

GOSFORTH . PARISH . COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Gosforth Parish Council held on Wednesday, 8th June 2016 at 7.30pm in the Supper Room of the Public Hall.

Present: Cllr T Norman (Chair); Cllr C Walton (Vice Chair); Cllr D Ancell; Cllr D Gray; Cllr G Hutson; Cllr A Jacob; Cllr G Parker; Cllr I Rae; Cllr P Turner

Apologies: Cllr D Hobson; Cllr M McKinley

74/16 Declarations of Interest

Cllr I Rae declared an interest in Minute No 76/16 as an employee of NuGen.

Resolved – that Cllr Rae be requested to stay for the discussion so that Councillors could benefit from his knowledge. He would, however, not take part in any decision-making.

75/16 Minutes

Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2016 be approved and signed as a correct record.

It was noted for the record that the Clerk had still to find time to go through all of the paperwork which had been inherited. As a result the file pertaining to the gravel pit had still to be located.

76/16 NuGen Consultation

Several Councillors had attended the consultation events. The main points of concern arising from the Parish Council were:

There was no consideration being given to social economic benefits for those villages to the south, who remained within close proximity (under 10km) to the site. The villages, therefore, will have an equal share of the blight, but currently no economic and social benefits.

There was no thought being given to the infrastructure which will be required to the south of the site.

This would include:

The A595 between Calderbridge and Gosforth, which would be blocked for some considerable time in the event of an accident with a 100 mile detour (5-6 hours).

It was understood that in the first few years that workers would be bused to site – what parking provision was being made for pick up points to the south?

What consideration has been given to increased traffic flow to the south at known black spots, for example the crossroads at the A595 and the B5354.

There was little in the way of evidence of consideration of transport routes from the south (mainly from the north), although it is understood that talks are taking place with Arriva trains. How will South Copeland residents be able to work at the new site?

What cycling facilities are planned to the south of the site? There are mature plans for a cycleway between Gosforth and Seascale which could link in.

It was also noted that there was a water supply which ran between Fleming Hall and Browfoot and, under current plans, there would be a spoil heap of 15 metres on top of it. Attention should be drawn to this issue.

What plans were in place to counteract the impact of the increased traffic load on a Friday afternoon and a Monday morning. Experience had shown that this could have a very significant impact on the quality of life of local people, and could be particularly detrimental to the fell roads.

Resolved – that the consultation response from Gosforth Parish Council should be sent, reflecting the above points.

77/16

Planning Matters

Westlakes Hotel –Outline planning application for five self-build plots.	Support	Well thought out plan. More development will assist in retaining services for the village. Noted that this needs to be taken into account in a new Parish Plan. Should be noted that the entrance should be improved to minimise pressure on the junction. Should be subject to local occupancy clause.
Hallsenna – conversion of redundant barn into 2-bed	Support	Listed building. Sympathetic plans. Should ensure that there is no further decay. Mention

dwelling		should be made of increased traffic flow on the lonning. Should be subject to local occupancy clause.
56 Meadowfield	Support	No reasons to object, subject to neighbour consultation.
Silverdale	Support	No reasons to object. Not overlooked.

Some issues were raised about the work being carried out on the Lion and Lamb and the Council was advised that the Lake District National Park Authority were aware of the issues and were in dialogue with the owner. There would be a retrospective planning application in due course, at which point Councillors could give their views.

It was clarified that there were no additional bedrooms being added in the course of the work being undertaken.

78/16 Library Update

Cllr Walton provided a brief update, that the library was now operating three days a week for two hours. Useage would be monitored. The Clerk had shared a draft Memorandum of Agreement for discussion with the Public Hall Management Committee and the Council was happy for discussions to go ahead on that basis.

79/16 Car Park & Toilets

The drain issue had been resolved and the disabled toilet had now been repaired. A quote for the re-hanging of the door was being sought. It was noted that the new fencing had been installed and was looking good.

The Clerk had circulated the correspondence received from Copeland Borough Council with respect to the transfer and requested authorisation to pay the legal fees as outlined in the correspondence. The Council was keen to see the transfer take place as soon as possible

Resolved – that payment be made to Bleasdales & Co and that the transfer proceed.

80/16 Public Participation

No member of the public attended.

81/16 Meetings

With the exception of the NuGen consultation meetings, there had been no other meetings attended. It was noted that there was a 3-tier meeting scheduled for 28 June (action since: clashes with Copeland BC Council meeting and will be changed), and a Calc Copeland meeting for the same date.

82/16 Financial Reports

The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation and anticipated payments for authorisation.

Resolved –

1. That the bank reconciliation to 31 May 2016 be approved and signed by the Chair.
2. That anticipated payments be noted.

83/16 Correspondence

Highways England – the Clerk was requested to respond drawing attention to the A595 (and other roads) to the South and the anticipated increase in traffic flow.

CCC/LDNPA – Western Transport Corridor. It was requested that the Clerk speak to the highways liaison committee on barriers and ideas for improvement.

The Police Report was circulated with a request to vigilant against rural crime.

The Calc circular had been circulated.

84/16 Questions/Issues from Councillors

A boulder was blocking the culvert in front of Hallbeck Place and the Clerk was asked to contact Home Housing. (Action Since: contact made but Cllrs Ancell/Gray had the boulder removed. Request left in for maintenance of the culvert (ie weeds/silt etc).

Weed control – (Action since: Copeland Borough Council confirmed that a programme of weed control would commence 20/06/16.)

Road sweeping – (Action since: Copeland Borough Council had advised that there had been some mechanical problems with the sweeper and some staff sickness. Currently, they were responding to urgent need, but it was hoped to resume a normal service shortly.)

85/16 Items in camera

There were no issues in camera.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.