

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 12th December 2007

Present N. Pighills, Chairman, Mrs S Johnston Vice Chair, Mrs M Baldwin, Mr M Booth, Mr & Mrs D Bridge, Ms H. Connerr, Mr & Mrs R Courtier, Mr S Fawcett, Mr G Fox, Mr & Mrs C. Gregory, Mrs M Harrison, Mr & Mrs S Hayward, Miss A Hills, Mr I Johnston, Dr W & Mrs P Malone, Mr J Stilling, Mr T Sturgis, Mr K. Talbot, Mr & Mrs A Williams, Mr A Yeats.

People of Kentmere

The Chairman welcomed Jennie, new daughter of Jackie and Gordon Strickland, Andrew Yeats and Lucy Nelson to High Fold, Christine & Stephen Haywood to Greenhead and Christine Cohen to Calflay. Congratulations were offered to Nick and Ruth Walker, recently married. The meeting spent some moments in silence to remember Gerard Hayton who had died in July.

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th of June 2007 were read and accepted.

Matters Arising

Himalayan Balsam

Janet Antrobus had sent a letter thanking volunteers for help in attempting to control this invasive species.

Broadband

There were still problems with reception in some parts of the valley which may be attributable to the ageing telephone lines.

Grants from Parish Funds

The increased precept now permitted grant to be paid for pagers for the First Responders. A "Heart Start" First Aid course would be provided by the Ambulance Service at the end of January.

Traffic Management

The chairman had obtained permission from the CCC and the police to install No Parking signs on the railings opposite the Church. He agreed to order suitable signs.

Salt Bins

No progress had been made

Recycling

"Kerbside" recycling had begun in the valley.

History of the Valley

Tim Sturgis had heard no more about proposed photographing of Listed Buildings. Iain Johnston reported that the Staveley and District Historical Society had produced a full-sized copy of the Corn Rent map from our photographs on CD.

Financial Matters

Iain Johnston presented Parish Accounts. There was discussion of the need for available funds for the No Parking signs and decoration of the Institute.

Road Resurfacing

There was discussion of the experimental resurfacing of the road between Scroggs Bridge and Staveley.

Hydro Electricity in Kentmere

This topic was raised as an agenda item for the first time, following visits to several landowners from Mark Cropper who had proposed to set up a commercial operation. The chairman said he would prefer to see a community scheme if possible. Bill Malone said that Cropper's scheme would leave him with no say about what financial advantage went to the valley and that the majority of the income would go to Croppers. A community scheme could be set up and run by a Company formed by the village. The system could involve building a weir above Jumb Falls and running a two foot pipe down for a distance of about 400 metres with a fall of about 50 metres to a building about the size of a garage which would house a turbine. From there, the water would return to the river and the electricity generated would be fed into the National Grid.

There was much discussion of all aspects of a potential scheme and the detailed notes compiled by Iain Johnston following the meeting will be appended to this Minute Book. It was agreed that there would be an "ad hoc" meeting of interested people on 17th December to compose a newsletter for all parishioners.

Television Scheme

Judith Bridge reported that change over to digital transmission was unlikely to take place before Spring 2009

Other Business

Judith raised for consideration the idea of a heating oil purchase consortium.

The Meeting Closed at 9.14 pm

N D Pighills