

## Soulby Parish Council

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 at 7.20pm at  
Soulby Village Hall.

### **PRESENT**

Harold Birkbeck (HB) – Chairman

### **COUNCILLORS**

Jonny Dinsdale (JD)

Barry Westgarth (BW)

Georgina Hurcombe (GH)

Phil Dew (PD)

**ALSO PRESENT** – Caroline Fennell (CF) Clerk, 2 parishioners

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> – Mark Bainbridge (MB)	
<b>2.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> – None	
<b>3.</b>	<b>MINUTES</b> – Minutes of the meeting held on the 21 <sup>st</sup> March were signed by the chairman as a true and correct record.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/OPEN SESSION</b> – It was highlighted that the recycling centre was at times left in a very untidy state. BW stated that Paul Emerson from EDC was arranging for it to be cleaned thoroughly in the near future. CF to put notice out for village newsletter reminding people to use the centre properly, keeping it tidy.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT</b> – None	
<b>6.</b>	<b>DEVOLUTION &amp; TRANSFER OF ASSETS</b> CF fed back to councillors further information regarding the devolution and transfer of assets by EDC – in particular regarding footway lighting and the play area within Soulby. It has been confirmed by EDC that the deadline for signing up to the footway lighting agreement has now been brought forward to 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2018. Following discussions with NALC/CALC surrounding the legal agreements, a finalised contract is now being prepared for parish councils to adopt should they wish. Various options were discussed but it was resolved to await further info from CALC before making any final decisions regarding footway lighting arrangements.  The play area was also discussed and BW fed back following a	

meeting with Paul Emerson from EDC regarding the current state of the play area. A list of issues was raised which EDC agreed to fix prior to Soulby taking ownership of the play area. Various options for maintenance were discussed – it was suggested that councillors could undertake weekly inspections, with an annual inspection by Rospa. Also, Carlisle City Council have offered their services regarding inspections and maintenance – CF to chase this up regarding costs. CF also to contact insurance providers regarding adding the play area on to the policy. CF to liase with EDC regarding works to complete and arranging a contract.

**7. FINANCIAL RECORDS** – The following accounts were authorised for payment

- i.       £11.50     Website Fees

The following receipts were noted:

- £3071.00   EDC Precept
- £88.67     Recycling Credits

The bank reconciliation was noted to be correct.

**8. APPLEBY FAIR** – An update was given regarding information received from Fair coordinators regarding authorised stopping places in the village.

**9. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS** – an update was provided by the clerk regarding the new GDPR that came in to force this month. It was highlighted that parish councils did not need a data protection officer but did need to show that measures were in place to comply with GDPR. CF to further update at the next meeting.

**10. GRAVEYARD** – update to councillors following contact by a parishioner regarding the placement of a headstone on a currently un raked grave within the cemetery. All councillors happy with placement of a headstone – CF to pass further information when it is available

**11. SCHEDULES OF CORRESPONDENCE, NOTICES & PUBLICATIONS –**

- I.       Correspondence circulated to Councillors
- II.      An email was received form the village hall committee regarding dog fouling in the village. CF to arrange notice to be distributed with Village newsletter
- III.     An email has been received from a number of parishioners regarding the placement of red squirrel signs in the village. CF to contact squirrel ranger to discuss further

<p><b>12.</b></p>	<p>IV. There is to be a county wide litter picking event on 06/07/18. CF to put poster up</p> <p>V. A request has been received for a donation towards Kirkby Stephen Community &amp; Council Centre. The council agreed to donate £100</p> <p><b>COUNCILLOR MATTERS –</b></p> <p>GH brought it to the councils attention that on attending the Upper Eden Steering Group meeting, community questionnaires had been distributed although none appeared to have reached Soulby residents.</p> <p>PD fed back that highways had noted the concerns regarding the roadside verges between Soulby and Appleby, but that their current concern was on potholes. An update was also given regarding the closure of Appleby Heritage Centre which has hopefully received a grant allowing it to remain open for a further 12 months.</p> <p><b>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING –</b> To be confirmed.</p> <p><b>Meeting closed at 8.50pm</b></p> <p>Signed ..... <b>Chairman</b></p> <p>Date .....</p>	
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## **Appendix 1**

### **Report to Soulby Parish Council 21 March, 2018 – Phil Dew**

#### **Highways**

East Cumbria has experienced two extreme weather events over the past couple of weeks. Please let me have any relevant feedback so that the lessons learned can be incorporated into the Council plan.

Have grit bins been replenished?

Pot holes have sprung up everywhere thanks to wet roads and frosty conditions. I remind councillors that one way to reduce pot holes is to keep water off the road by ensuring that gullies are regularly cleaned. A significant proportion of the Highways revenue budget is spent on the Appleby Horse Fair leaving a much reduced amount for basic road maintenance. In my opinion, ways should be found of either reducing the cost of the Fair or ensuring that those who attend pay more to support it.

I have reported the poor condition of the verges on the Soulby to Appleby road. Hopefully these will be attended to in the new 2018/19 financial year.

#### **Astroturf**

The Astroturf at KSGS is on the agenda. The pitch needs replacing at a cost of over £100,000. EDC has promised a significant grant from a pot of £300,000 set aside for capital projects in local communities. I would urge Soulby Parish Council to support the local bid and help save this vital asset.

#### **Cumbria Constabulary**

Following the article in the CWH featuring Orton's PC Speedy, Cumbria Constabulary has flagged up the importance of rural policing. Michelle Skeer, the new Chief Constable, has admitted that police officers have spent too much time on administration. She recently stated 'I'd like to increase visibility in the community because we know it's important'. My personal view is that a real live police officer should attend each parish council meeting at least once a year so that the views of the public can be heard.

#### **Data Protection**

The new EU General Data Protection Regulation comes into force on 25 May, 2018. Councils have to appoint a Data Protection Officer, approve a Data Protection Policy and register with the Information Commissioner's office.

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## **Appendix 2**

## **Soulby Street Lights**

### **Agreed lights (2)**

- Will all be replaced with new unit
- Running costs – basic maintenance £46.32, electricity supply £74.64 = £120.96 per light per annum
- Lifespan approx. 11 years (1,000,000 hours)
- Replacement unit cost £2500 approx (new unit only) plus instillation
- Requires 6 yearly electrical test (all due 2023)
- Replacement head cost £400+VAT plus instillation costs
- Hinged columns to ease electrical servicing – no hoist etc required
- Covered under public liability insurance (to confirm)
- Currently advised by NALC not to sign contract until legal advice has been sought. EDC are aware of this – deadline extended until 01/04/19

### **Non-agreed lights (9)**

- Separate legal agreement
- EDC will run the lights until they are no longer maintainable or until April 2022
- At this point they will be decommissioned and removed by EDC
- Lights will need to be replaced with new LED unit - £2500
- If lights are taken on PC is responsible immediately and would have to cover removal of old unit – approx. £1000
- Electricity supply would need to be reconnected – awaiting response from ENWL
- ENWL will not supply electricity to lights fixed on buildings or shared poles – only to new columns
- solution – let EDC keep non-agreed lights until they fail or 2022. In the meantime look in to replacing with new columns – Will contact Barney Slack regarding this