

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CLEATOR MOOR
HELD ON TUESDAY 12th JANUARY 2010

Present: Cllr D Hully (Chair)
Cllr W Southward
Cllr J Hully
Cllr K Ball
Cllr G Carruthers
Cllr S Butterworth
Cllr B Woodburn
Cllr S Sim
Cllr F Morgan- (Cumbria County Councillor)

Also Present: Mr B Fowler – resident of the town.
Mrs Messenger – Neighbourhood Watch
Mr P McStraw – Cleator Moor Boxing Club
Mrs S Mitchell – Regeneration North East Copeland
Ms S Robinson – Whitehaven News
PCSO A Willison - Cumbria Constabulary
PC D Whild – Cumbria Constabulary

1.To receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mr D Ball.

2.To approve and sign the Minutes of Meeting held on 8th December 2009

Resolved - the Minutes of Meeting for 8th December 2009 were approved and signed as a true record.

3.Declarations of Interest on items on the agenda

Councillor Southward expressed an interest in planning matters and RNEC, and Councillor J Hully expressed an interest in planning matters, RNEC, Blue Skies use of TC Building, Health Centre, Connecting Communities, Standing Orders and Citizens Advice.

4.Public Participation

Mr Fowler expressed an interest in becoming a member of Cleator Moor Town Council, he gave a short presentation of his interests in the community.

Mr Paul McStaw asked for the Council's help in the provision of storage space to house equipment from the Boxing Club. The Boxing Club would supply an I so Crate if it could be situated on a vacant allotment next to the basketball court. The Boxing Club agreed to maintain and clean the storage unit and would be installing CCTV as a security measure in

due course. The Police have agreed to monitor the allotment, the building and the I so Crate. Members agreed to include this topic on the agenda for the next meeting, where a decision would be made.

5.Update on Regeneration North East Copeland and associate issues.

Sarah Mitchell delivered the following report:

Key schemes that we've been involved in since last update in March 2009:

- Town Square Renaissance:
 - The project to redevelop the Town Square is ongoing. We are in the process of working to secure Feasibility Funds, with the aim of starting major works during 2010-11, subject to funding.
- Birks Road Health Centre:
 - This is progressing under the stewardship of Cumbria Primary Care Trust who are hoping to begin building work into 2010.
- Ehenside, Cleator Mills, Ehen Valley are other projects within our action plan that we hope will raise the areas profile and give us new tourism product, including wet weather activities, plus further cycling and walking links.
- Business Forum:
 - The Forum holds regular meetings supporting local businesses in the town and surrounding area. We've covered subjects such as marketing, Britain's Energy Coast, RDPE funding and networking for success. Our next Forum is planned for March 2010, details to follow.
- Website (www.necopeland.org.uk): This is regularly updated with news affecting the area plus the Town Council minutes/ agendas and newsletters, which are available through the website.
- Speed Indicator Device: The Regen partnership worked to bring this to the area for use by the Police to monitor and record traffic speeds in identified hot spots. Once we have more data back from across the parish we will be working with the Police, County Council and Highways to find solutions to problem areas.
- Lengthsman:
 - Works for You have been carrying out work in the Parish responding to requests. RNEC has committed to continuing support to the scheme based on the Parishes match their contribution.
 - All parishes in NE Copeland so far have formally agreed to continue to support the scheme and we just need the Town Council to agree to continue their support the scheme for 2010/11.
- Other Cleator Moor specific projects:
 - Derelict buildings – Copeland Borough Council have been pursuing the owner of the Methodist Church for improvements. The Old Conservative Association/ St Kevin's Hall is now undergoing a refurbishment programme to turn it into office and meeting space, run by Phoenix Enterprise Centre. RNEC were able to support this latter scheme with funding of £50k.

- Cleator Moor Youth & Community Centre – the refurbishment is now well underway and set to open up as a new facility for the Town in April 2010. We have been involved in the Committee throughout.
- Car park – we're aware of the pressure on car parking in the Town, which we regard as a very positive problem. We'll be meeting with Copeland Borough Council soon to discuss our options for alleviating further pressure as Phoenix Enterprise Centre grows and more people start to use our Town Centre.
- Bowthorn Road pathway improvements – we have supported the Town Council to bring about this scheme with the County Council.
- Sports & Leisure – we regularly attend the Cleator Moor Physical Activity Group meetings at the Bowls Centre.
- Town Centre improvements – we have helped to bring the windows scheme in to the town to brighten up some of the empty shop fronts.
- Once the Town Council has appointed a new clerk and filled vacant Councillor seats we hope to have a representative from Town Council to formally join us on the Partnership, and thank Dave Hully for maintaining continuity throughout.

