

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a remote (Zoom) meeting of Beetham Parish Council held on Monday 12 April 2021.

Present were – Cllrs Brian Meakin (Chair), David Clark, David Crayston, Becky Dewar, Brian Dean, Peter Greifenberg (as from agenda item 11), Margaret Knowles, Bob Pickup and Steve Yates. Also C Cllr Pete McSweeney and D Cllr R Audland. D Cllr Helen Chaffey (for agenda items 1 to 6), Parish Clerk John Scargill and one member of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence – Cllr Greifenberg apologised for his late arrival at the meeting.

2.0 The minutes of the previous meetings, held on 1 March 2021, had been circulated by email. These were approved by members present and authorised for signature by Cllr Meakin.

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

4.0 Announcements by the Chair – Cllr Meakin expressed the sadness felt by all members at the recent death of the Duke of Edinburgh. **Agreed** – that the only way, in practice, that Beetham PC as a body could show its respects was by members individually signing the online Book of Condolence that had been organised by the palace.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes 1 March 2021 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

- 5.1 Beetham flooding (5.1)** – C Cllr McSweeney had been pleased with the good attendance at the remote Public Meeting held on 6 April 2021 and by the favourable response from Dallam Tower Estate to the display material produced for the meeting by CCC and Environment Agency as organisers. Some BPC members were disappointed that only the Stanley St situation had been dealt with in detail. Ongoing.
- 5.2 Leighton Beck Road surface water (5.2)** – This issue was closely linked with Beetham flooding generally (item 5.1 above) and there seemed to be little progress in resolving it. C Cllr McSweeney assured members that Highways were taking the issue seriously. Some work had been done but had failed to solve the problem. There was some concern about the adequacy of funding allocated by the various authorities involved both for this and flooding problems generally, which were significantly linked. Ongoing.
- 5.3 Beetham ghost footpath (5.3)** – no further progress in what was a long legal process.
- 5.4 Beetham A6 speed limit revision (5.4)** – the present 30mph speed limit would remain in place until the Beetham bridge repairs had been completed (so well into 2021). It would then revert to a 50mph limit unless Highways/Transport Agency could be persuaded otherwise by sufficient evidence to justify permanent reduction to say 40mph. **Agreed** – to remove this item from BPC meeting agendas for the time being.
- 5.5 Mobile SID on loan (5.5)** – **Agreed** – that this equipment be moved back to the A6 (but, post meeting, refused by CCC's CRASH team, so now available for elsewhere).
- 5.6 Electricity North West funding for street lamps conversion to LED (5.6)** – CCC had now provided useful information on the comparative capital and running costs of LED versus sodium but there had been a complete lack of response from ENW to recent BPC queries re amounts of conversion funding available. Clerk to persist.
- 5.7 A second SID for BPC (5.7)** – BPC's Finance Committee had met to discuss and concluded that BPC funds would be available in 2021 to bridge the £1K gap between the cost of the equipment and external grants and donations. Their recommendation to proceed with this project was **agreed** by members, subject to obtaining the necessary permissions from the appropriate authorities. Cllr Crayston to lead in this. Underway.
- 5.8 Slackhead Refuse Tip leachate** – CCC had conducted a site inspection and taken samples. C Cllr McSweeney to press CCC for progress with next stages.
- 5.9 Beetham Annual Assembly 19 April 2021** – good progress with publicity – laminated posters already placed around the parish plus good local press coverage.

6. Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report – a general report dated March 2021 and covering ‘Kendal & Kendal Rural’ received and circulated to members. No references to Beetham parish, hopefully meaning that no police activity had been necessary there.

6.2 County and District Council matters (C Cllr McSweeney):

- i. Local Government reorganisation – the public consultation period would end 19 April, with a decision expected sometime in the weeks to follow.
- ii. Hazelslack caravan site – an investigation had revealed that the diseased ash trees recently felled were not subject to a TPO. Permission for the work had come from the Forestry Commission. No local authorities were involved. No replanting conditions applied. Resulting protest by some local residents about the removal of this screening and possible further development of the site, although the latter was precluded by its location within the AONB.

