

TRIPARTITE MEETING BETWEEN COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE, CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL AND CARLISLE PARISH COUNCILS

Notes of a tripartite meeting between the County Council Local Committee for Carlisle, Carlisle City Council and Carlisle Parish Councils held on Monday 9 March 2015 at 7.00 pm at The Community East Fire Station, Carlisle.

PRESENT

County Councillors

Mr C Weber (Chair)
Mr T Allison
Mr L Fisher

City Councillors

Mrs H Bradley
Mr C Glover
Dr L Tickner

Parish

Councillor A R Auld	-	Dalston Parish Council
Councillor L Beattie	-	Beaumont Parish Council
Councillor A Byers	-	Dalston Parish Council
Councillor G Clubbs	-	Hayton Parish Council
Councillor M Cork	-	Great Orton Parish Council
Councillor B Earp	-	Wetheral Parish Council
Councillor M Fox	-	Stanwix Rural Parish Council
Councillor M Higginbotham	-	Wetheral Parish Council
Councillor J Holland	-	Wetheral Parish Council
Councillor I Howatt	-	Farlam Parish Council
Councillor M Jack	-	Kirklington Parish Council
Ms S Kyle	-	Hethersgill/Walton/Scaleby/Burtholm
Councillor W Little	-	Orton Parish Council
Mrs M E McKenna	-	Beaumont Parish Council
Councillor A Oliver	-	Burtholme Parish Council
Councillor P Rennick	-	Bewcastle Parish Council
Councillor M Ridley	-	Irthington Parish Council
Mrs V Sealby	-	Burgh By Sands Parish Council
Councillor B Smith	-	Bewcastle Parish Council
Councillor J M Stonebridge	-	Burgh by Sands Parish Council
Councillor R Tinnion	-	Hayton Parish Council

Also in Attendance:-

Ms R Davies	-	Cumbria County Council
Mrs J McKenna	-	Cumbria County Council

Mr J Smith	-	Cumbria County Council
Mr T Thwaites	-	Cumbria County Council
Ms A Cullerton	-	Carlisle City Council
Mr J Gooding	-	Carlisle City Council
Mr P Mason	-	Carlisle City Council
Mrs J Meek	-	Carlisle City Council
Mrs S Hutchinson	-	CALC
Mrs C Rankin	-	CALC

PART 1 TRIPARTITE MEETING BETWEEN COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE, CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL AND CARLISLE PARISH COUNCILS

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- (1) Apologies for absence from members of the County Council Local Committee for Carlisle were received from Mrs D Earl, Mr W Graham, Mrs E Mallinson, Mr J Mallinson, Mr N Marriner, Mrs V Tarbitt, Mr S F Young.
- (2) Apologies for absence from Parish Council representatives were received from Mr W Bundred, Kirkandrews on Esk, Mr B Craig, Dalston, Mr J Harper, Rockcliffe, Ms A McCallum, Stanwix Rural, Mr K McIntosh, Cummersdale.
- (3) Apologies for absence from Emma Dixon, Councillor Riddle, Councillor Martlew and Councillor Cook from Carlisle City Council.

3. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The notes of the Joint Meeting with Cumbria Council held on 1 April 2014 were agreed as a correct record.

The notes of the Joint meeting with Carlisle City Council held on 10 November 2014 were agreed as a correct record.

Matters Arising

The Parish Charter had been revised, the Planning Manager (Carlisle City Council) would be taking this to Parish Councils for agreement.

Ronnie Auld from Dalston Parish Council updated everyone on the newly released usage figures for the City Centre's free wifi:

In the period up until December 2014 the total number of people using the city centre wifi was 29,763, the total number of minutes spent was 6,267,359.

4. CARLISLE LOCAL PLAN

Jane Meek from Carlisle City Council updated the Group on the current developments on the Carlisle Local Plan. She explained that the plan had received approval from Carlisle City Council's full council and the 6 week public consultation was now in process. All parish councils would have received a letter informing them of this. Jane explained that there was no flexibility when it came to the 6 week period. The Plan would be submitted to the Secretary of State in May and an independent examination of the plan in later summer. It was hoped that the plan would be adopted in the spring of 2016.

Out of all the responses received in previous consultations, housing issues was the biggest concern.

In conclusion there were no fundamental changes to the strategy at the heart of the plan and that the plan is 'sound' and can be progressed.

A member raised the issue of education needs on new housing developments and had heard the possibility of the re-opening of Belah School. Cumbria County Council officers denied that there was a possibility as the site was now being used as a doctors surgery.

Another member was concerned with the sewerage infrastructure and new housing developments which were connecting up to old sewerage systems. The member informed the meeting that the old systems were inadequate. Jane Meek informed the member that if United Utilities agree to the sewerage system being used then the developers are okay to use it.

5. PARISH COUNCIL TRAINING NEEDS

Sonia Hutchinson from CALC was present to seek the views of the Parish and try to identify any training needs. She informed the group that an ICO course was scheduled to take place in. She emphasised the importance of this course and how all parishes should be aware of data protection and freedom of information.

It was agreed that parishes would feedback its view and needs to Sonia directly.

6. STREET LIGHTING

Ted Thwaites from Cumbria County Council addressed the group on parishes concerns with regards to street lighting issues over the years. Ted would be happy to speak to any of the parishes that had any issues on an individual basis and would be staying back, along with Jonathan Smith, Cumbria County Council's Area Engineer for Carlisle. Both would be available to answer and questions.

PART 2: Carlisle Parish Councils Association

1. PARISH COUNCIL AND VILLAGE HALL GRANTS 2015/16

The grant schedule had previously been circulated to all parishes. The total grant budget available for 2015/16 was £18,000 of which £9,630 was allocated in recommended grants. It should be noted that due to the reduction in the total grant budget only applications from village hall committees were being accepted at this present time.

The grant schedule as outlined was proposed for approval by Ronnie Auld and seconded by Barry Earp. The motion was carried by a majority vote.

2. DIGITAL PROJECTOR GRANTS

It was outlined that there is one remaining digital projector grant available to be allocated to a Parish Council. All parishes had been asked to express their interest in obtaining a grant for a digital projector and at present 5 parishes have registered an interest. The CPCA has been promised by the City Council that a second round of digital projector grants will be made available for an additional 5 parishes. Any parish who has not yet expressed an interest should do so to Claire Rankin.

Ted Thwaites also mentioned that if any parish would like to purchase equipment for community use, the County Council community grants should also be considered.

3. DEVOLVED SERVICES – GRASS CUTTING

Several parishes have expressed an interest in taking on additional grass cutting duties which are currently undertaken by the City Council. If any parish is interested please could they contact Claire Rankin who is compiling a database of interest. The next step is for Claire and Jocelyn Holland to meet with the City Council to discuss the proposal. It should be stressed at this point that early discussions with Angela Cullerton at the City Council indicate that there is an issue in terms of financing grass cutting services.

4. LOCAL PLAN

Following on from the earlier discussion, Jocelyn Holland stressed to parishes that if they wished to obtain a hard copy of the draft Local Plan, contact should be made with Jane Meek through her PA Dorothy Anderson. This will be a key document for the future of Carlisle district which all parishes should consider.

5. STREET LIGHTING

Again following on from the earlier discussion, Ted Thwaites agreed to produce a one page summary explaining the maintenance costs associated with new street lighting and circulate this to all parishes through Claire Rankin. Ted will produce the summary in consultation with City Council colleagues.

6. VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Ted Thwaites asked if there were any comments parishes wished to make regarding venues for future meetings, please could they let him know. It was stressed that the village halls in the district provided very good meeting facilities.