

BURTON- IN -KENDAL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 20 March 2014
at 6.45 pm in the Memorial Hall, Burton-in-Kendal

PRESENT. Cllrs M Taylor (Chairman), J Brown, J Hopwood, I Hunt, G Isherwood, Francis Mason-Hornby, Paul Rogers, M Rowley, A Wren.
Also present: County and District Cllr R Bingham, District Cllr B Cooper and the Parish Clerk Jane Johnson.

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

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. None**
- 2. PRESENTATION BY EMMA NICHOLS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER (PARISH ENGAGEMENT OFFICER) SLDC**

Emma Nichols was accompanied by Alistair McNeill, Deputy Planning Manager, also from South Lakeland District Council (SLDC). They provided an informative talk on Engagement and Neighbourhood Planning process. Neighbourhood Planning stems from a new emphasis on planning at a local level included in the Localism Act 2011. A Neighbourhood Plan constitutes a shared vision of a community, and can decide where and what type of developments are made and promote more development than in the Local Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan cannot however conflict with strategic policies in the Local Plan or be used to prevent development included in the Local Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan can be as broad or as narrow as required and will usually be about use and development of land and building e.g. policy and provision for housing and affordable housing; businesses; community facilities; design of buildings; protection or creation of open spaces, sports pitches etc; promote renewable energy. Emma talked about the decision to start a Neighbourhood Plan, how SLDC can help and gave an estimated time span of 12 to 18 months for development of the plan. Emma also stressed the importance of community involvement throughout the process.

- 3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 21 MARCH 2013.** The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21 March 2013 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- 4. ANNUAL REPORT OF CHAIRMAN MIKE TAYLOR.**

Looking back at the minutes for the past year, I could not help being reminded of the late Spike Milligan's remark "That for a long time nothing much happened and then after that not much happened again".

In October, we appointed our new clerk Jane Johnson after Peter Smith retired after four years of sterling work. We hope you are settling in and getting used to some of our peculiar ways and some of the arcane rules we have to work to.

We have seen quite a large increase in the number of planning applications coming forward on a monthly basis, some we have no objection and others we turn down, however this does not seem to have any bearing on the eventual outcome when these applications are passed to SLDC planning committee.

Our success stories include resolving the drainage problems, mainly due to the dogged determination of our lengthsman and councillor Paul Rogers. The speed monitoring device is finally up and running and will be a regular feature at the Clawthorpe junction. We have

succeeded in getting the speed-measuring device for yet another go at determining the actual speed of traffic through the village.

On a less positive note, the condition of the Royal Hotel building draws adverse comments from many of our residents, as the economy gathers pace we can only hope that redevelopment work is started. Higher authority has approved the Land Allocation Plan and it is looking likely that we will be asked to approve a major housing development on land above Church Bank Gardens. I am certain this will be very contentious. It amazes me that we have a situation where 100% of the population of Burton are against this development yet it will probably still happen.

The twice-daily pickup and drop off outside the school and the attendant danger is a constant worry to the council and leaving this to the school governors has not yet yielded a satisfactory result.

On a brighter note, the daffodils planted last year on the south side of the village have survived and are now flowering I am sure they will be there for many years to come. We also need to find somewhere appropriate to place our royal oak!

Can I finish by thanking the Clerk and all the councillors for their help and support in this past year?

5. OPEN FORUM. No comments

The meeting closed at 7:30 pm