6.3 Matters raised by electors – none.

7.0 New Matters for consideration:

7.1 Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022 – still some way off but may need to be considered by BPC at a later date when more information should be available.

7.2 Request by Cllr Pickup – for previous specific matters to be raised again, at this meeting, where he considered their past handling had been unsatisfactory, namely:

- i. Traffic speeding in Guard Hill Lane, where Cllr Pickup alleges lack of traffic-calming action by C Cllr McSweeney and CCC. C Cllr McSweeney had in fact spoken to Highways about this and evidence of speeding was required before such measures could be considered. Cllr Pickup was asked to withdraw his allegation but did not.
- ii. Traffic speeding along, and HGV use of, Carr Bank Road, where Cllr Pickup alleges misleading signage by Highways and lack of remedial action by C Cllr McSweeney and CCC. This problem arises due to the inability of some heavy traffic to negotiate the low railway bridge at Arnside. Highways signage actually directs traffic from the M6/A6 to reach Arnside via the Yealands and Black Dyke. The ‘misleading’ signs are Network Rail signs and poorly sited. C Cllr McSweeney has secured the co-operation of Milnthorpe PC for the loan of its hand-held speed gun for monitoring the situation. Cllr Pickup was asked to withdraw his allegation but did not, claiming his allegation was made as a private individual and not as a BPC member.
- iii. Road safety issues with the north-bound bus-stop on the B5282 at Carr Bank, where Cllr Pickup alleges lack of action by C Cllr McSweeney and CCC to resolve the situation. In fact all parties involved (school, bus company, CCC) had been consulted and concluded that there was no viable alternative to the present location. **Agreed** – to investigate the possibilities for extending the safe standing area at the present site. Clerk to approach landowner as a first step. Cllr Pickup welcomed this proposal.
- iv. General and constant traffic speeding on the B5282 at Carr Bank, where Cllr Pickup alleges ‘nothing has been done by CCC over a period of years’. C Cllr McSweeney pointed out a survey and report by CCC at the request of the late Ian Stewart (County, District & parish councillor). Cllr Pickup was asked to withdraw his allegation and did.
- v. The need for a ‘ghost footpath’ along the B5282 between Rock Cottage and Friar Cote Bridge. This suggestion had been discussed at the BPC meeting 9 November 2020, but rejected as impractical by BPC members due to the narrowness of the road. C Cllr McSweeney had emailed all BPC members, including Cllr Pickup, after consultation with Highways and confirming its agreement with the decision. These conditions had not changed and BPC’s decision was upheld. Cllr Pickup was unable to recall the McSweeney email.
- vi. Cllr Pickup had previously alleged in writing that C Cllr McSweeney did not support traffic calming, which C Cllr McSweeney denied and produced evidence of his support. Cllr Pickup was asked to withdraw his allegation but remained silent.

8. BPC Land issues:

- i. Recreational anglers at Sandside Promenade – the agreed signs had now been produced and it was hoped they would have the desired effect of maintaining unimpeded passage for pedestrians.
- ii. As reported at the BPC March meeting, SLDC approval had been received for the felling of two diseased ash trees on Plot 4. Cllr Pickup was asked to ensure this was done at an early date.
- iii. The owners of a property in Rose Hill Grove were concerned about the safety of the adjacent BPC wall. They had offered to purchase this particular stretch of wall (to relieve BPC of the future cost of maintaining it) and the strip of BPC land alongside. **Agreed** – that BPC’s Parish Land Working Group to inspect the site and advise.

