

Blindcrake Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Blindcrake Parish Council held at 7.30 on July 18th 2011 in Blindcrake Village Hall

- 1) **To receive apologies for absence:** A. Prickett, J. Gate
Present: 7 councillors, 2 parishioners & County and Borough Councillor E. Nicholson
- 2) **Minutes**
- 3) **The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on May 21st as a true record of that meeting.**
- 4) **Members to declare any interests they may have in any item on the agenda:** None
- 5) **Adjournment of meeting: The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow parishioners an opportunity to ask questions and raise matters of interest.**
Matters relating to roads were dealt with under Highway Stewards.
- 6) **Maintenance and Matters of Report**
 - a) Police Matters: In the last month 60 sheep had been stolen from Moota Hill and a strimmer from a shed in Redmain. The Clerk had asked for immediate alerts of crimes in the Parish.
 - b) Low Farm Updates: Mike Dawson reported very little work being done in the last two months. It was agreed to ask that a council representative should attend the monthly meetings between the NPA and C. Hill. In the longer term would a judicial review be in order?
 - c) Highway Stewards: Matters for: i) Beck needs cleaning opposite Grange Farm; ii) Beck needs cleaning beside Holme Farm (EA); iii) Pothole near Dalton House. It was reported that most of the other work in the village had been attended to.
 - d) Drainage on the village green: A. Bough had dug investigation trenches and found at least part of the problem The green was much drier now. It does seem that more water is coming into the pound tank than in the past. The council agreed a maximum spend of £600 for A. Mossop for the construction of an inspection pit on the green. This would be larger than the current plan to allow for expansion in times of flood.
 - e) Pound project: A Mossop will start work this week on the walls.
 - f) Village green (conservation kerbing): This will happen this summer.
 - g) Local transport provision: The Community Transport minibus was available if there were drivers available.
 - h) Footpath group: The County Council was doing a survey of Public Footpaths in the Parish. It was agreed to set up a sub group including councillors and volunteers to look at maintaining and developing the footpath network in the Parish.
 - i) National Park Visits for councillors: Three councillors reported on their days with the NPA which they had found very valuable. Jackie Jackson had also been to a meeting about Rural Enterprise.
 - j) Possible notice board at Isel Old Park: The Clerk was asked to get some costings for this to see if it was viable.
 - k) Locality Working: There was discussion re parish clusters and how we would be represented on the Cokermonth Locality Group. It was also noted that there were many opportunities for local action in the Parish such as facilitating bulk supplies of heating oil at a discount price, bulk purchases of garden supplies or an email news alert system.

1) Broadband Champions: The Council nominated John Thompson and Jill Shaw as our Champions to serve on the Allerdale Area committee. Substantial funds had been allocated to Cumbria. Does the lack of or poor, broadband effect the value of houses?

7) **Correspondence**: Most had been dealt with under previous agenda items.

- a) NPA Landscape Character Consultation on their website.
- b) Copies of the Good Councillors' Guide were given to new councillors.

8) **Planning Matters**:

- a) Council's responses to the following application were approved:
 - i) Highside, Blindcrake: The council approved the plans and felt they were a considerable improvement on the existing building.
 - ii) Grange Farm, Redmain: The council approved the plans with no concerns.

13) **Financial Matters**:

- b) Current financial report (hard copy circulated)
- c) PAYE for the Clerk: It was agreed that we would use CVS to handle it at a cost of £65
- d) Payment for work done on the green (A. Bowe) (£290.40) was approved.

14) **Future agenda items and date of next meeting**

Dates of meetings in 2011:

Sept 12th

Nov 21st