

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held on Monday 7th April 2014 at Storth Village Church at 7.00pm.

Present were Cllrs Ken Blenkarn (chair), Brian Meakin, Chris Noble, Bob Pickup (as from agenda item 6.3) and Ian Stewart. Also John Scargill (Parish Clerk). Police representatives for agenda item 6.1 only. No members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence – Cllrs Pru Jupe (work) and Steve Yates (holiday).

2.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 3rd March 2014, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Blenkarn.

3.0 Declarations of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda – Cllr Meakin declared an interest in agenda item 7.1 (SL/2014/0311) and took no part in discussion on this item.

4.0 Announcements by the Chair – none.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes: 3rd March 2014 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

5.1 Hale Interpretation Panel (5.2) – Dallam had now approved the final version of the panel and the precise site had been finally agreed. The boulder would be moved to the site in May and the framed panel attached.

5.2 Beetham Annual Assembly 2014 (5.3) – attendance by both BPC members and members of the public had been disappointing but the new format had been very useful in publicising what was going on in the parish. **Agreed** – that the new format should be retained for 2015 and the event given more widespread publicity.

5.3 Land beside the B5282 at Sandside (5.4) – AONB had been approached and had expressed interest in participating in any improvement scheme. The views of the PC's solicitor was less encouraging and warned of possible high costs if legal ownership were sought.

Resolved – that BPC should proceed with the project without pursuing the legal ownership issue further and allocate an initial budget of £500 for general clearance work, to include any AONB input. Subsequent improvements would be considered separately.

5.4 Mill Lane, Beetham (5.5) – no further progress.

5.5 Beetham Parish Council vacancy (5.6) – Mr David Jupe had formally applied to fill the vacancy and had been interviewed. As he was considered to be an excellent candidate -

Resolved – that Mr David Jupe be appointed as a co-opted member of Beetham Parish Council, subject to completing the necessary documentation, and invited to attend future meetings of the council, commencing May 2014.

5.6 BPC representative on Storth Primary School Board of Governors – the board of governors had requested that Jessica Harvey should be retained as the Parish Council representative, despite no longer being a BPC member. **Agreed.**

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report - the theft of unsecured articles from rural locations continues to be a priority issue. Eight reported incidents in Beetham parish, resulting in one recorded crime. Three minor highway incidents. Police working closely with North Yorks force in dealing with cross-border activity. Continuing work with schools to promote speed awareness.

6.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart) - big budget savings made already, but more needed. Possible charging for parking on highway being considered to raise income. £1K could be available for BPC in 2014/15 for a specific community improvement project (see agenda item 9 for project suggestion). Willing to consider any outstanding need for white line refreshing - Clerk to check on what was previously requested and email Cllr Stewart.

6.3 District Council matters (Cllr Stewart) - SLDC in a sound position. Implementation of Development Plan, including the now-combined (with LCC) AONB area, dominating proceedings. BPC should consider preparing a Neighbourhood Plan to benefit from financial advantages. **Agreed** - to include this on agenda for next BPC meeting.

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public - none.

7.0 Planning Matters

7.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

Apl. 2014 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/2014/0199	Laundry Cottage, Hale	Dibb	Single-storey extension plus new windows	31/03/14	No objections
SL/2014/0231	Hale End, Hale	Richards	Agricultural mach'y store	04/04/14	No objections

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

SL/2014/0311	8 Old Myse, Storth	Meakin	Erection of fence	23/04/14	No objections
SL/2014/0327	Fox Farm, Haverbrack	Henderson	Replacement of domestic outbuilding	22/04/14	No objections

7.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

(More planning information available non 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 – MARCH 2014		MEETING – 7 th Apl 2014	
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c £	HIBA £
01/03/14	Opening balances			251.75	20,212.72
31/03/14	Receipts:				
	59	Barclays	Bank interest to 2 March 2014		2.58
		CCC	Amenity improvement grant (IS)	1,500.00	
31/03/14	Tsfr to Cur a/c from HIBA			1,000.00	-1,000.00
31/03/14	Payments:				
“	276 921	Thompson	Annual Ass. Catering	100.00	
	277 922	A2A	Website – domain reg fee	25.00	
			VAT	5.00	
				30.00	
	278 923	AONB	Grant 2013/14	700.00	
	278 924	Beetham Tspt	Grant 2013/14	100.00	
	279 925	Lanc. Canal	Sub. 2014	14.00	
	280 926	Blenkharn	Chair’s hon. 2013/14	120.00	
	281 927	Beetham Sch.	Meeting room rent 2013/14	120.00	
	282 928	Storth V Ch	- ditto -	45.00	
	283 929	Storth V H	Room rental (Annual Assembly)	20.50	
	284 930	Storth V H	Storage rental 2013/14	25.00	
	286 931	Wright & L.	Legal fee	60.00	
			VAT	12.00	
				72.00	
	287 932	Milne Moser	Land Reg. search fee	28.00	
	288 933	Scargill	Clerk’s sal. Mar (net)	360.63	
			Postage	5.20	
				365.83	
	289 934	HMRC	PAYE remit. Mar ‘14 qutr.	272.60	
	290 935	Hurst	Notice board maint’ce	500.00	
“	Total payments in month				-2,512.93
31/03/14	Closing balances			238.82	19,215.30
31/03/14	Total funds all accounts				£19,454.12

