



The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking those present for attending.

Members present: John Mackay (Chair), Lesley Barlow (Secretary), Tim Barlow, Les Coan, Kath Cook, Alan Kiel (Treasurer), Geoff Nugent, Julie Nugent, Chris Reay, Jean Slater

1. Apologies received: Keith Woolley, Margaret Woolley.

2. Previous meeting minutes

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2022 were approved.

2.2 The marine geophysical survey had been completed; detailed analysis of the data would take place over the next 18 months.

2.3 **Reading Rooms WiFi** (min ref 2.3): No further progress had been made: a new pole was still awaited.

2.4 **First Aid Course** (min ref 2.4): Two separate 2 hour courses had been held and attended by a total of 15 people. Feedback had been extremely positive with one attendee describing it as the best first aid course he'd ever attended. Shaun Muddie, the First Responder who ran the courses, was thanked for all his work.

2.5 **Swing Bridge Repairs** (min ref 2.5): Repairs had commenced and had almost been completed but the bridge had been severely damaged again in the recent bad weather. The Chair of the Parish Council had spoken to Paul Turner from the Highways Dept who had indicated that, as the work ownership for the original repair remained with the contractor, it was hoped that the completion of the full set of repairs would be covered by the contractor's insurance.

2.6 **Repairs to benches** (min ref 2.6): ongoing: the Parish Council has identified a handyman for completion of ad hoc repairs in general and a price for this job had been agreed.

2.7 **Cherry tree area landscaping** (min ref 2.7): ongoing: representatives from the Parish Council had met with a landscaper and funding for the landscaping was being pursued with the aim of undertaking the work in Spring.

2.8 **BVA Financial Update** (min ref 5):

2.8.1: The surplus from the last 3 months of activities such as Bingo, Quiz, and CoffeeCakeChat had been divided equally between the RR and the Church – with £192.50 going to each. In total, since the pandemic, around £800 had flowed from the BVA coffers to the RR Committee.

2.8.2: It was agreed that the Church should be approached to see if pathway lighting could be installed given how dark it was on the approach from the gates to the church. It was suggested that, provided a case could be made for this to be of benefit to the community as a whole, a bid to the GDF fund would be appropriate.

2.9 **Traffic Management Speed Monitoring** (min ref 7.1.1):

2.9.1: the Parish Council had received the results of the recent monitoring but was seeking additional clarification. The results showed that speed at 4 of the 6 monitoring points was well under the 30 mph limit. In the other 2, the average speed was only just above the 30 mph limit and the Parish Council was seeking clarification of the exact breakdown of the higher recorded speed levels.

2.9.2: The local MP had indicated support for a 20 mph limit around the school.

2.9.3: it was understood that the speed monitoring equipment currently active on Morass Road was a private arrangement.

2.10 **School Green Playpark** (min ref 7.1.2): Refurbishment was due to commence on 5 December and was likely to take 2 weeks.

2.11 **Merger of BVA with RR Committee** (min ref 8): nothing further to report pending confirmation of the restructuring of the RR Committee as a CIC.

3. First Responders Update

Alan Kiel reported that total expenditure on this account for the financial year to date amounted to £77.94 for 4 new finger oxy pulse monitors and batteries – the ongoing balance is £1548.21. As three new Responders had been registered (in addition to a Paramedic), it was suggested that a short update with photo could be uploaded to Facebook.

4. BVA Financial Update

Alan Kiel gave an update on the finances of the BVA for the financial year to date: income since April amounted to £1806.20 with expenditure totalling £1749.24 – giving a current balance of £1072.30. Expenditure related to RR rent for BVA meetings and the First Aid training, payment to scouts, donations to the Church and the RR, and the Jubilee Celebrations.

5. GDF Update

1. Julie Nugent explained that she represented the Parish Council on the Partnership and that any updates were promoted via the Village Facebook Page. Additionally the Partnership holds regular community engagement events. Andy Pratt has just taken on the role of chair for the Partnership.
2. The Partnership was looking to recruit new members – particularly with farming or tourism expertise.
3. The first year of funding was due to end in November – but representations to extend the deadline may be made given that the Partnership wasn't fully active for the first couple of months.
4. The Partnership is currently addressing the boundary changes given that local government reorganisation will lead to the Allerdale and Mid Copeland Partnerships falling into the same authority.

6. Parish Council (PC) matters

Update on Parish Council business – the last meeting had been in July, and the next is scheduled for 26 October at Thornhill:

1. Copeland's planning department had been informed of the erection of what seem to be temporary buildings at the kennels on Cop Lane – no response has been received.
2. The car park at the cemetery will now be tidied 3 times per year.
3. Permission has been requested from the Highways Dept for the PC to purchase its own salt bin for Braystones Road – no response has been received.

7. Community Led Plan

The focus remained the development of the RR – a grant application had been submitted to the GDF covering a new roof (with solar panels) and new heating system (with associated rewiring) – the outcome was anticipated in the next few days. Subsequent bids would be made for internal and external refurbishment/development. However, if successful, the funds cannot be accessed until the RR Committee is incorporated as a CIC – but it was hoped that the outcome of this process would be known within the month. It was unclear when work would start but as much notice as possible would be given to users of the RRs to allow alternative venues to be sought – details of this were to be discussed at the next RR Committee.

8. Newsletter

No progress had been made in identifying a newsletter editor.

9. Matters of concern to residents.

The following was raised:

1. Garden fires being set during the day. It was understood that there are restrictions on the times when fires can be set – this will be looked into.
2. It was decided that, until agreed otherwise, any surplus from BVA activities should continue to be split evenly between the RR Committee and the Church

9. Dates for 2022

To be decided – next meeting is likely to be January

Lesley Barlow
Secretary – Beckermeth Village Association
October 2022