

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of Annual Meeting of Beetham Parish Council held on Monday 8th May 2017 at Storth School at 7.00pm.

Present were Cllrs Brian Meakin, Margaret Knowles, Chris Noble, Bob Pickup, Ian Stewart and Steve Yates. Also Parish Clerk John Scargill. No members of the public.

1.0 Election of Chair of Beetham Parish Council for the year 2017/18.

Resolved - that Cllr Brian Meakin be elected Chair of Beetham PC for the year 2017/18.

2.0 Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office – signed by Cllr Meakin.

3.0 Apologies for absence received - from Cllrs Blenkharn (unwell) and Jupe (work). Also from District Cllr P McSweeney, Parish Steward Bill Haddow and Cumbria Police.

4.0 Announcement by the Chair - none.

5.0 Appointment of Vice-Chair of Beetham Parish Council for the year 2017/18.

Resolved – that Cllr Pru Jupe be elected Vice-Chair of Beetham PC for the year 2017/18.

6.0 Appointment of representatives on Outside Bodies.

Resolved - that councillors be appointed to represent the council on outside bodies for the year 2017/18 as follows, subject to the agreement of absent appointees:

- Beetham Exhibition Trust C Noble, P Jupe
- Lancaster Canal Trust Ken Blenkharn, Pru Jupe
- AONB Executive Brian Meakin, Pru Jupe
- CALC South Lakeland Com. Margaret Knowles, Ian Stewart
- Storth School Governors Jessica Harvey (although not a BPC member)
- Quarry Liaison Committee David Clark
- Burton-in-Kendal Educ. Fdn. Steve Yates
- Local Area Partnership Margaret Knowles

7.0 Appointment of committees, sub-committees etc.

Resolved – that councillors be re-appointed to serve as follows:

- East Ward Planning Ken Blenkharn, David Clark, Pru Jupe, Steve Yates
- West Ward Planning Brian Meakin, Margaret Knowles, Chris Noble, Bob Pickup, Ian Stewart
- Parish Newsletter Brian Meakin (editor), the Clerk (correspondent)
- Parish Council website Brian Meakin
- Parish Land Wkg. Grp. David Clark, Brian Meakin, Bob Pickup, Steve Yates
- Finance WorkingGroup Brian Meakin, Pru Jupe, Steve Yates

8.0 Annual Subscriptions.

Resolved – that the following subscriptions be approved:

- CALC for 2017/18 (£287.64) and Lancaster Canal Trust (last paid £14 for the year 2016).

9.0 Inspection of Deeds.

Written confirmation from Milne Moser that they were holding title deeds to the following BPC properties:

- Land at Slackhead, Beetham to the rear of Rock Cottage (title number CU261848).
- Land at Sandside, known as Sandside Cutting (title number CU107948)
- Land at WWPS Sandside (sub-station) – counterpart lease.

No other property and no investments.

This concluded the business of the annual meeting and was followed by a Planning Committee meeting for East Ward. A normal monthly meeting of the Parish Council then commenced, at approximately 07.30pm, as follows:

10.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 3rd April 2017, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Meakin.

11.0 Declaration of Interest by members in respect of items on this agenda - none.

12.0 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 3rd April 2017:

12.1 Village map boards (5.1) - progressing. Sign wording had been proposed by Cllrs Knowles and Yates: to be agreed & finalised with Barbara Henneberry of AONB

12.2 Slackhead signpost (5.2) - progressing. Cllr Pickup to email the Clerk with contact details for Ray Onslow (Landscape Trust)

12.3 Hale verge (5.4) - vehicles (presumably Hale Garage-related) continuing to park on the section of the verge recently covered in stone chippings - and dangerously near the junction with the A6. Clerk to remind SLDC (cc Cllr Stewart) about BPC's unanswered request to investigate 'change of use' (to a taxi business) of the nearby property known as Oakroyd.

12.4 A6 signage re Corn Mill and Paper Mill (5.5) - no progress.

12.5 BPC annual grants publicity (7.1) - agreed - that more publicity be arranged by way of a routine footnote on monthly BPC meeting minutes, in parish noticeboards and in BPC's quarterly newsletter in Gateway - Clerk to organise. Also periodic mention in the local press.

13.0 Public Participation:

13.1 Police Report - received before the meeting, circulated and contents noted.

13.2 County Council Matters (Cllr Stewart) - recent County Council elections, with some significant shifts in party-political power. No single group has overall control.

13.3 District Council Matters (Cllr Stewart) - the land allocations process was slowly moving towards conclusion, with as-yet unresolved questions regarding the precise nature of proposed development at Sandside and the status of Quarry Lane.

13.4 Any other matters raised by electors - none.

14.0 New matters for consideration:

14.1 Loan of SID from LAP - after discussion, **agreed** - that, as the support pole was now in position, BPC should accept the equipment in June (as per the latest schedule) and be prepared to accept the sharing between users of likely battery renewal costs - at least for a trial period. Bill Haddow to be asked to take care of setting up and dismantling of the SID as required.

14.2 Footpath SD471793, Sandside - Cllr Pickup intended to press for retention of public ROW status in his capacity as a local resident. **Agreed** - that BPC, as a body, supported this in principle but had no wish to be involved, particularly as regards any financial input.

14.3 Leighton Beck Road (Ashton House hedge) - not considered to be a serious problem, but **agreed** that Clerk to write to owners requesting that the hedge be cut back.

