

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Monday 6th February 2017 at Beetham School.

Present were - Cllrs Brian Meakin (Chair), David Clark, Margaret Knowles, Chris Noble, Bob Pickup, Ian Stewart and Steve Yates. Also Dist. Cllr Pete McSweeney, Parish Clerk John Scargill, Parish Steward Bill Haddow and one member of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence - Cllr Blenkharn (ill), Cllr Jupe (work) and Cumbria Police.

2.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 9th January 2017, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Meakin, subject to the addition of Cllr McSweeney under item 1 (Apologies for absence).

3.0 Declarations of interest by members present in respect of items on this agenda - Cllr Clark in relation to item 7.1.

4.0 Announcements by the Chair - introduction of Steve Spencer of B4RN, who was invited to speak under item 7.1 (broadband route through the parish).

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes 9th Jan 2017 and not included elsewhere on the agenda.

5.1 Hale Marble Quarry inquiry (5.1) - a letter agreeing to pay the full amount of counsel's fees had duly been sent to, and acknowledged by, Brabners. A BPC cheque had been prepared, but was to be withheld pending satisfactory explanation of a query on the account. Clerk to deal with.

5.2 Village map boards (5.3) - the agreed meetings by East and West member groups had yet to take place.

5.3 Slackhead signpost (5.4) - Cllr Meakin had met with Landscape Trust and agreed a way forward, set out in a written report (ref bcm8376.doc WW183) covering the accepted quote for the work involved (Bob Pickup), funding (BPC maximum £1,000 contribution, with all invoices to be sent to BPC) and management of the project (Bob Pickup). Clerk to clear proposed relocation of the signpost with BT. Cllr Yates to contact Chris Merckel re his possible involvement.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report - received and circulated before the meeting. Few incidents, of a relatively minor nature, related to Beetham parish. Meeting between Cumbria's Police & Crime Commissioner and parish council members from Arnside, Beetham and Milnthorpe had been arranged for Thursday 30th March at Arnside Education Institute, with the three parish councils sharing the hall hire cost of £25.

6.2 County Council matters - a serious motor accident on Beetham Road (A6) on the afternoon of the meeting had severely disrupted traffic. Cllr Stewart had attended a Flood Investigation meeting at Heron Theatre on Tuesday 31 January, when CCC representatives had presented a comprehensive report and answered questions from members of the public. Funding for 2017/18 would increase CCC's portion of Council Tax by the maximum permitted 2% plus a further 1.99% towards adult social care costs - to be finalised at a meeting scheduled for 16 February. The Police budget would increase by 1.91%.

6.3 District Council matters – continuing unreliable household waste collections. Council Tax for 2017/18 would increase by £5 per Band E property (other bands proportionate). A business strategy group would explore possibilities for economic improvement in a number of parishes, including Beetham and Milnthorpe. HGVs known to be using the highly unsuitable Guard Hill Lane as a regular route.

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public – the displaced 30mph sign opposite Beetham cemetery, first raised at BPC's November meeting and reported to Highways, still not dealt with. The possible closure of Leasgill primary school. Uncompleted ground and construction work at Beetham Hall, although crematorium now in full operation – Clerk to send Cllr Stewart his email of 11 January 2017 notifying SLDC of this and to which no response had yet been received. Crematorium chimney also emitting highly visible smoke, contrary to planning application claims. The reason for two new LED lamps on Stanley Street, Beetham, queried by a resident.

7.0 New matters for consideration.

- 7.1 Broadband route through Beetham parish** – Steve Spencer of B4RN presented a written report (circulated to members) on the progress of broadband developments in Beetham and neighbouring parishes. The proposed route of cabling was illustrated in the report and permission sought for laying a feeder cable along Sandside Cutting – **agreed in principle**. Other permissions would be needed, eg from other land owners and where the route crossed the highway. The project was expected to be completed within the next two years. Clerk to search BPC minutes to check what had been said and agreed previously in this connection.
- 7.2 Beetham defibrillator** – the Clerk reported a useful meeting with the head teacher of Beetham School, at which she had expressed keenness to cooperate with BPC on this project – by offering the school as a possible location for the equipment and providing the required operating personnel and equipment servicing facilities. She would also research what schemes might be available to schools for discounted purchase of the equipment.
- 7.3 Beetham A6 milestone refurbishment** – this milestone was located some 400 metres north of the paper works entrance and was classified as a listed building. It had previously been refurbished by AONB volunteers at BPC's request and further refurbishment was now needed. CCC permission had been received and AONB planned the work for spring 2017.
- 7.4 Beetham Annual Assembly 2017** – it was agreed that the format for 2017 should be that of a presentation on broadband developments in the parish, in place of presentations by local leisure groups. Both B4RN representatives and Mr J Jackson of Slackhead (a BT local director) to be invited to speak. Cllr Yates and Clerk to organise.
- 7.5 Grass verge beside phone box at Hale** – had been severely damaged by parked vehicles, thought to be at least in part by those from the adjacent Hale Garage and related premises of Oakroyd. Such parking was considered to contravene highway regulations and be dangerous for road users to/from the A6. Clerk to check with SLDC if relevant planning regulations had been complied with by the two properties concerned.
- 7.6 CCC/Environment Agency Flood Investigation Report re 2015 Storm Desmond effects for Beetham village** – see item 6.2 above.

