

BURTON- IN -KENDAL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 21 March 2013
at 7.00 pm in the Memorial Hall, Burton-in-Kendal

PRESENT. Councillors M Taylor (Chairman), J Brown, I Hunt, G Isherwood, P Rogers, M Rowley, A Wren, County and District Councillor R Bingham, District Councillor B Cooper and Parish Clerk P Smith.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE. Four members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Apologies were accepted from Cllrs J Hopwood and F Mason-Hornby.

2. PRESENTATION BY MS LORRAINE SMYTH, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF ACTION WITH COMMUNITIES IN CUMBRIA.

Ms Smyth gave a detailed and informative talk on the Neighbourhood Planning process. She made it clear that a Neighbourhood Plan would ensure that the local community was able to influence the style and possibly the location of planned development in the village and it would allow the community to ensure that the village infrastructure would be in place to support an increased population. She made it clear that a Neighbourhood Plan could only be developed in support of the District Plan. Therefore, it could not be used to prevent development.

She mentioned the financial support that could be available to the community if we embarked on a plan however she warned that the the planning process, which includes community consultation and a local referendum should not be undertaken lightly as a considerable amount of work was required. Nonetheless there are considerable benefits for a village like Burton-in-Kendal with, potentially, a large expansion in housing planned.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 15 MARCH 2012. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15 March 2012 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

4. ANNUAL REPORT OF CHAIRMAN MIKE TAYLOR.

The year has been largely free of any drama in the council but flooding problems have dominated, some of which are still to be resolved. Two successive years of rainfall in excess of 60 inches does tend to show up deficiencies in the drainage system.

A couple of items that could have been of great interest to Burtonians namely the Land Allocation and Boundary changes are both on hold for the foreseeable future. We responded to the Dalton Craggs consultation and commented on the number of grazing cows and ash tree die-back. A number of councillors met with Victoria Upton who is responsible for highways and road safety to discuss a number of issues of concern to the council. As a result the white lines were repainted to the north of the village, the school 20 mph flashing signs have at last been renewed and although not her responsibility she shown the defective drains and promised to pass on our concerns to the appropriate department. Finally after a long discussion it was agreed to place speed monitoring strips in the village to see average speeds etc. We are awaiting the results before further action. Further items of action in no particular order were completed or work in progress are listed , 650 daffodils planted to the southern end of the village, we managed to help the Children's Village Sports Committee with insurance for their fireworks and bonfire, refurbishment of the roundabout and other improvements to the Boon town playing field, and the Parish Council now sponsors the Village Voluntary Car Scheme.

 20.3.14

I am sure I have missed something, but this is but an overview of our activities in the last year. It is pleasing to see the butchers shop back in action again and sadly the Royal Hotel site appears to be a casualty of the current economic climate.

I would like to thank all the councillors for their help and support this last year in my apprenticeship as Chairman. Without doubt the lynch pin of our meetings is our Parish Clerk Peter, I can confirm that there is no difficulty that his experience cannot help to resolve and his Chairman's notes are of great help to me.

Finally, to those who may imply that the Burton Parish Council meetings are less than exciting, could I point out that when you have a well financed council with a number of hard working councillors who are well briefed it does run like a well oiled machine and there is a singular lack of friction. Thank you for allowing me to be the Chairman this last year and may we look forward to more sun and less rain.

5. OPEN FORUM. County Cllr R Bingham proposed a vote of thanks for the work done by the Parish Council over the past year.

The meeting closed at 7:45 pm

Michael Taylor 20.3.14