

Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the Kentmere Parish Meeting held in The Kentmere Institute at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 14th May 2018.

Present: Peter Lansberry (Chairman), Iain Johnston (Clerk), Jackie Bettess, Max Biden, Hazel Brownlow, Simon Corfield, Clare Courtier, Robert Courtier, Roger Dewhurst, Jackie Green, Christine Hevey, Sheila Hirst, Sandra Johnston, Carol Lansberry, Ian McIvor, Steph McIvor, Robert Ridley, Rosamund Ridley and Andrew Yeats. The meeting was joined later by County Councillor Stan Collins and two of the newly elected District Councillors, Hazel Hodgson and Anne Hutton.

1. **Peter Lansberry** welcomed parishioners to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Maureen Baldwin, Peter Bettess, Joanne Colley, Andrea Hills, Richard Moray, Annalise Rigby and Jim Stilling.
3. **Declarations of interest** - none.
4. **Minutes of the meeting** held on 13th November 2017 had been circulated. They were accepted as a correct record and signed.
The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 8th January 2018 had been circulated and after an amendment they were accepted as a correct record and signed.
5. **There were no matters arising** from those minutes.
6. **People of Kentmere:** Peter welcomed Sheila Hirst to the meeting. Sheila and Steve will be moving into Little Overend.
7. **Finance:**
 - 7.1 **Statement of annual accounts:** A detailed copy of the accounts had been circulated before the meeting. There were no questions and the meeting agreed that the accounts should be accepted.
 - 7.2 **Annual Governance Statement:** This too had been circulated before the meeting. Peter explained the changes from the previous format. There were no questions.
 - 7.3 **Accounting statements:** The auditor now requires that this document should be witnessed by the Meeting. There were no comments.
 - 7.4 **Approval of payments:** The chairman asked the meeting for approval to pay cheques - annual donations of £360 to The Kentmere Institute and £260 to St Cuthbert's Church in respect of the Parish's responsibility as burial authority. The annual donation to the First Responders had not been required as the group no longer has to pay for pagers. Approval was given for these payments by all present.
8. **Planning:**
 - 8.1 **The chairman reported** that there were no current applications to hand and that no decision had yet been taken by the LDNPA regarding the construction of a new communications mast at Brow Top. Andrew Yeats reported that an application had been submitted regarding alterations to the kitchen at Little Overend but the Chairman had not yet received notification of this. In any event it appeared that the application would not be controversial.
 - 8.2 **LDNP Local Plan:** The chairman advertised a consultation "Living Lakes" - an opportunity to help shape the Lake District for the next 15 years'. The meeting will be held in Staveley on 24th May.

9. Parish Reports:

9.1 **Upper Kent Local Area Partnership:** Robert Courtier had attended the last meeting when the main theme had been “World Heritage” - what is going to happen now?’ There had been many pointed questions, but no answers.

9.2 **Broadband:** Jackie Bettess reported that ‘superfast broadband’ had gone live in Kentmere during December and 24 properties have already signed up. In the areas close to the box subscribers were receiving approx 50mbs and even at Hallowbank around 20mbs was the norm and that was better than had been expected. Efforts are now being made to supply the properties in the valley which are before the box at Pumple Syke. The meeting heartily endorsed a vote of thanks to Jackie for all of her work in campaigning for this service.

9.3 **Highways:** Robert Courtier had prepared a report which was circulated at the meeting. This included the ongoing project to improve the road between The Grove and Hartrigg. He said that much of the rest of the road down the valley was in reasonable order but blocked drains are still a problem. Robert reiterated the ongoing serious problem of the lack of avenues of communication with the Highways Dept.

10. **Election of Chairman and Parish Team:** Peter Lansberry has already served his 3 year term in office. The clerk had, however, received no nominations for a successor and none were received at the meeting. The standing orders for the Parish Meeting allow for the Chairman to continue for a further two years. It was agreed that Peter should be asked to continue for a further year. He agreed. The meeting agreed to reappoint the ‘Parish Team’ *en bloc*. The members are Iain Johnston (clerk), Jackie Bettess, Robert Courtier, Jackie Green and Christine Hevey.

11. Other village reports:

11.1 **St Cuthbert’s Church:** Iain (as Churchwarden) reported that there had been a very well attended Service of Reflection during Holy Week which was followed by the regular Kentmere Lunch in The Institute and on Easter Sunday some 24 people had attended a Sun-Rise Service at 6.00 a.m. Recent works had included improvements to the gates to the churchyard. They had been realigned and arrangements made so that they could be fixed firmly when opened and handrails had been attached to the gates to make it easier and safer for people to climb the steps from the road.

11.2 **Community First Responders:** Jackie reported that the group still operates but has been further reduced in numbers.

11.3 **Police Report:** Despite an invitation no response had been received either in the form of a report or of apologies for not being able to attend.

12. **Any other business:** As none had been notified the Assembly of the Parish Meeting was closed at 8.25 p.m.

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• **Television for Kentmere:** Max Biden gave a report on this service which has now been in existence for 30 years with a receiver/transmitter near Kentmere Hall - and previously another near Brockstones. Now only some 15 properties use the scheme and the members of the Committee are concerned about its future viability - particularly if any major problems occurred with the equipment they would be extremely expensive to put right. Recently comments had been received expressing doubts about the condition of

the electrical supply to the mast. After discussion the majority of the people present agreed that a planned closure should be put in place over the next 12 months to give users an opportunity to make alternative arrangements and that a formal meeting should be arranged to bring the scheme to an end.

- **The Kentmere Institute:** It was reported that the Institute is 'in good heart' with an increase in bookings during the current year and that the 'honesty box' for parking raises a significant sum on a very regular basis all year round. Plans for this year include improving the lighting in the hall to make it more welcoming and for blackout to be provided at the windows.

Whilst parishioners enjoyed refreshments, a series of black and white photographs was projected on the screen depicting scenes in Kentmere from around 50 years ago. These will be exhibited in the hall in the future and identification of places and people would be welcomed.