

# **Minutes of the assembly of the Kentmere Parish Meeting**

## **held in The Kentmere Institute**

### **at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 11th November 2019.**

**Present:** Peter Lansberry (Parish Chairman), Iain Johnston (Parish Clerk), Richard Allen, Maureen Baldwin, Jackie Bettess, Maggie Biden, Max Biden, Clare Courtier, Robert Courtier, Christine Hevey, Sheila Hirst, Stephen Hirst, Sandra Johnston, Carol Lansberry, Steph Mclvor, Ian Mclvor and Hazel Hodgson (SLDC)

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Sally Allen, Pete Bettess, Hazel Brownlow, Hilary Fry, Kathie Fry, Jim Stilling and Tim Sturgis.
2. There were no **declarations of interest**.
3. **The Minutes** of the previous meeting held on 13th May 2019 had been circulated. Their acceptance as a correct record was proposed by Robert Courtier, seconded by Max Biden and carried unanimously.
4. **Matters arising:**
  - 4.1 **Television for Kentmere.** Max reminded the meeting that although the scheme had already come to an end, the work to dismantle the mast and equipment had not been started. He will be seeking volunteers to help with this.
5. **People of Kentmere:** nothing to report.
6. **Finance report:**
  - 6.1 **Budget for 2020/21:** Peter explained the balance sheet and the proposed budget for 2020/21. He explained that a significant amount of money had accumulated in the 'restricted' funds but much of this would be spent during the remaining part of the financial year on new noticeboards, a contribution to the institute towards the installation of a projector and sound system, and an additional one-off contribution to the church for a plaque to record the burial of cremated remains. He proposed a request for smaller than usual precept for one year only to enable these reserves to be spent. Max proposed acceptance of the suggested budget for 2020/21. This was seconded by Robert Courtier and agreed by everyone present.
  - 6.2 **Risk Review:** Peter explained the risk review as laid out in the financial arrangements. There have been no changes since last year. Robert Courtier proposed agreement, Ian Mclvor seconded and all parishioners present were in favour.
  - 6.3 **Annual Audit:** No response had been received from the auditors following last years audit. This is the most positive outcome.
7. **Planning:** There are no current planning applications. Peter reminded the meeting of the ongoing appeal by Tricia Broomby over permission for her 'shepherd's hut' and mentioned an application for the replacement of a Velux window with a small dormer window to the rear of High Holme. The response had been 'no adverse comment'.
8. **Parish Reports**
  - 8.1 **Upper Kent Local Area Partnership (UKLAP).** The chairman explained that this group was not doing anything at the moment but it has been proposed that it should be

kept going as a forum for small parishes to consider problems and issues common to them. There was no longer any funding from SLDC but it had been suggested that each parish should provide the venue in turn for meetings and contribute a small amount into a central fund. The meeting agreed unanimously to support this venture.

**8.2 Highways:** Robert reported that 2 salt bins had been ordered for placing on Low Field Lane - one at the existing salt pile below Grandy Barn and the other lower down. Robert asked for volunteers to help with digging out a place for these. Robert announced that Highways have come up with yet another way of dealing with potholes in the road but they are still reported as before. A request has been lodged with Highways to deal with 'the leaning tree' which is gradually leaning further and lower.

## 9. Other Village Reports:

**9.1 St Cuthbert's Church:** Iain described proposed changes in the benefice structure which would mean that Staveley, Ings and Kentmere would join with St Martin's at Bowness, St Mary's at Windermere and Jesus Church Troutbeck in a new Mission Community. Preliminary changes would begin in the New Year but it would have little impact upon the services held at St Cuthbert's. Robert explained that the outcome of a year long research project into the history and development of Kentmere valley including the church would be a permanent exhibition being mounted in the church from spring next year. The research which has been sponsored by the Heritage Lottery Sharing Fund has covered in some detail the history of the valley since Viking times.

**9.2 Police Community Support Officer:** Despite a request, no report had been received in time for the meeting. -The following morning, however, the parish clerk received the following email from PCSO 5233 Jayne Park: *Please could you pass my apologies to the Parish Council as I am unfortunately not able to attend. Having looked through the logs for the past 6 months I have not found any crimes for the area. The closest, most significant being in Crook where a shed was broken into and a chainsaw, lawnmower and power tools were taken. This was on 7<sup>th</sup> August. You may well be aware of a recent spate of rural burglaries in the Garsdale/Dent Sedbergh areas. In response to this and to deter further thefts we are running Operation Lantern together with Local volunteers and our proactive team. These teams are out and about in rural areas during the early hours of the morning. In case you are not aware there is a Facebook page set up between us and NFU which keeps you up to date with events and issues within the farming community. The link to this is: <https://www.facebook.com/Country-Watch-South-Lakes-Dales-1788721854553281/>*

## 10. Any Other Business:

**10.1 Hazel Hodgson (SLDC)** talked of her current role in the District Council. She reported an ongoing consultation on the cost of water testing in village halls which some cases amounted to a significant part of their income. She is able to advise on LIPs (locally important projects) grants. She reported that SLDC's budget will fall into deficit next year and rates will have to be 'plundered', meaning it will be difficult to finance grants. 70% of SLDC's income goes to Cumbria CC whose finances are in a 'parlous state'. She reported a warning from the Police that 26 burglaries involving the theft of farm equipment and ATVs have been reported in the Sedbergh and Old Hutton areas and some arrests have already been made. She talked of the plans for the future of the Abbey in Staveley and that the consultation period has been lengthened to consider a proposal for a care unit and 16 supported 'independent living units'. Hazel went on to explain the current state of the Staveley traffic plan designed to reduce speeding and

allowing for short term parking with provision for disabled parking and loading areas. Part of the plan includes removal of the recycling bins to another area.

10.2 The meeting was reminded of the forthcoming wine and cordial tasting evening in the Institute on 23rd November and the Parish Meeting Coffee Morning in Staveley on 30th.

11. Date of next meeting: 11th May 2020

As there was no further business, the meeting was closed and the Annual Meeting of The Kentmere Institute followed.