8.0 Planning matters.

8.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

Feb 2017 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

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

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8.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SLDC ref	Address	Applicant	Development	SLDC decision
SL/2016/0777	1 Arnbarrow, Storth	Evans	Two-storey side extension	Approved with conditions
SL/2016/1053	19 Hillcrest Drive, Slackhead	Duggan	Two-storey rear extension	Approved with conditions

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

8.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – as above.

8.4 Related matters & correspondence – no response from SLDC to BPC’s request for confirmation that all conditions relevant to the Beetham Hall crematorium development had been complied with (see also item 6.4 above).

9. Financial Matters:

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT				MONTH – JANUARY 2017		MEETING – 6 February, 2017	
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		HIBA	
				£	£	£	£
01/01/17	Opening balances				14,978.74		19,241.92
31/01/17	Receipts;						
			Ground rents - B-Jones	12.50			
			- Ryan	20.00			
					32.50		
31/01/17	Payments:						
	426	1076	Harvey Payroll admin (6mths)	25.00			
	427	1077	Hurst Notice board repair	33.00			
	428	1078	Brabners Legal fees (M Quarry)	2,100.00			
			VAT	420.00			
					2,520.00		
	429	1079	Scargill Clerk’s sal Jan (net)	422.53			
			Postage& Stat’y	15.36			
			VAT	1.85			
					439.74		
	Total payments in month				-3,017.74		
31/01/17	Closing balances				11,993.50		19,241.92
31/01/17	Total funds all accounts						£31,235.42
	Reserve Funds at 31/01/17						
			Street lamp reserve	7,200.00			
			General Reserve	12,041.92			
			Total reserves	19,241.92			

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

9.2 Other financial matters – none.

10.0 Parish Steward:

10.1 Update on current events – Sandside tree work underway. HGV’s approaching the paper mill from the south continuing to mistakenly turn into the main entrance to the village from the A6 on seeing the Corn Mill direction sign (item for next meeting agenda). Uncleared debris from recently installed crash barriers on the A6, near same village entrance – Clerk to email Cllr Stewart for Highways attention.

10.2 Further additions to work programme – none.

11.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies – Cllrs Meakin and Pickup had attended the very successful AONB Annual Conference on 25 January.

12.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

- **Cllr Knowles** – lights at Storth School were lit at inappropriate times and causing some public inconvenience. Permanent replacement barriers on the B5282 at the bottom of Storth Road were now in place, but the temporary barriers had been left on site.
- **Cllr Noble** – a large puddle had appeared covering a wide stretch of road at Haverbrack and was impeding pedestrians.
- **Cllr Pickup** – poor car parking facilities at Storth School were responsible for a recent incident involving a school pupil (Heron Hall car park to be considered for possible school use). Overgrown vegetation along Sandside Cutting in need of attention by AONB volunteers (Clerk to organise). Road surfaces on Cockshott Lane and Guard Hill Lane in a poor state. The ‘Low Bridge’ sign on the bridge itself was now back in place, but the advance warning sign on the B5282 at Carr Bank was not, causing unnecessary traffic confusion. Litter a problem in Quarry Lane.
- **Cllr Clark** – serious potholes in Paradise Lane and on A6 - Kings Arms Hale to Moss Lane end (resurfacing on Highways programme for 2017/18). Potholes in Park Road, Milnthorpe (gas pipe complication). Trees from Dallam land, between Quarry Lane end and Milnthorpe New Bridge, encroaching onto footway.
- **Cllr Stewart** – pointed out that any improvements to the road surface on Guard Hill Lane could be a mixed blessing, as this would encourage yet more (unauthorised) use by HGVs.

13.0 Parish Land:

13.1 - **Land at Dixies** – no further developments. Ongoing.

13.2 - **Sandside Cutting** – see item 10.1 above.

13.3 - **Plot 4** – a meeting with Mr & Mrs Ryan to discuss their questions had been arranged for Monday 20 February.

14.0 **General Correspondence** – none.

15.0 **Reading Matter** – none.

16.0 **Items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting (Mar 2017)** – A6 signage at Beetham (see item 10.1 above).

17.0 **Date of next meeting** – normal monthly BPC meetings:

- BPC normal monthly meeting Monday 6 March 2017, 7.00pm at Storth Village Church.
- Beetham Annual Assembly Thursday 16 March 2017, 8.00pm at Heron Theatre, Beetham.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.