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

8.2 Other financial matters:

- **Publicity material re precept 2014/15** – (as agreed at BPC meeting 06/01/14) to be issued as and when required.
- **Letter of Authority for Clerk** to transfer funds between BPC Deposit and Current bank account – now appears to be needed for each and every transfer. **APPROVED** – that, as a more practical alternative, a substantial sum of funds should in future be kept in the BPC Current a/c, to avoid the monthly transfers currently needed to cover monthly payments. Clerk to implement, if possible by having the 2014/15 precept paid directly into the BPC Current a/c (instead of the Deposit a/c as previously).
- **Clerk’s holiday entitlement** – it had been established that there was no accruing financial liability to BPC as a result of the Clerk’s unclaimed holiday entitlement. Holidays not taken could not be carried forward and there was no entitlement to payment in lieu.
- **BPC annual accounts 2013/14** – had previously been circulated.
 - **Resolved** – that BPC annual accounts 2013/14 be **APPROVED**.
 - **Resolved** – BPC Annual Return 2013/14, presented at the meeting, be **APPROVED**. This was then signed by the Chairman and Clerk on behalf of Beetham Parish Council.
 - also **AGREED** that the Street-lamp replacement fund, currently part of general funds, be shown separately in all future accounts.

9.0 Parish Steward:

9.1 PS’s update on current events – still unable to deal with regular flooding problems on B5282 (Guard Hill Lane end) and B6384 (Whassett Common). Specialised equipment needed. Action already requested from Highways. Clerk to email Cllr Stewart to take up the matter again with Highways with a view to ensuring effective action to eliminate the hazard to road users.

9.2 Additions to PS’s work programme:

- as far as possible restore surface of path through Sandside Cutting, using hardcore.
- repair broken lath on Hale seat.
- repair handrail on path between Nuns Avenue and Johnny's Steps
- prepare a list of all village name signs in the parish, stating general condition of each. Clean where possible and note where repainting or replacement needed. (Extra funding from CCC could be available for this - see minute 6.2 above).

10.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies - Cllr Meakin had attended an AONB meeting at which the SLDC District Plan and, in particular, the Housing Needs Survey had been discussed. It was **AGREED** that it would be helpful if this survey could be extended downwards to include individual parish needs. Clerk to email Cllr Stewart for him to enquire and facilitate.

11.0 Local highways amenity work: none additional to items mentioned above.

12.0 Parish Matters (for information only): it was reported that Dallam were understood to be currently exploring the existence of minerals under their mineral rights for land in the parish.

13.0 Parish Land:

Plot 4 ground rents - in accordance with advice received from the council's solicitors, notices had been sent to all tenants currently paying ground rent to the Parish Council that simple written rent agreements were planned for commencement in 2015/16.

Sandside Cutting - tree work had been, and was being, done as far as possible where not restricted by TPOs. Application had been lodged with the Forestry Commission for a felling licence for work required on trees that were TPO-protected.

14.0 BPC liaison with Arnside Parish Plan Trust (APPT) - no further developments.

15.0 Organised litter-pick on Saturday 29 March - the number of volunteers had been disappointing, with only five in East Ward clearing a stretch of the A6 between Hale and the paper mill. The absence of any volunteers at all in West Ward was attributed to the fact that it did not really have a litter problem. Members thanked those volunteers who had turned out.

16.0 General Correspondence (not circulated):

- 21/03/14 - SLDC - Request for suggestions for Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme.
- 28/03/14 - Planning Inspectorate - notice of public inquiry re ROW for Burntbarrow Woods at Storth Village Hall on 03/09/14, commencing 10.00am. Clerk to email Cllr Stewart to establish CCC's position on this issue and to ask if they would be represented at the inquiry.

17.0 Reading Matter: Clerks & Councils Direct - March 2014 - Issue 92.

18.0 Items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting (May 2014) - nothing additional to those arising above.

19.0 Date of next meeting:

- Monday 12 May 2014 - 7.00pm at Beetham School - BPC Annual Meeting, to be followed immediately by any planning meetings (as notified) and then by a normal monthly PC meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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.