

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Monday 2nd February 2015 at Beetham School.

Present were - Cllrs Ken Blenkarn (Chair), Brian Meakin, Chris Noble, Bob Pickup, Ian Stewart and Steve Yates. Also John Scargill (Parish Clerk) and four members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence – Cllrs Pru Jupe, David Jupe and David Clark, Parish Steward Bill Haddow and Cumbria Police.

2.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 5th January 2015, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Blenkarn with the agreement of all members present.

3.0 Declarations of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda – none.

4.0 Announcements by the Chair – none.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes 5th January 2015 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

5.1 Highways flooding (Leighton Beck Road and B6384 at Whasset (5.1) – Cllr Stewart had received no response from Highways on the Leighton Beck Road issue, which had become more urgent as a result of recent icy conditions. In support of the case for urgent attention, Cllr Yates would take a photograph of this at the next available opportunity. Also reported that the problem at Whasset seemed to have eased, with flood waters now draining away better after rain.

5.2 Beetham village traffic, inc Mill Lane (5.2) – no further progress (see also 6.4 below).

5.3 Burntbarrow Woods public inquiry (5.3) – as a precursor to the forthcoming resumed inquiry the Planning Inspectorate had forwarded to BPC copies of new submissions, including new evidence, that it had received from both parties to the dispute.

5.4 Highways gritting arrangements 2014/15 (9) – the Clerk had now received a response to his enquiry about gritting arrangements – as last year (gritting and grit supplies to be available following a continuous spell of severe winter conditions). As a result of recent winter weather, some gritting of roads had taken place but no grit supplies delivered to parishes, nor notified as available for collection.

5.5 Burntbarrow/Shaw Lane link path handrail (6.4) – no progress, photograph awaited.

5.6 Carr Bank Road grit bin (11) – requested, but Cllr Stewart felt it was unlikely to be in place before winter 2015/16, when funding should be available.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report – received, but too late to be circulated before or at the meeting. One crime (theft of a trailer and contents) reported in the parish. Persistent problem with doorstep sellers. Police operations underway to check vehicles transporting scrap metal or livestock across county borders.

6.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart) – CCC budget proposals to be put before cabinet on 5 February – Council Tax increase to 2% (max allowed) but still more significant savings needed, both now and in the future. More income needed to be raised locally, but resistance against levels of business rates.

6.3 District Council matters (Cllr Stewart) – generally satisfactory financial situation with no increase in Council Tax. The case in favour of a unitary authority again being voiced.

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public;

- suggested that the BPC agendas should be published in the monthly Gateway parish magazine. **Agreed** – Clerk in future to provide Gateway with all planned BPC meetings for one year ahead for this purpose.
- a speed restriction sign in Church Lane had been displaced – Clerk to instruct Parish Steward to rectify.
- sign at corner A6/Leighton Beck Road displaced – Clerk to report.
- Street lamps in Shaw Lane and Shaw Green not working – Clerk to report on receipt of relevant lamp identification numbers.
- Mill Lane issues – Clerk to write again to Wit Lazurek to provide a monthly report, as promised. Clerk to write to Dallam, in the interests of road safety, to request that a 10mph sign be placed discretely at the mill end of the lane to remind departing drivers of the restriction and that hedges along the lane be kept well trimmed to prevent encroachment onto the roadway. **Agreed** – BPC to offer to fund the 10mph sign but would need Dallam’s permission to erect.
- damaged rails beside B5282, near The Ship Inn at Sandside – already reported.
- the stones placed by BPC in the A6 layby at the end of Mill Lane had had the effect of a perceived restriction in parking spaces there and some vehicles had been found parking in Mill Lane itself. To be monitored.

7.0 Planning Matters

7.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

Feb. 2015 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/2014/1184	Woodview Barn, Beetham	Mercer	Conversion of redundant barn into 2 dwellings	26/01/15	No objections
SL/2014/1226	Land north of Holly Cottage, Storth	Knowles	Single dwelling	26/01/15	Some issues to be addressed

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

SL/2014/1223	Beetham Nurseries	Abbit	Portal-frame storage building	04/02/15	More info. to be requested
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7.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

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

7.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – (as above)

7.4 Related matters & correspondence: none

8.0 Financial Matters:

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT				MONTH – JAN 2015	MEETING – 2 nd February 2015		HIBA
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail		Current a/c		£
					£	£	£
01/01/15	Opening balances					6,584.35	19,222.73
31/01/15	Receipts:						
31/01/15	Payments:						
“	321	967	Br. Leg'n	Donation		30.00	
“	322	968	Jacobs	Access rent (S Cutting)		28.98	
“	323	969	Harvey	Payroll service (June-Dec 2014)		25.00	
“	324	970	Scargill	Clerk's sal (Jan '15)		380.58	
				Post & Stat'y	23.54		
				VAT	3.00		
						407.12	
“	Total payments in month					-491.10	
31/01/15	Closing balances					6,093.25	19,222.73
31/01/15	Total funds all accounts					£25,315.98	
Reserve Funds at 31/01/15		Street lamp reserve				2,400.00	
		General Reserve				16,822.73	
		Total reserves				19,222.73	

