

**The Minutes of the Meeting of the Blindcrake Parish Council**  
**held at 7.30 on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 in Blindcrake Village Hall**

1. **Apologies for absence:** J. Milburn.
- 2) **The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on January 17th 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.**

The council were asked if it would be possible for the Stagecoach buses to loop into the village a couple of times a week. Were there other options for public transport from the village to Cockermouth? The Clerk would investigate.

The owners of Thorneycroft in Blindcrake asked why the council had objected to the erection of a wooden building in their garden. The chairman pointed out that the builder/supplier of the structure would have been aware that it would need planning permission given its size and position.

R. Gerrard outlined her plan to convert part of the pound into a play area by removing the rogue trees, putting a gap in the wall and putting decking in as a surface. A fence would divide the play area from the recycling section. The total cost in a quote from Alan Mossop would be £700. Issues of control of children and insurance were raised. Would parents supervise their children? There were strong feelings both in favour and against the proposal in the village. It was suggested that the local children could contribute perhaps £100 to the cost.

**5) Maintenance and Matters of Report**

- a) **Police Matters:** No crimes had been reported in the village.
- b) **Low Farm Updates:** Some work in progress. Mike Dawson was keeping a record of the number of days being worked each month and this would be forwarded to the LDNPA.
- c) **Highway Stewards:** Matters for: Drainage issues at Sunderland and Ghyll Yeat. There were a number of outstanding issues in the Parish and the Clerk reported that it was very difficult to get replies from the Highways Department at Lillyhall, let alone any action.
- d) **Drainage on the village green:** There were still concerns regarding drainage on the green particularly under the trees. It was thought that the pipe from the cattle trough might be blocked. It was agreed that a hole should be dug and the drain pipe behind the seats should be "rodded" to ensure there were no blockages. A maximum price of £300 was put on this work.  
We had been told that to put field drains in the green would cost £5,500 which was too much. It was also reported that water from the green was flowing along the road in front of Mountain View
- e) **Pound working group:** The Chairman said it was time to make a decision. It was agreed by the meeting to have the trees removed and the walls repaired as a first step. We awaited the approval of the NPA as regards tree removal. It was agreed that up to £200 could be spend on tree removal and repairs, £200 for creating a 50 cm entrance in the wall and a further £200 for a fence to split the pound and a decking area.
- f) **Village green** (conservation kerbing): Stone had been bought from the quarry for this work. JT
- g) **Village signs for Sunderland:** The people of Sunderland did not wish to have village signs.
- h) **Grit Boxes and salt supplies:** These were still awaited.
- i) **Nomination of a member for the Wyburgh Charity:** Mrs M. Dawson was nominated unanimously
- j) **Parish Elections, May 5<sup>th</sup>.** Election papers had been circulated to current council members.
- k) **Cockermouth Locality Plan:** It was hoped that there would be a link to our website from the Allerdale one.
- l) **Village Hall committee nominations:** These were agreed as David Roberts & Hilton Brough.

