

## **Blindcrake Parish Council**

### **The Minutes the Meeting of the Blindcrake Parish Council held at 7.30 on Monday March 20<sup>th</sup> in Blindcrake Village Hall**

1. **Apologies:** J. Marrs: Present: 8 Councillors, Clerk and 7 representatives of United Utilities and their contractors.
2. **Minutes of January 2017 meeting.** The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting 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 adjourned the meeting to allow parishioners an opportunity to ask questions and raise matters of interest.** No items.
5. **Maintenance and Matters of Report**
  - a. **UUU Pipe Lines:** Dave Watson of United Utilities introduced representatives of the three contracted firms who were carrying out the work. Sections of the A591 from Keswick to Castle Inn will be closed at various times for pipe laying. The main section in the Parish will be done in 2018 with some preparation work this autumn including tree and hedge removal. The work on the pumping station at Williamsgate and the pipe alongside the A595 will take place this summer. Work must take place in the dry weather window (March to September).  
A dedicated website will be updated regularly with information. A revised version of the Ghyll crossing was being drawn but concern was expressed at the 2.4 metre high fencing. The height was both for public safety and for the security of the structure. UU agree to look at what the lowest permissible fencing height would be, and report back to the Parish Council. A traffic management plan would be forthcoming. It was agreed that United Utilities would attend future Parish Council meetings.
  - b. **Police Matters (Apologies)**
  - c. **Highways Issues:** Many gullies had been cleaned in Blindcrake. However, the drain under Grange Farm appears to be blocked. The junction at Isel Hall has been damaged. The water leak in Blindcrake caused by Carillion has still not been repaired. The additional traffic due to the A591 closure had damaged the verges around Isel Old Park.
  - d. **Footpath group:** The NPA had carried out more work on the “dirty lonnen” and improved the drainage.
  - e. **Broadband:** A lot of mis information on the availability of Super-Fast in Blindcrake. It is clear that there is a lack of communication between BT and Openreach and that Openreach do not have sufficient trained engineers to meet the demand. The survey work in connection with the Sunderland Community Fibre Partnership is at last underway and work is continuing on establishing the most cost effective way of achieving fibre broadband to the village.  
It is unlikely that fibre broadband will be provided to Isel and Old Park within the current Connecting Cumbria scheme. There is a lack of trained engineers to do the work. The solutions for Isel and Sunderland will need to be kept separate. It may be that Isel will be better with individual claims and systems while Sunderland can eventually get a fibre cable from Aspatria.
  - f. **The Green – Drainage:** Pending.
  - g. **Lynwood (state of):** No further information. Martin to enquire.
  - h. **State of the Pound:** This item to be taken off the agenda.
  - i. **Allerdale Voting Wards:** The Crummock ward is disappearing, and proposal is to merge us with Aspatria. The meeting felt we had more links to Cockermouth All Saints and much of that was also in the National Park. It was agreed the Parish Clerk would formally respond to the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council.