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

8.2 Other financial matters:

- **Clerk's annual review** – conducted by Cllr P Jupe on 17/01/15. Satisfactory.
- **New transparency legislation** – the Clerk had produced a comprehensive summary of what was required. Cllr Meakin had devised a way of placing this information on the BPC website but A2A (website advisors) would need to be consulted and probably assist – **agreed**. Also **agreed** – BPC proposals to be cleared with CALC before implementation.

9.0 Parish Steward:

9.1 PS's update on current events (reported prior to meeting) – The Parish Steward's quote of £150 for repairing the damage caused by commercial vehicle EX13XRP (see last minutes) was accepted. A compensation claim against the vehicle owners had been sent off.

9.2 Additions to PS's work programme – none, apart from 9.1 above..

10.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies – Cllrs Meakin and Pickup had attended a successful AONB Annual General Meeting.

11.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

- **Cllr Meakin** – reported a street lamp in Yans Lane, Storth, that was out of action.
- **Cllr Stewart** – had conducted a pothole survey in Milnthorpe, supported by photographic evidence, and would be extending this to Beetham parish.
- **Cllr Pickup** – reported potholes developing in Carr Bank Road, at the garden centre end. He had received a complaint about BPC's support for planning application SL/2014/1192 (Kern Knotts).

12.0 Parish Land:

12.1- Land at Dixies - Clerk to follow up earlier attempts to ascertain procedure for obtaining more stones FOC from Sandside Quarry and his earlier request for a quotation from

David Brailsford for both the supply and laying of appropriate turf for the site.

12.2 - Plot 4 - Wright & Lord had produced an amendment to their proposed draft rental agreement which had been approved by Cllrs Meakin and Yates. **Agreed** - that the Clerk now instruct Wright & Lord to prepare formal agreements for all existing tenants, for issue ASAP and before 31 March 2015.

12.4- Sandside Cutting - Cameron Durie, who had attended the meeting for that express purpose, was invited to summarise the situation with the felling programme. The programme included dangerous work on very difficult terrain which he felt unable to undertake safely and recommended passing this part of the programme to a specialist tree-surgeon or team.

Agreed:

- that Cllr Pickup would take up Martin Wain's offer of help with this part of the programme, which was understood to be for very reasonable estimated cost.
- that Mr Durie would proceed to carry out the work as originally explained to him. -
- that Cllrs Stewart, Meakin and Pickup would arrange a site meeting with Mr Durie to discuss the special consideration that applied to trees along the edge of Rose Hill Grove. -
- that Mr Durie be allowed to reposition elsewhere on the site a large boulder that was at present impeding the easy passage of equipment along the path through the cutting.

13.0 Development sites within AONB - in response to the Planning Authority's call for sites for housing/commercial development, Cllrs Meakin and Yates had identified a suitable site at Sandside, between The Ship, The Kingfisher, the B5282 and Quarry Lane and prepared a form of words for BPC's formal recommendation. **Agreed** - that this recommendation be accepted by BPC - Clerk to pass on to the Planning Authority.

14.0 Beetham Annual Assembly (12/03/15) - after discussion it was **agreed:**

- that the format of the Annual Assembly remain as last year, with presentations by a number of invited groups/organisations.
- that the invitation list remain the same as last year with the addition of Beetham Community Transport Group.
- Clerk to issue invitations ASAP.

15.0 Environmental Partnership Fund grant scheme. **Agreed** - that BPC should submit the Dixies project, consisting of the materials procurement for and construction of a landscaped grassed area on this site, to include some dry-stone walling and an information board. Clerk to implement.

16.0 SLDC Clean Streets Survey - **Agreed** - Cllr Meakin and the Clerk to complete and submit the requisite questionnaire.

17.0 General Correspondence:

- January 2015 - KKP Consultants (acting for SLDC) - re sports facilities strategy research.

18.0 Reading Matter - Clerks & Councils Direct - issue 97 - January 2015.

19.0 Items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting (Mar 2015) - nothing additional to those items mentioned above.

20.0 Date of next meetings:

- monthly PC meeting - Monday 2nd March 2015 - 7.00pm at Storth Village Church.
- Annual Parish Assembly - Thursday 12th March 2015 - 8.00pm at Heron Theatre, Beetham.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.