Locality Working:

- As well as working for Regen NE Copeland, Sarah is also Locality Manager, with Simon Walker at Copeland BC. The posts are supported through the Working Neighbourhoods Fund and enable us to develop Locality Working across the Borough. It is essentially about parishes working in clusters through a partnership board, which has representation from the three tiers of local government. As it is now part of the Local Authority agenda, Copeland BC, Cumbria County Council and other Public Service providers are required to work to support parish cluster needs.
- Copeland BC are supporting three pilot areas to start process, which includes NE Copeland, Howgate/Distington and 5 Rivers (Gosforth/ Seascale area).
- For NE Copeland it in reality means little change, as we have already set up our Partnership to work in this way, but it gives more power to local voices and greater potential for us to help influence services to meet local needs.
- Four key areas:
 - Consultation – this has been started and this is first stage in pilot. It will be supported by the Connecting Communities project (update attached).
 - Planning – we need to pull out key parish priorities and update the Area plan.
 - Public Services – the aim here is to improve local delivery.
 - Governance – there are currently no plans to change away from the three tiers structure in place.

6.CBC - Update on Jacktrees Play Area

In the absence of Mr Magean, members agreed to write to him again requesting his presence at the next meeting, and suggested he send a nominee if Mr Magean himself is unavailable. This item to be included on the next agenda.

7. Police Report

Cumbria Police presented their report and advised that crime in Cleator Moor was substantially down over all criminal activity in the community. It was noted there had been a slight increase in anti social behaviour.

Where drug crime was concerned, the Police reported that this problem was being monitored and that in fact, Cleator Moor was quite a safe place to live.

A transit van housing a speed indication device had been placed at the top of Mill Hill. Other equipment however, was still in need of repair but it is hoped to be back in use as soon as possible. The yellow lines on the road in this area will be discussed at the next meeting.

Jacktrees progress was again discussed and Police reported that no anti-social behaviour had been reported.

The first Safer Cumbria meeting has been designated for 4th February at 6.30pm. the venue to be arranged.

It was reported that the Bowthorn seat area has become a play area for youths and even when they are moved, simply congregate somewhere else. Members agreed to investigate ownership of this piece of land and report to the next meeting.

It was reported that we did have a Police Liaison Forum at one time, but it has not happened in Cleator Moor for at least ten years. Members were advised that this Forum does move around as there is a large area to cover.

Cumbria Police left the meeting at 7.50 p.m.

8. Adoption of Revised Standing Orders

As the Standing Orders were quite complex, it was agreed that they should be read again prior to the next meeting, and after study, adopt them once understood. Standing Orders to be included on the next agenda.

9. Reports and Updates from other meetings

A short Extra - Ordinary Meeting was held during the month, in respect of the replacement Clerk. A report of the results will be given at the next meeting.

10. Planning Applications

No objections were raised.

11. Correspondence

The Chariman gave a brief outline of correspondence received with one request from MENCAP for financial support. Members agreed to ascertain whether there is a local MENCAP facility, before any contribution would be agreed.

Citizens Advice also requested financial support. Members approved a grant of £200.00.

12. Clerk's Report

Progress on the recruitment of a new clerk, will be reported at the next meeting.

13. To Approve the Schedule of Accounts and consider matters relating to finance.

An update in respect of the Town Council's financial position was delivered. The meeting was advised, that a cheque made payable to the Senior Citizens Christmas Party had been returned in order to amend the payee information. Members agreed to reissue the cheque.

Members approved payments to the following accounts, United Utilities - £133.22, Ecolab - £174.26, Jean Airey - £112.40, British Telecommunications - £202.05, Aquaid - £50.26 and Citizens Advice Bureau - £200.00.

14. Items for Inclusion on Next Agenda

Discussion took place in respect of the latest severe weather, it was agreed that a request for a supply of grit for local use be issued. Chairman to contact Cumbria Highways. A storage location for the grit to be sourced.

The former Ehenside School site was discussed. Councillor Morgan will pursue the land problems and costs for working on the land. He confirmed that the County Council would be making decisions regarding future usage of the area and he hoped the community would benefit from any developments. Members agreed to invite Councillor Branney to the next meeting.

- Revised Standing Orders
- Jacktrees Road Play Area
- Former Ehenside School Land
- Ownership of land – Bowthorn Road.

- Formal Co-option of Mr B Fowler to serve Cleator Moor Town Council.

15.Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th February at 7.00pm.

The Town Council Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Representative of Cumbria Constabulary left the meeting at 7.50p.m. Councillor Carruthers left the meeting at 8.00p.m. and Councillor Southward left the meeting at 8.25pm.

SIGNED..... DATED.....