

PENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
Monday 7th October 2024
7pm
Parish Rooms

Minutes

Attendees	Mrs Athersmith Mrs Bell (Clerk) Mrs Slater Mr Stretch Mrs Thompson (Chair) Cllr Cooper 5 members of the public			
ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS	OWNER	DUE
24-10/1 Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 			
24-10/2 Co-option	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominations for co-option to the casual vacancies were received from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs Esther Corbett Mr Ross Corbett Mr Kim Squires In relation to the nomination of Mrs Esther Corbett: <p>A proposal for co-option was received. A seconder for co-option was received. At the vote, an absolute majority was observed. Mrs Corbett was duly elected onto the Parish Council. In the presence of full Council, Mrs Corbett made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Proper Officer of the Council (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer). Mrs Corbett was issued with the Declaration of Interest forms to be returned to the Monitoring Officer at WAF Council.</p> In relation to the nomination of Mr Ross Corbett: <p>A proposal for co-option was received. A seconder for co-option was received. At the vote, an absolute majority was observed.</p> 			

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	<p>Mr Corbett was duly elected onto the Parish Council. In the presence of full Council, Mr Corbett made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Proper Officer of the Council (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer). Mr Corbett was issued with the Declaration of Interest forms to be returned to the Monitoring Officer at WAF Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In relation to the nomination of Mr Kim Squires: A proposal for co-option was received. A seconder for co-option was received. At the vote, an absolute majority was observed. Mr Squires was duly elected onto the Parish Council. In the presence of full Council, Mr Squires made a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Proper Officer of the Council (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer). Mr Squires was issued with the Declaration of Interest forms to be returned to the Monitoring Officer at WAF Council. The Chair thanked and welcomed the new members and confirmed that the Council now has a full membership. 			
24-10/3 Declarations of Councillors Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs Thompson declared an interest in item 24-10/16 – Biodiversity Toolkit. 			
24-10/4 Exclusion of Press and Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 			
24-10/5 Vacancies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no vacancies noted following co-option and full membership observed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice of co-option to be posted on social media and the website. 	Clerk, HSI, YA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP
24-10/6 Previous Minutes dated 09/09/24 and Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes signed as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting. 			
24-10/7 Public Participation by Question and Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A representative of Birkrigg Park provided an update on the installation of the Defibrillators, siting further obstacles to their installation. A representative of Birkrigg Park provided an update on speed signs that have been placed around the estate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk to forward Grants Policy and consideration for additional funding through S137 and raised through Precept. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next meeting

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A representative of Birkrigg Park requested information on the tidy-up of the estate's green spaces- to be chased through WAF. • A representative of Birkrigg Park provided an update on the tree re-planting on the estate. • A representative of Birkrigg Park requested an update on the replacement bench. It was confirmed that the order has been completed, awaiting fitting. • A representative of the CLP Group provided an update on the recent meeting. 			
24-10/8 District Councillors/ Elected Members Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Cooper provided an update on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste collections - Ulverston Library - 20mph Consultation - Moorgarth Parking 			
24-10/9 Swarthmoor/ High Carley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No playground report received. • Council were informed that Parish benches have been ordered, delivered, paid for and are awaiting fitting. • Council were informed that speeding along Main remains a growing safety concern. • Council were informed of significant safety concerns in relation to the Sunday bus service and Bus Stop along the West side of Main Road caused by a lack of pavement and lighting. • It was resolved to explore the costs/ installation requirements for a SID on Main Road. • Council were informed that a less than 15% response for Swarthmoor 20mph speed limit had been received. Council acknowledged that the consultation has been widely advertised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore costs/ requirements of SID 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk, KS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
24-10/10 Pennington/ Loppergarth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council were informed that LCG were not pursuing a complaint with the Monitoring Officer in relation to issues surrounding the Defibrillator. 			

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	<u>10/08/2024 – 10/09/2024</u> Room hire Sunnyside Rent Total Bank Statement Receipts Bank Statement Balance at 10/09/2024 <u>Cashbook Payments</u> Moore – External Audit Glasdon Benches Duddon Fire – Service Stamps and printer ink Total Cashbook Payments <u>Cashbook Receipts</u> Room Hire Sunnyside Rent Total Cashbook Receipts Total Payments Total Receipts Running Balance Reserves General Buildings Maintenance CIL Bus Shelters Maintenance Election Fees Playground Maintenance Total <u>To resolve to consider/approve the following payments:</u>	£24.00 £470.00 <u>£494.00</u> <u>£43,821.33</u> £252.00 £7,317.24 £66.00 £54.76 <u>£7,690.00</u> £24.00 £470.00 <u>£494.00</u> <u>£8,472.26</u> <u>£988.00</u> <u>£36,625.33</u> £8,435.94 £16,268.78 £1,024.08 £2,521.73 £4,000.00 £4,374.80 <u>£36,625.33</u>		
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24-10/14 Finance/ Budget/ Precept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for consideration of budget items in preparation of the budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To carry forward to next meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next meeting
24-10/15 .GOV Domains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council were provided with different quotes for.gov domain/ emails. It was resolved to continue investigating options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSI and KS to liaise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSI, KS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next meeting
24-10/16 Biodiversity Toolkit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council were updated on communications with Cumbria Wildlife Trust and potential funding through Ulverston Resilience Group. 			
24-10/17 Telephone Box Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was resolved to monitor the telephone box library with a view to box in the bottom, consider window transfers and out-source maintenance or other potential uses to the wider community. 			
24-10/18 Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was resolved to re-adopt the following policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complaints Procedure Communications Strategy FOI Policy Habitual and Vexatious Communications Policy Health and Safety Policy Risk Management Policy 			
24-10/19 Items for future agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Items for budget consideration. Continued grass cutting at Swarthmoor Park. Winter Fuel Allowance – community help information to be posted on social media, comm-chat and the website. Approval of Training: In House Training. Internal Audit Course. 			
24-10/20 Date of Next Meeting	Due to unavailability of the Clerk, the next ordinary meeting was requested for 4 th November 2024 – 7pm in the Parish Rooms.			

