

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Monday 2nd March 2015 at Storth Village Church.

Present were - Cllrs Pru Jupe (Chair), Ken Blenkharn, David Clark, David Jupe, Brian Meakin, Chris Noble, Bob Pickup, Ian Stewart and Steve Yates. Also John Scargill (Parish Clerk), Bill Haddow (Parish Steward) and one member of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence - Cumbria Police.

2.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 2nd February 2015, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Blenkharn (who chaired that meeting) 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 - Cllr Pru Jupe announced that she would be standing down as Chair of Beetham Parish Council at the 2015 elections and nominated Cllr Brian Meakin as her successor in this role. **Agreed** - unanimously by all members present that Cllr Brian Meakin become Chair of Beetham Parish Council as from 7 May 2015. Cllr Meakin accepted.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes 2nd February 2015 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

5.1 Highways flooding (Leighton Beck Road and B6384 at Whassett (5.1) - recent weather conditions had enabled useful photographs of the problem to be taken at both locations and identify the probable causes.. These photographs had been passed to CCC Highways by Cllr Stewart with the request for a time-scale commitment for rectification - guaranteed by Cllr Stewart as being before 31 December 2015.

5.2 Burntbarrow Woods public inquiry (5.3) - **Agreed** - that Beetham PC continues to support the original CCC order for public Right of Way over the relevant pathways and would be represented at the forthcoming hearing by Cllrs Brian Meakin and Steve Yates. If possible, and together with Cllr Pickup, they would also attend an earlier scheduled drop-in meeting of local residents supporting the order.

5.3 Burntbarrow/Shaw Lane link path handrail (5.5) - photographs of the site had now been forwarded to Cllr Stewart. **Agreed** - that repair work be undertaken at BPC's expense (estimated at £100 - £200). Cllr Stewart to email the Clerk with names of possible contractors.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report - received and circulated. One reported crime in Storth, resulting in one arrest. General continuing problem with doorstep selling and rural acquisitive crime.

6.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart) - key social statistics continued to show South Lakeland in a very favourable light compared with the country as a whole and local parishes fully reflected this. CCC was being pro-active as regards new apprenticeship schemes and health/life-style initiatives. CCC's 2% increase in Council Tax income was expected to result in slightly increased funding for Highways, though contractor costs were rising.

6.3 District Council matters (Cllr P Jupe) - 2015/16 budget now approved with minor

modifications. This would be the fifth consecutive year for no increase in Council Tax. Increased awareness of the need for transparency in council activities.

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public – no further progress on the Mill Lane, Beetham issue. Suggestion for a 10mph sign at the Corn Mill end of Mill Lane - being considered by Dallam.

7.0 Planning Matters

7.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

Mar. 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

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

SL/2015/0152	Beetham Holiday Homes, Slackhead	Westmorland Caravans Ltd	Variation of condition so as to allow year-round use	18/03/15	
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7.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SL/2014/1184	Woodview Barn, Beetham	Mercer	Conversion of redundant barn into 2 dwellings	Approved with conditions
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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 – FEB 2015	MEETING – 2 nd March 2015		HIBA
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		
				£	£	£
01/02/15	Opening balances				6,093.25	19,222.73
28/02/15	Receipts:					
	68	ElecNW	Wayleave	50.00		
	69	CCC	IS annual amenity grant	1,000.00		
					1,050.00	
28/02/15	Payments:					
“	325	971 Scargill	Clerk’s sal (Feb ’15)	380.58		
			Post & Stat’y	14.83		
			VAT	.91		
				396.32		
“	Total payments in month				-396.32	
28/02/15	Closing balances				6,746.93	19,222.73
28/02/15	Total funds all accounts				£25,969.66	
Reserve Funds at 28/02/15						
		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:

- **New transparency legislation** – BPC’s proposed action approved by CALC. Implementation deadline 01/04/17.
- **Staff pension requirements** – Staging Date set at 01/02/17 but BPC currently has no eligible/qualifying personnel.
- **Grants awarded for 2014/15 – agreed** – AONB £700, Royal British Legion a further £30 (making £60 in all and a total grants figure of £760 for year).

9.0 Parish Steward:

- 9.1 PS's update on current events** (reported prior to meeting) - there had been no response to BPC's claim for £150 against JMD Haulage Contractors re damaged verge in Beetham. **Agreed** - Parish Steward to undertake this work at once and Clerk to send the bill to JMD Haulage.
- 9.2 Additions to PS's work programme** - as above (9.1). Also, PS to remove badly worn direction sign at Leighton Beck Rd junction, Slackhead, then repaint and re-install subsequent to sandblasting (to be arranged by Cllr Clark).

10.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies - none.

11.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

- Cllr D Jupe- - 'Beetham' sign on A6, north of village, badly rusted
- Cllr Blenkarn - water was still gathering on the B6384 at Whassett.

12.0 Parish Land:

- 12.1- Land at Dixies** - Clerk had been in touch with the Sandside Quarry manager, who would arrange formal clearance with her HQ for BPC to collect more boulders from the quarry. She would also make direct contact with David Brailsford to go through health & safety formalities (see also item 14.0 below).
- 12.2 - Plot 4** - Wright & Lord were on the point of producing the rental agreements - Clerk to push for early finalisation of this matter.
- 12.4- Sandside Cutting** - Cllr Pickup had received a request from B4YS to route their proposed fibre-optic cable along Sandside Cutting. **Agreed** - in principle, subject to more details of this proposal being made available and being approved. With regard to the felling of trees, Cllr Stewart had met with Cameron Durie on site to agree necessary work. **Agreed** - any trees that were regarded as dangerous must be dealt with properly and quickly. Cllr Pickup to chase specialist contractors who had previously quoted favourable rates for the more difficult work.

13.0 Beetham Annual Assembly (12/03/15) - most invitees had now agreed to attend and present reports. Good publicity was essential - Clerk to email Notice of Meeting to all members for reproduction and distribution as widely as possible. Cllr Pickup to laminate as necessary. Cllr Meakin to arrange Westmorland Gazette mention. Cllr Pru Jupe to arrange catering as usual.

14.0 Environmental Partnership Fund grant scheme. - the response from the Fund to BPC's Dixies project submission had been encouraging, but more detail was requested and general enlargement of the project suggested. Cllrs Meakin and Yates to meet to discuss. **Agreed** - that Cllr P Jupe ask a local landscape architect who specialises in sea-front design for an informal independent opinion on the project as a matter of urgency.

15.0 Parish Elections 2015 - would take place on 7 May 2015. Clerk would attend SLDC briefing on 3 March. All current BPC members indicated they were prepared to stand for re-election.

16.0 General Correspondence:

- 25/02/15 - Beetham WI - suggestion for a permanent floral display (planter) at the northern (A6) entrance to Beetham village, with Beetham WI undertaking ongoing maintenance. Clerk to respond with suggestion for a meeting (Beetham WI rep., BPC rep. and Parish Steward Bill Haddow).
- 26/02/15 - Bob Cartwright (Red squirrel management) - notice of meeting 25/03/15 and inviting BPC attendance.
- undated - SLDC - encouraging parishes to have a parish charter.

17.0 Reading Matter - none.

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

19.0 Date of next meetings:

- Annual Parish Assembly - Thursday 12th March 2015 - 8.00pm at Heron Theatre, Beetham.
- normal monthly BPC meeting - Monday 13 April 2015 at 7.00pm at Beetham School.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.