14.4 Beetham Jubilee Garden - Clerk to discuss with Parish Steward Bill Haddow if maintenance of the garden might be better removed from his list of duties and undertaken by professional gardeners. Clerk to enquire about availability and cost such gardeners. Clerk also to enquire about the possibility of Beetham Nurseries and/or Billerud involvement.

14.5 Field opposite Ashton House, Beetham - Clerk to enquire about any recent change of ownership and its implications.

15.0 Planning Matters.

15.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

May 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
SL/2017/0233	26 Hillcrest Drive, Slackhead,	Hewitt	Detached single-storey garage	13/04/17	No objections
SL/2017/0244	49 Burntbarrow, Storth	Shepherd	Single-storey side ext'n	19/04/17	No objections
SL/2017/0301	Breeze Hill, Carr Bank Rd	Heathcote	Single-storey side ext'n	01/05/17	No objections

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

SL/2017/0361	Birch Wood, Leighton Drive, Slackhead	Chapman	Extensive external alterations	19/05/17	No objections
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8.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SL/2017/0122 0123	Rose Villa, Hale	Christou	Removal of condition 4 re SL/2016/0819-0820 (planting of blackthorn etc)	Refused
SL/2017/0217	The Spinney, Leighton Drive, Slackhead	Waring	Domestic accommodation into roof space	Approved with conditions

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

15.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – as above.

15.4 Related matters & correspondence - none

16.0 Financial Matters.

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT MONTH – APRIL 2017 MEETING – 8 May, 2017

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c £	HIBA £
01/04/17	Opening balances				19,244.32
30/04/17	Receipts;				
		Ground rents - B-Jones		12.50	
		- Ryan		20.00	
					32.50
		IS:PMcS Village panels contribution		260.00	
		SLDC Precept 2017/18		17,655.49	
		Council Tax grant		505.51	
					18,161.00
30/04/17	Payments:				
	441 1091	Hartley	Internal audit 2016/17	50.00	
	442 1092	AONB	Milestone clean/paint	62.00	
			VAT	12.40	
					74.40
	443 1093	DHM	Plant hire re S Cutting work	385.00	
	444 1094	CALC	Subscription 2017/18	287.64	
	445 1095	GHS	Grasscutting (X 2)	370.00	
	446 1096	Scargill	Clerk's sal Aprl (net)	412.54	
		Total payments in month			-1,579.58
30/04/17	Closing balances				26,313.23
30/04/17	Total funds all accounts				£45,557.55
	Reserve Funds at 30/04/17	Street lamp reserve		9,600.00	
		General Reserve		9,644.32	
		Total reserves		19,244.32	

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

16.2 Any other financial matters:

- BPC annual accounts 2016/17 – circulated before the meeting – **APPROVED by resolution.**

- BPC Annual Return 2016/17 – presented to the meeting – **APPROVED by resolution** and signed by Cllr Meakin (as Chair) and by the Clerk on behalf of Beetham PC.

- Clerk's annual Phone Allowance, **agreed** to be changed forthwith to a 'Telecommunications Allowance' of £175pa, representing a reasonable estimated BPC share of his total email transmissions and broadband costs, rather than previous telephone only usage.

- retirement/resignation of the BPC internal auditor - Clerk to make enquiries for replacement as from 2017/18.

17.0 Parish Steward.

17.1 - report on current events - had reported no action by Highways to remove stones from behind new crash barrier at A6 Bela Bridge, Beetham, thus preventing mowing of verge without risk of damage to mowing equipment. Clerk to email Cllr Stewart (for Highways), thanking him for the work done so far but to requesting action to remove remaining stones.

17.2 - additions to PS's programme of work - seasonal clearance of bridle track between Corn Mill and Church Street, Beetham. Also SID-related work (see 14.1 above).

17.3 - local highways amenity priorities - clearance of verge overgrowth along Beetham A6 footways. Clerk to check if alternative specialist contractor/equipment available for the latter.

18.0 Reports from BPC representatives on outside bodies - none.

19.0 General parish matters:

Cllr Pickup - speeding motorcyclist on B5282 at Sandside.

Cllr Knowles - thanked Cllr Pickup for the clearance work so far done in Sandside Cutting.

Cllr Meakin - noted that the old Travis Perkins site remained 'for sale' pending finalisation of any SLDC development plans.

20.0 Parish Land.

- **Dixies** - sale of this site from Historical Railways (Estate) to Dallam Tower Estate in process and BPC's interest in seeing the site generally tidied up noted by Dallam Tower Estate.

- **Plot 4** - Cllr Jupe had submitted the draft wording for a letter from BPC to Mr & Mrs Ryan confirming agreement of changes to the covenants attaching to their Rock Cottage property. This was **approved** - Clerk to action. Clerk to prepare ground rent agreement for the new owners of Cross Cottage as soon as possible after completion of their purchase.

- **Sandside Cutting** - Cllr Pickup reported that essential clearance work completed. Clerk to ask Parish Steward to remove any remaining cuttings as soon as possible. Other larger trees need the attention of a professional tree surgeon - Clerk to place on agenda for BPC September meeting.

21.0 Annual review of BPC Standing Orders - Agreed - BPC's Finance Group to consider and report back.

22.0 General Correspondence - a number of incoming communications had been circulated on receipt and were noted, but required no action.

23.0 Reading Matter:

- Clerks & Councils Direct - May 2017 - Issue 111

24.0 Items to be included on agenda of BPC's June meeting - as mentioned above.

25.0 Date of next BPC (normal monthly) meeting - confirmed as 5th June 2017, 7.00pm at Beetham School.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Beetham Parish council welcomes grant applications from local community groups - contact Clerk for details.