

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held on Monday 4th November 2013 at Beetham School at 7.00pm.

Present were Cllrs Ken Blenkarn (chair), Pru Jupe, Brian Meakin, Chris Noble, Bob Pickup, Ian Stewart and Steve Yates. Also John Scargill (Parish Clerk). No members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence – Cllrs Jessica Harvey (work) and David Clark. Also Cumbria Police and Bill Haddow (Parish Steward).

2.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 7th October 2013, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Blenkarn.

3.0 Announcements by the Chair – none.

4.0 Declarations of Interest by members in respect of items on this agenda – none.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes: 7th October 2013 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

5.1 Unauthorised usage of Plot 4 (5.1) – Clerk to contact the caravan owner again, insisting that it be removed by 30 November 2013 at the latest, to avoid the need for further action by the parish council.

5.2 Bus-stop signs on A6 (5.2) – renewal of both bus stop signs involved had now been formally approved by CCC.

5.3 Community Transport (5.3) – no further developments. No success as yet in extending the scheme into the eastern part of the parish.

5.4 Hale Interpretation Panel (5.4) – no progress. Still awaiting a decision by local residents on a precise site for the panel.

5.5 Sandside Cutting tree management (5.5) – Martin Wain's report was now to hand. Cllr Pickup would work with him to progress this to the next stage (contractor quotes for the work and grant availability).

5.6 Beetham Parish Assembly 2014 (5.6) – four of the eight groups contacted had now accepted the parish council's invitation to make a presentation. Clerk to follow up on the remaining four.

5.7 Land beside the B5282 at Sandside (5.7) – the Clerk had checked with the householder on the opposite side of the road who was strimming the plot from time to time, but who did not claim ownership. Network Rail also denied ownership. **Agreed** – that the Clerk be instructed to check what steps could be taken to register title to the plot in the name of the parish council.

5.8 Cllr Harvey's position on the parish council (3.0) – it was noted that Cllr Harvey was continuing to participate actively in parish council work despite being unable to attend meetings and it was hoped that this would continue. **Agreed** – that every effort should be made to retain Cllr Harvey's input on parish council matters. Rearrangement of parish council meetings to be considered to make this possible. Members to email the Clerk with their availability on alternative dates to the normal 'first Monday in the month', Thursdays being generally favoured.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report – an emailed report had been received and circulated before the meeting. Minimal number of incidents reported in the parish.

6.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart) – CCC had received an enquiry from Dallam Estates on the possibility for upgrading the B6385 (Crooklands road) in the area of the Main Line Business Park. Continuing intensive discussions on CCC's 2014/15 budget and the expenditure savings needed. Consideration being given to reducing its current subsidies to bus companies, which could ultimately adversely affect local bus services, as an alternative to covering such subsidies by an increase in Council Tax. Grit bins throughout the county were to be filled during November.

6.3 District Council matters (Cllr Jupe) – The recent BBC Autumn Watch broadcast from the Leighton Moss Nature Reserve had been good publicity for both the local and the wider area. The Beetham Corn Mill open day had been a great success and the excellent restoration work completed so far was most impressive. Possible solutions to the problem of car parking at Arnside station were being considered. SLDC would not be increasing its element of the overall Council Tax charge for 2014/15, but this was acknowledged as a relatively small part of the total charge.

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public – none.

7.0 Planning Matters

7.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

Nov. 2013 meeting

Type A applications – SLDC response deadline precedes next PC meeting – Clerk to respond. (Members on relevant ward committee to email comments to Clerk ASAP & before deadline)

SLDC ref	Address	Applicant	Development	Response deadline	BPC response
SL/2013/0918	The Poppies, Keasdale Rd,	Williams	Single detached garage and garden store	30/10/13	Pending

Type B applications – SLDC deadline falls after next PC meeting – Ward members to discuss at mtg.

SL/2013/1029	7 Tarn Close, Storth	Wood	Kitchen extension	28/11/13	No objections
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7.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SL/2012/0713	Sandside Farm, Carr Bank	Smith	Extensions & alterations	Applicant's appeal against earlier refusal dismissed
SL/2013/0829	Field House, Hale	Morphet	Extension & change of use of paddock to domestic	Approved with conditions
SL/2013/0673	Heather Brae, Carr Bank Rd.	Walton	Single-storey rear & side extensions	Approved with conditions
SL/2013/0821	Knott Hill, Farm, Whassett	Thompson	Extension of agricultural building	Approved with conditions
SL/2013/0832	9 Old Myse, Storth	Singleton	Erection of boundary fence	Approved with conditions
SL/2013/0897	39 Burntbarrow, Storth	Grundy	Single-storey rear extension	Approved with conditions

(More planning information available non SLDC website – southlakeland.gov.uk)