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Appendix 1

PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE – LAND OFF PENNINGTON LANE 2024/1649/FPA

At the meeting of Pennington Parish Council on 08/10/2024 the following application was discussed:

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2024/1649/FPA

LOCATION: Land off Pennington Lane

DEVELOPMENT: Variation to condition 5 attached to SL/2017/0681 at land off Pennington Lane

...and the Parish Council resolved to **OBJECT** to this application based on the following:

- Questions raised over the original 2017 application which highlighted some 13 conditions, have still not been addressed. They include but are not limited to:
 - Speed Survey
 - Travel Plans
 - Drainage
 - Surface water and foul water drainage.
 - Illumination
- The surveys and assessments are at least 7 years old, with outdated data especially considering:
 - Construction of the A590 Cross-a-Moor round-a-bout,
 - Construction of additional properties at Rowe Head,
 - Increased number of residents/ children using the roads,
 - Increased number of residential and business traffic using the roads/ parking,
 - Increase in the size of vehicles using the roads.
- The Speed/ Traffic Survey especially, was not conducted by the local authority, it was undertaken at a time where the road was closed for a 7 day period, when traffic was not flowing and is therefore significantly flawed.
- The wording around speed limits in the area is misleading, not recognising that the speed limit only changes to 20mph directly at Pennington School and not the approach to.

Material Consideration: Highway Safety**Material Consideration: Traffic and Parking**

- The road is a direct route that services the whole of Pennington, Loppergarth and smaller hamlets within the Parish and wider community. It is the main thoroughfare for access to the school, nursery, church, and local playground.
- It is commonly used by many that walk, cycle, scoot and horse ride - access to the development along Pennington Lane poses a real and significant risk to the safety of road users, pedestrians and those accessing the school, nursery and community hall. This is even more probable given the additional access point as illustrated AND the further access point on the Loppergarth side of the Memorial Hall as proposed by Story Homes. This lane is entirely unsuitable to tolerate 3 access points and the safety of our community is at threat.
- There is already substantial issues with traffic and parking on Pennington Lane from the Primary School, Nursery and Community Hall, none of which has been fully recognised due to flawed traffic/ speed surveys.
- The road is also regularly used by heavy agricultural vehicles and agricultural deliveries, additional use/ access points on Pennington Lane will create greater issues with both traffic, parking and road safety.
- Pennington Lane is regularly in a state of grid-lock during peak times due the volume of traffic and parking, this however, not identified on account of the inadequate traffic survey.

Material Consideration: Loss of Privacy/ Overshadowing

- There is still considerable concern regarding privacy and safeguarding as the development sits right on the boundary of the local nursery and is in close proximity of the primary school and popular community hall.

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There has also been a proposed entrance to the Nursery via the development, this is hugely inappropriate with considerable safeguarding implications.

Material Consideration: Appearance, Design and Scale of the Development

Material Consideration: Effect on Wildlife and Conservation

Flooding

- The development will impact flooding and pressure on existing highways drains. The plans discuss soak-away on the land however, the land already floods - with rain water discharge/ run off creating substantial streaming on the lanes and onto neighbouring farm land. The Parish Council has photographic and video footage to substantiate this.
- Sewerage - The impact on current water and sewerage supply/ pipes. This is already under great pressure, with no capacity for additional connections without substantial upgrading of the infrastructure.

Scale

- The development is not proportional to the size of the community.
- The local plan identified areas for development. There have been additional builds that have moved beyond those areas therefore risking over-development in the area. Future development must take into account the areas of expansion that were not detailed in the local plan.
- The development will have an impact on existing local amenities:
There is already huge strain on local GP's, Dentists, Schools and nurseries with those in the immediate catchment area and closest towns/ villages being over-subscribed, there has to be consideration at what point effect becomes saturation.
- Our local towns are closing many essential services. The Parish has already been subjected to a number of reduced/ removed bus services. which impacts condition 8's objective of reducing car usage.

Design

- Pennington Lane currently has no street lighting, therefore causing additional safety concerns with regard to visibility of hazards, pedestrians, cyclists and other road users.

Environmental Considerations

- No reference has been made to consideration of reduction of Carbon Emissions.
- Pennington Parish Council are keen to reduce Carbon Emissions in response to the Cumbria Net Zero campaign and support Westmorland and Furness Council's pledge to achieve Carbon Net Zero by 2037
- Consideration must be given to whether development adversely affects climate during a 'climate emergency'.

The Parish Council request that:

- A new and robust Road Safety Audit/ Traffic/ Speed Survey is carried out to include peak usage time of Pennington Lane and during the full school term time (8am-9.30am and 2pm-3.30pm).
- Confirmation be given that a Local Occupancy Clause is enforced, prohibiting 2nd home and Airbnb type properties.
As previously requested:
- A Case Officer attends the site for proper consideration of the application – this recommended to be at peak times during the full school term time (8am-9.30am and 2pm-3.30pm).
- The developer and planning authority delivers a full public consultation on the development and any variations to the application.
- Full details including the breakdown of how many bedroom properties are planned.

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