9. Carr Bank issues – B5282 - usual excessive traffic speeds and overhanging trees.

10. Parish Footpath issues – none.

11. Planning Matters:

11.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

Mar 2021 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.2021/0190	Ship Inn, Sandside		Cellar & cold store extension		No objection
SL/2021/0201	7 Keasdale Ave, Carr Bank		Construction of single Storey side & rear ext’n	30/03/21	No objection
TR/2021/46	Blenkarn, Leighton Dr, Slackhead		Felling/trimming trees		No objection
SL/2021/0221	Brantwood, Heathwaite Close, Storth		Detached garage with hobby area & Juliet balc.	02/04/21	No objection
SL/2021/0226	Unnamed field in Holme		Erection of 4 stables and a hay barn	07/04/21	Objections lodged
SL/2021/0230	Treetops, 4 Keasdale Ave, Carr Bank		Single garage		No objection
SL/2021/0284	The Dews, Carr Bank Rd		Side conservatory (retrospective)	15/04/21	No objection
TR/2021/0068	Ashton House, Beetham		Felling two ash trees		No objection
SL/2021/0305	Hazelslack Tower Farm		Concreting farm yard with drainage provision		No objection
SL/2021/0309	Carlton House, Whassett		Extensions & alterations	30/04/21	No objection
SL/2021/0315	Shaw House Farm, Storth (annexe)		Change of use – to short stay holiday accomm’n	30/04/21	No objection

11.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

TR/2021/0026	Aashton House, Beetham		Tree in conservation area	Approved
SL/2021/0030	Treetops, 4 Keasdale Ave, Carr Bank		Single garage	Approved with conditions
SL/2020/0949	Hazelslack Farm, Carr Bank		Lawful development – installation of above ground rainwater storage tank	Approved

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

11.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – as above.

11.4 Related matters & correspondence – none.

12. Financial Matters:

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT		MONTH – MARCH 2021		MEETING – 12 April 2021	
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c	Premium a/c
				£	£
01/03/21	Opening balances			5,543.62	19,337.33
31/03/21	Receipts	Ground rents March	B-Jones	8.34	
		Grant – SLDC (re Beetham Xmas tree 2021 - Haddow)		260.00	
		Barclays Bank – interest to 7 March			.48
		Adjustment – BPC chq 1235 March 2020 cancelled (unpresented)		1.00	
31/03/21	Payments:				
	646	1300	C M Signs – anglers’ signs Sandside	174.00	
			VAT	34.80	
				208.80	
	647	1301	Storth Village Hall – storage rent 20/21	25.00	
	648	1302	Storth Village Hall – grant for 20/21	400.00	
	649	1303	Lanc City Cncl (AONB) – grant for 20/21	700.00	
	650	1304	Meakin – BPC Chair’s hon 20/21	120.00	
	651	1305	Scargill – postage/stat’y 5mths	67.55	
			VAT	10.48	
				78.03	
	652	1306	Scargill – Clerk’s sal Mar (net)	569.48	
	653	1307	HMRC – PAYE March	142.40	
				-2,243.71	
31/03/21	Closing balances			3,569.25	19,337.81
31/03/21	Total funds all accounts			£22,907.06	

Breakdown of Total Funds at 31/03/21			
		Street lamp reserve	9,600.00
		Xmas tree funding 2021 (SLDC/PMS)	260.00
		Sports Field path project reserve (SLDC/PMS)	450.00
		SID2	1,000.00
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		Total reserves/allocated funds	11,310.00
		Working funds	11,597.06
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		Total funds	22,907.06

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

12.2 Other financial matters:

BPC annual accounts to 31 March 2021 – previously circulated – APPROVED.

BPC Risk Assessment March 2021 – APPROVED for signing by Cllr Meakin & the Clerk.

13.0 Parish Steward:

13.1 Update on current events – clearance of A6 footway at Beetham – now completed.

13.2 Further additions to work programme – none.

14.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies – none.

15.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Knowles – fallen finger post, referred to Cllr Pickup and dealt with.

Cllr Pickup – a rumour that Landscape Trust planned a new car park at Teddy Heights was untrue.

Cllr Crayston – a broken bridge (path 504005 Hale-Holme) reported – early replacement promised.

16.0 General Correspondence – Storth Village Hall – 9/4/21 – thanks for BPC grant '20-'21 £400.

17.0 Reading Matter – none.

18.0 Items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting (April 2021) and additional to items referred to above – none.

19.0 Date of next meetings - Annual Assembly 8.00pm Mon 19 April 2021 – remotely via Zoom.
- PC meeting 7.00pm Mon 10 May- remotely via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.