

# Kentmere Parish Meeting

Chairman Peter Lansberry

## Minutes of the meeting held in The Kentmere Institute at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 13th November 2017

**Present:** Peter Lansberry (Chairman), Iain Johnston (Clerk), Richard Allen, Maureen Baldwin, Jackie Bettess, Maggie Biden, Max Biden, Hazel Browlow, Clare Courtier, Robert Courtier, Roger Dewhurst, Hilary Fry, Kathie Fry, Christine Hevey, Carol Lansberry, Ian Mc Ivor, Steph McIvor, Robert Ridley, Rosamund Ridley, Jim Stilling, Tim Sturgis, Andrew Yeats and Cllr Stan Collins.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Pete Bettess, Jackie Green, Sandra Johnston, Anne Williams, Kate Whitley and Tim Whitley.
2. **Declarations of interest:** None
3. **The Minutes of the previous meeting** held on 8th May 2017 had been circulated and copies were available at the meeting. Robert Ridley proposed their acceptance, This was seconded by Robert Courtier and carried.
4. **Matters arising:** None that were not otherwise covered in the agenda.
5. **People of Kentmere:** The meeting recorded the sad and untimely death of Carla Welding (née Haywood) the elder daughter of Steve and Christina Haywood of Green Head, Kentmere at the age of 35. She had been married in Kentmere Church in May 2014. The meeting also recorded the death of Christopher Gregory (formerly of 1 Longhouses, Kentmere) at the age of 93. It was announced that Mrs Lee Hall has returned from Iowa, USA to take up permanent residence at Heads Cottage and that Little Overend has been bought by people whose intention is to live in the valley. The chairman passed on the grateful thanks of Tim and Kate Whitley the new owners of Pumple Syke House for the welcome that they had received from residents of Kentmere.
6. **Finance:**
  - 6.1 **The Budget for 2018/19** : The chairman explained how the budget works in the context of a Parish Meeting and the anomalies of "permitted purposes" and the complication of spending monies in section 137. For various reasons the parish had accumulated a substantial balance of funds which is not unusual for a small parish but it does bring into question the need for continuing to seek a precept at the same level. The discussion was opened and questions were asked if the parish could give additional funds to the Institute and support the Television for Kentmere scheme. Discussion also ranged around the possibility of the parish funding verge and hedge cutting in the future. Cllr Stan Collins said that a "contingent motion" could be agreed to say that a specified amount could be spent of items such as those mentioned. This could be considered next year at an Extraordinary Parish Meeting. Max Biden proposed that this should happen. This was seconded by Andrew Yeats and carried.

The chairman proposed that for the coming year (2018/19) the precept should be set at £1000 - a reduction of £950 on the current year. This proposal was seconded by Max Biden and was carried without dissent.

**6.2 Risk Assessment:** The Parish Meeting is required by local government regulations to review the internal risks on an annual basis and minute that review. The chairman pointed out that there had been no changes to the risks during the last year and that the present system works satisfactorily. He proposed that the Meeting should minute “no change”. Robert Courtier seconded the proposal which was agreed by all present.

**6.3 Auditor’s Report:** The chairman noted that this report had been received without any qualifying comments and said that no action was required.

7. **Planning Matters:** The chairman reported that apart from several minor technical points regarding the work at Kentmere Hall, no planning applications had been received.

**8. Parish Reports:**

**8.1 Upper Kent Local Area Partnership:** No matters to report.

**8.2 Broadband and Telephone:** Jackie Bettess said there was little progress to report other than there was some evidence of activity between Scroggs Bridge and Staveley where more poles will have to be erected.

**8.3 Highways:** Robert Courtier reported that 220 potholes had been temporarily repaired on the road to Hartrigg but surface dressing was still required. Otherwise the roads were mostly all right. Regarding roadside verges, he reported that a survey done at the Meeting’s expense had revealed that there were no reasons why the verges and hedges could not be cut at any convenient time and that consideration was being given to finding our own contractor who would trim both the hedges and the verges at the same time. The next part of the process would be to try and reach agreement with the landowners along the road so that the same contractor would undertake all of the work. There followed some discussion about trimming back the grass which had encroached upon the road surface and covered some of the drainage gulleys. Max Biden proposed a vote of thanks to Robert for all of his work. This was supported by all present. Robert reported that the worsening hole in the road near Scroggs Bridge was the responsibility of United Utilities and co-operation between them and the highways authority appeared to be difficult.

**9. Other village reports:**

**9.1 St Cuthbert’s Church:** Iain Johnston reported on events during the year since the reopening of the church after the conservation work on the roof. He drew particular attention to the two awards which the work had been entered for - runners up in RICS award for conservation work and shortlisted for the King of Prussia’s Gold Medal award by the National Church’s Trust. Special thanks were recorded for the work done by Robert Courtier and Max Biden in this project.

**9.2 Kentmere First Responders:** Jim Stilling reported that although the team was down in numbers, it was still operational. The meeting was reminded that when Christopher Gregory had collapsed in Church, the First Responders were first on the scene and by chance Jim had been the paramedic who came with the ambulance.

**9.3 Television for Kentmere:** Max Biden said that there was nothing to report and the next meeting of their committee would be in January 2018.

**9.4 Police Community Support:** Despite contacting the relevant office, no report had been received.

**10. Any other business:**

**10.1 Coffee Morning:** The chairman reminded members that the Parish Meeting Coffee Morning would be held in the Staveley Village Hall on Saturday 9th December and that the date for the 2018 event had already been fixed for 8th December.

**10.2 Parish Chairman:** The chairman pointed out that according to the Standing Orders, the office of Chairman was held for three years and that he would be standing down at the Annual Meeting next spring. He asked members to consider volunteering for the role - if possible before February 2018.

The meeting was closed and was immediately followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Kentmere Institute before refreshments were served.