

## Blindcrake Parish Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Blindcrake Parish Council held at 7.30 on January 18<sup>th</sup> 2010 in Blindcrake Village Hall

**Present:** 4 parishioners, ABC Councillor J. Milburn and CCC Councillor E. Nicholson

1) **Apologies for absence:** None

2) **Minutes**

**The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on November 16th as a true record of that meeting.**

3) **Members to declare any interests they may have in any item on the agenda:** None

4) **Adjournment of meeting: The Chairman will adjourn the meeting to allow parishioners an opportunity to ask questions and raise matters of interest.**

a) M. Dawson raised the matter of Low Farm and the lack of progress. It was agreed to write to the NPA and Allerdale BC expressing the councils dissatisfaction that this matter had dragged on for 16 years. Mr. Dawson also reminded the meeting that the council had had previous contact with the North West Heritage Building Trust about buying the property. The Clerk said he would contact them.

b) The continued closure of Isel Bridge was a concern, particularly when the Ghyll road had been blocked by ice. The Clerk had asked why a local access order could not be made but had had no reply. E. Nicholson said that the concern was that if the Ouse and Isel Bridges were open, that the village would become a “rat run” to avoid the queues at Papcastle.

c) Lights in the village. There was still no progress. The Clerk said he had received an email saying that the lights were being checked.

5) **Maintenance and Matters of Report**

a) Police Matters – Apologies from PC Matthews. A copy of the Policing Pledge had been circulated.

b) Low Farm Updates (see item 4a) GF

c) Highway Stewards: No matters had been advised.

d) Village signs on the ghyll road. Work to start shortly JT

e) State of the Ghyll Beck at the east of the village: A meeting would take place with the Environment Agency shortly. GF

f) The state of the hedge between Redmain and the A595: A letter had been received from the group who owned it saying that they did not want to slash cut it as it was a conservation area... The Council agreed to refer it to the County Council. GF

g) State of the pound; Two small Ash trees needed removing from the wall and the wall also needed maintenance. There was still some children’s play equipment in the pound. It was suggested a management group be formed

h) Closure of Isel Bridge: See item 4b). The school bus now had to leave Sunderland at 0715 to get to Cockermonth School in time. The Clerk was asked to write to the Education Office saying that this was too long.

i) Adverse weather – lack of road clearing and availability of grit. Where do we need the piles? We had been promised a supply of salt/grit to distribute in the village. If we bought three grit boxes from the County Council then we would get a further three free. John Thompson was to find out if these could be green rather than yellow. The Clerk would then order. JT/GF

j) Grass cutting tender advert: The advert would be placed in the local press asking for 18 cuts including one as late in the year as possible. GF

k) Drains near the Ghyll Yeat; The two drains in this area did not gather much surface water due to the camber of the road. The Clerk was to ask the Highways Department to investigate. GF

- l) Lights in the village: See item 4c)
- m) Footpath working group? Some of the footpaths in the village were in a poor state. Funding was available from the NPA if we had a footpath working group.

**6) Correspondence**

A list of correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting had been circulated.

**9) Planning Matters**

- a) Approval of the Clerk's responses to:  
Agricultural store, near Bridekirk: No objection  
Derwent Bank, Redmain: Concern at the scale of the alterations.

**10) Financial Matters**

- a) The running accounts for the current year up to Jan 1st were approved.
- b) Projects – we have money set aside, ideas were sought. It was agreed to buy three new notice boards for Sunderland, Isel and Redmain. A maximum sum of £700 was agreed.  
Three grit boxes would also be bought.
- c) The grass cutting contract for 2009 was paid: £504.00

**11) Future agenda items and date of next meeting:** None

**Dates of meetings in 2010**

March 29th      May 24<sup>th</sup>      July 19<sup>th</sup>      Sept 20<sup>th</sup>      Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>