

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Ireby with Leck Parish Council held at the Fraser Hall, Cowan Bridge, on Friday 31st May 2024 at 6.15pm.

Present were Councillors Carol Howard (Chairman), Andrew Makinson, Carole Scott, John Welbank and Jean White, Lancaster City Councillor Ross Hunter, two members of the public and Parish Clerk Kevin Price. Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Colin Chick and County Councillor Matthew Maxwell-Scott.

24/11 Election of Chairman:

Councillor Carol Howard was elected Chairman for 2024-25. She then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office.

24/12 Appointment of Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Carole Scott was appointed Vice-Chairman for 2024-25.

24/13 Co-option of new Councillor:

Jamie Blackshaw was unanimously co-opted to fill the vacant seat on the Council. He then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his seat.

24/14 Requests for Dispensations: None.

24/15 Declarations of Interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest made in respect of any matters on the agenda.

24/16 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2024, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

24/17 Grass cutting in Ireby:

The expected price for grass cutting in 2024-25 was £750 but the contractors have notified the Council that the charge will be £1,200 or £1,500 if the arisings are removed.

An alternative contractor, Mr Paul Batty, has been found, who will carry out the work at the original cost of £750 and it was resolved to accept this quotation.

24/18 YDNPA Parish Forum of 22nd May 2024:

Councillors Howard and Makinson reported on their recent visit to the YDNPA Parish Forum on 22nd May 2024. Matters discussed included:

- a. The YDNPA Management Plan for 2025-29.

- b. Permitted Development/Prior Notification on planning applications was clarified.
- c. More power/control is being exercised by central government than formerly.
- d. A 'Residents' Survey' has been completed and this highlights the problems of inadequate affordable housing and the declining population in the Park. It was pointed out that 63% of the area's population is over 65 years of age and 26% of properties are second homes/holiday lets.

24/19 Green bin for Cowan Bridge:

No progress has been made on this and the Chairman agreed to follow it up. Councillor Blackshaw said he could provide a sticker for such a bin.

24/20 Grant application towards restoring the War Memorial:

The grant application towards restoring the War Memorial had been submitted by Councillors Howard and White; including the pre-application form and the ten-page application form. It was extremely time-consuming, and it now appeared that, even if the application were to be successful, the amount received would not make the exercise worthwhile.

In the circumstances, it was resolved to abandon the application and the Council will pay for the work from Parish Council funds.

24/21 The Lune Valley Greenway:

This is likely to be a 10-year project at least, the funding for the feasibility study being provided by a local resident. A letter has been delivered to all residents of Cowan Bridge and there is a 'drop in' arranged for Wednesday 6th June at 6pm at the Fraser Hall.

The Council is very concerned at possible road changes/narrowing through Cowan Bridge, on an already very busy and dangerous road, where many accidents are recorded each year.

It was agreed to await the outcome of the 'drop-in' and then to consider arranging a Public Meeting to discuss the matter more fully. To assist in the arrangement of this, it was agreed to hold the next Parish Council Meeting in July rather than August, and the date is Monday 22nd July 2024.

24/22 Finance:

- a. *It was resolved to pay the following accounts:*

LALC	£50.49	(payment to be delayed)
A2A Advertising Limited	£90.00	Website hosting
Clear Insurance Management Ltd		
	£461.53	Annual insurance premium
Simon Rimmer	£50.00	Quarterly payment for Memorial Garden

K M Price £131.36 Quarterly expenses to 31st March, including including use of home office and travel.

- b. The Interim Accounts for 2023-24 were noted.
- c. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the Certificate of Exemption, the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement. The Clerk provided copies for each Councillor and explained the importance of each document.
- d. As there does not seem to be any activity/meetings/training etc notified to the Council by LALC, it was resolved to make enquiries with them, before paying the annual subscription.

24/23 Date of the next meeting:

Monday 12th July 2024 at 6pm at the Fraser Hall, Cowan Bridge.

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed:

Dated:.