7.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings 4 Nov. 2013 – (as above)

7.4 Related matters & correspondence : none

8.0 Financial Matters

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT			MONTH – OCTOBER 2013	MEETING – 4th Nov 2013		HIBA
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		£
				£	£	£
01/01/13	Opening balances				194.38	23,109.81
31/10/13	Receipts				-	-
31/10/13	Tsfr to Cur a/c from HIBA				700.00	-700.00
31/01/13	Payments:					
“	266 911	Zurich	Insurance prem. 2013/14	-397.19		
“	267 912	R Br Legion	Remembrance Day wreaths	-60.00		
“	268 913	J Scargill	Clerk’s sal Oct. (net)	350.35		
			Postage & Stat’y	21.57		
			VAT	3.93		
				- 375.85		
“	Total payments in month				-833.04	
31/10/13	Closing balances				61.34	22,409.81
31/10/13	Total funds all accounts					£22,471.15

Resolved – that the above payments be **APPROVED**

8.2 Other financial matters:

- timetable for budget/precept 2014/15 - BPC budget meeting to be held in January 2014
- bank mandate amendment procedure (Cllr Jupe for Cllr Harvey) almost completed.
- Clerk’s annual appraisal would be done by Cllr Jupe on 27 December 2013.

9.0 Parish Steward:

9.1 PS update on current events - none.

9.2 PS additions to work programme - as emerging from discussion of agenda item 11 (below).

Clerk to check on possible alternative arrangements for gritting over winter 2013/14 in the event that the Parish Steward was unable to undertake this for health reasons.

10.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies - none.

11.0 Local highways amenity work - areas for which BPC might be willing to take responsibility had now been listed and marked on a special map for that purpose. This list to be discussed with Parish Steward to avoid any omission of areas already on his schedule of regular work. These jobs were essentially seasonal and involved little or no winter work, so no urgency until spring 2014. Clerk to see if it might be possible to obtain enlarged copies of the two maps to be used for illustrating exactly where these areas were located.

12.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Jupe - referred to a complaint received from a resident about the ill-effects of fireworks for domestic animals. Clerk had already taken the necessary action. Clerk also to email Cllr Stewart for information on CCC policy regarding this problem for elderly residents, particularly those in nearby care homes.

Cllr Meakin - reported more potholes in Storth Rd.

Cllr Pickup - the ‘Sandside’ road signs along the B5282 were in need of refreshing and the hedge on either side of the new Carr Bank bus shelter was overgrown and impeding visibility for users.

Cllr Noble - road surface at junction Carr Bank Rd/Nuns Avenue lifted by underground springs and road sign at junction Carr Bank Rd/road to Hazelslack broken off with rust.

Cllr Blenkham - reported the theft of a newly-installed wooden farm gate in Paradise Lane, Whasset

13.0 Street lamp audit for SLDC – the Clerk described what was needed to carry out this survey and issued the necessary documentation to members undertaking the work. Cllr Harvey had already completed the checking of her agreed batch of lamps, and more besides, which had been useful in identifying a number of practical problems. Deadline for completion was 30 November 2013.

14.0 Beetham Parish Council website. Cllr Meakin reported continued progress with preliminary work now almost complete. It was expected that the new site would ‘go live’ during November.

15.0 Burntbarrow Woods (public Right of Way issue) – it was **agreed** that, as clarification of BPC’s earlier reference to this matter in its September Newsletter, a full statement of the facts should be published in its December Newsletter and that Dallam Estates should be given advance sight of this.

16.0 General Correspondence:

a) Received and circulated by email:

15.1 – 1 Nov 2013 – SLDC – Polling District and Polling Places Review 2013.

b) Received in hard-copy form (not circulated) – none.

17.0 Reading Matter:

- Clerks & Councils Direct – November 2013 – Issue 90.
- CALC – Notice of 2013 AGM & minutes of 2012 AGM
- CALC – Annual Report 2013
- Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB – Keer to Kent – autumn/winter 2013 – issue 82
- CCC – ‘Getting Ready for Winter’ booklet.
- Lancaster Canal Trust – Waterwitch – autumn/winter 2013/14 – issue 151

17.0 Items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting (November 2013):

- Amenity work – confirmation of list of areas to be included (after discussion with Parish Steward)
- SLDC street lamp audit results
- Ownership of land opposite former Flippin’ Fluke restaurant

20.0 Date of next meeting – Monday 2nd December 2013 at 7.00pm at Storth Village Church, to be preceded at 6.45pm by any Planning Committee meetings (as notified).

The meeting closed at 9.06pm.

Members of the public are welcome to attend throughout any meeting of the Parish Council but may speak only during the Public Participation item on the agenda to raise matters they wish to bring to the attention of the Parish, District or County Councils or Cumbria Police.