

Cumbria Association of Local Councils

Copeland District

Minutes of a three tier meeting held on the 12th June 2017
At the Copeland Centre Whitehaven

Chairman Gillian Elliott (Cumbria County Council)

PRESENT: -

Muir Lachlan (Ennerdale and K PC)	Brian Kennish (Muncaster PC)
Jane Donaldson (St Bees PC)	P. Rand (Whicham PC)
Mike Harrington (Muncaster PC)	Jeanette Forster (Whitehaven TC)
Keith Woolly (Beckermet with Thornhill PC)	Paul Turner (Gosforth PC)
Nick Troughton (Moresby PC)	Brian Goulding (Seascale PC)
Linda Jones-Bulman (Copeland BC)	Angela Dixon (Millom TC)
Ruth Peters (Millom TC)	Rick Petecki (Calc)
Allan Forster (Copeland BC)	Andrew Wonnacott (Cumbria CC)
Nick Raymond (Cumbria CC)	Arthur Lamb (Cumbria CC)
Dorothy Routledge (Haile and Wilton PC)	Mike Hawkins (Cumbria CC)
Emma Williamson (Cumbria CC)	Karl Melville (Cumbria CC)
Georgina Ternent (Cumbria CC)	Rose Lord (ACT)
Julie Betteridge (Copeland BC)	Chris Whiteside (Cumbria CC)
Chris Shaw (CALC)	Lorraine Smythe (ACT)
Mike Starkie (Copeland Mayor)	Pat Graham (Copeland PC)
Colin Mellors (Chairman of the Boundary Commission for England Mishka Mayers Boundary Commission Review Officer)	
Alison Evison (Boundary Commission Review Manager)	

Apologies were received from Ranald Stewart and Bob Jones (Ponsonby PC) Helen Gilmour (Cleator Moor TC) Gwynneth Everett (Arlecdon and Frizington PC)

1. Welcome The mayor of Copeland welcomed the Chairman and officers from the Boundary Commission and outlined the reason why the district council had invited the boundary commission to review the ward councillor's numbers and ward boundaries. Professor Mellors introduced the officers who gave a presentation on the way the review would be carried out (See presentation and "A guide to Councillors" attached) Colin Mellors said that at present Copeland had the second highest ratio of Councillors to Wards at approx 1000 electors per ward . At the other end some district councils had a ratio of 2000 approx electors per ward and depending on the number of councillors considered necessary the ratio may go towards the that figure. He said that there may be a mix of 1/2/3 councillors per ward and if it was necessary to split parishes between wards they would create parish wards. Calc said that they aim is to see parish boundaries coterminous with ward boundaries with as far as possible and especially in the rural areas the whole of a parish population within a single ward. It was noted that the district council were keen to

work with the parishes and to that end further briefing sessions would be arranged (see e-mail 30/6/17 Cath Little). Colin Mellors said that the boundary commission saw the parishes as a real source of local knowledge and were anxious that they felt part of the process. Questions were asked and comments made about the LDNP boundaries and the county council divisions. Colin Mellors said that it had to be made clear that the boundary commission remit was to look at ward boundaries within the Copeland area and the boundary of the LDNPA and the ability to move a parish within or outside the present boundaries of the National Park was not possible. He said likewise the boundaries of the county council divisions would not change as a result of this review.

Matters arising from the January 2017 meeting

Chris Shaw (Calc) said that Fergus McMorrow gave a presentation on the progress Nu Gen was making towards a development consent order for a nuclear power station at Moorside. He said parishes had been made aware that Nu gen had decided to pause that process whilst they reviewed the programme and hoped to make an announcement in the autumn. He said that following this announcement the National Grid had taken the view that they should likewise hold further progress.

2 Highways Information Management System

The chairman welcomed Nick Raymond the county council officer working on the HIMS programme. He said the county council guidance on the reporting procedure was available on the website at <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/roads-transport/highways-pavements/reporting-problem-on-highway/WDM/default.asp> Nick said that he did not propose to take the meeting through the process but would answer questions where he could and take comments to assist the system. He said it was clear that the system had glitches and it needed to be developed but the decision was taken that rather than spend further time in house it was better to put the system in the public domain and allow residents to use and comment.

Questions and comments from parishes

- a) Completion of jobs. There is a feed back problem and the system needs a customer feedback option
- b) Reference number problem. Not always clear which job number refers to
- c) Public Rights of Way Can they be reported on system Answer Yes
- d) Footway Lights. Answer yes can be reported
- c) Getting on to correct page on CCC website difficult Answer. Will look at website and consider what improvement can be made

Nick said that the system had its teething troubles but believed it was an improvement. He said that the Highways Hotline was still available but by reporting matters through HIMS better records were maintained.

3. Individual Family Resilience Preparedness

The chairman welcomed Lorraine Smythe the chief officer at Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT) who explained what the project entailed She said that working with other partners a substantial lottery grant had been received to build community resilience following the floods in 2016 and the beginning of 2017. She said it was clear that communities who plan recover better and the aim of the project was to ensure that all

communities and individual families within the community had a basic understanding of how they should plan and stay informed during emergencies. Lorraine referred to a leaflet that had been prepared and said that ACT would amend the leaflet appropriate to a specific community and encouraged parishes to contact her or visit the website (www.cumbriaaction.org.uk) (Her presentation is attached and see e mail from Dani Hudson 14/6/17)

The next meeting will be held at Millom Network Centre on the 14th September 2017