a certain amount of slate for a limited & small commercial reason.*

The Chairman explained that it was not the stated intention of Cumbria Reconstruction Plan to encourage the re-birth of local industries such as slate quarrying. He went on to make the point that the danger was still present and as a meeting, we could not risk the clearance of spoil at a rate of 200 ten tonne lorry journeys a day, thereby threatening at least the ecology of the valley and at most the lives of its younger inhabitants, not to speak of the peace. Mr J. Williams made the point that he thought that the Staveley bypass contract was far more likely to go to a Sandside company for competitive reasons.

Mrs Bialy proposed and Mr K. Dawson seconded a proposition that the Chairman should press on with his investigation and in particular as far as potential road damage & maintenance were concerned. This was agreed unanimously.

- 4.1 *A reply to the Chairman's query on the matter of Car Parking, Toilets & Quarry Waste had been received from a Mr Ivan Fishwick, a planning assistant of the Lake District Planning Board. This was read and much discussion ensued. It was seconded by Mrs Driscoll and proposed by Mr J. Williams that nominated members of the Institute Committee should meet a delegate from the Planning Board to discuss the needs for a toilet and for car parking management in so far as it affected the Institute. The Parish Chairman to attend the meeting.*

On the matter of congestion caused by visitors to the valley in cars, the Chairman was to meet Mr Fishwick or an officer of the L.D.P.B. with a view to relieving the present intolerable position. Proposed Chairman, seconded Mrs Bialy, agreed unanimously.

- 5.1 *The Chairman explained the proceedings of a meeting he had had with the Area Engineer, Mr J. Gregson, and his assistant (Operations) Mr R.H. Hannoby concerning river erosion.*

The following points had been made:-

- (a) The Rivers Division of N.W.B. had no access to the Water Rate which was spent entirely on the supply of & distribution of water and the disposal of effluent.*
- (b) Since the Land Drainage Act of 1930 had become law a 0.75p precept had been made on the rates to cover all matters concerning all rivers in the area which stretched from the north of Stafford to the Scottish Border.*
- (c) Natural erosion was a 'fact of life' that was causing over decades an ever changing scene and altering the face of the County. It was no part of the 'Rivers Division's' responsibility to assist this natural development but:*
- (d) The 'Rivers Division' accepted a permissive (but not mandatory) obligation to act only when a river was likely to breach a 'flood embankment' which would cause major flooding*

- (e) *The preservation of property lies with the owner.*
- (f) *The Divisional Engineer made an offer (not conclusive) that in the case where a land owner was prepared to supply or pay for 'relevant material' the Division would be prepared to become responsible and undertake the work free of charge.*
- (g) *The very rough estimate for material was in the neighbourhood of £1000 per 100 linear yards which with land at an approximate cost of £2000 per acre seemed a 'fair offer'.*
- (h) *The machine was fully committed till June.*

The point was made that it was up to those affected to get in touch with the Rivers Division. The Chairman also promised to investigate the following points:

- (i) *If a positive response to the Divisional offer was made, would the Rivers Board undertake to dredge the affected parts of the river?*
- (ii) *To enquire why people received water rates and others didn't.*

- 6.1 *The Parish Accounts were approved after an amendment had been made to the effect that the 'outstanding balance' covered two years. Proposed by R. Pighills & seconded by Mrs Bialy and agreed unanimously.*
- 6.2 *It was also agreed with unanimity that any balance unspent should be placed in a 'general amenities' fund to be used as thought fit by the Parishioners especially in view of the impending problems of tourist/local toilets.*
- 7.1 *The Chairman asked the meeting for views on the celebration of HRH Prince of Wales & Lady Diana Spencer's forthcoming marriage. A proposition put forward by Mrs Black & seconded by Mr Bayes to the effect that a sub-committee should be formed to organise a celebration. That the sub-committee should arrange for a day to be set aside during the children's holiday period; should make a proposition for a gift for children of the valley and for activities to celebrate the occasion.*
- 7.2 *It was resolved that the Parish should purchase a new National Flag (Union Jack) which should be flown from the Institute flagpole on the wedding day – July 29th.*
- 8.1 *The bye-law regarding dogs fouling the footpath was met with amusement and attention.*
- 9.1 *Planning permission had been granted by the Authority for 'Little Overend' had been noted.*
- 10.1 *There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting.*

Jeremy H. Barkway
19th May 82