

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Monday 6th July 2015 at Storth School.

Present were - Cllrs Ken Blenkharn (Chair), Bob Pickup, Chris Noble and Ian Stewart. Also John Scargill (Parish Clerk), PCSO Mark Hutchinson (up to and including item 6.1) and two members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence – Cllrs P Jupe (family priority), Meakin (holiday), Yates (holiday), Clark, and Parish Steward Bill Haddow.

2.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 1st June 2015, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Stewart.

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

4.0 Announcements by the Chair – none.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes 1st June 2015 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

5.1 Highways flooding (Leighton Beck Road and B6384 at Whassett (12.1)) – no developments.

5.2 Burntbarrow/Shaw Lane link path handrail (12.2) – still awaiting quote from contractor – other contractors to be approached (Clerk to implement).

5.3 Beetham Jubilee Garden (5.4) – no further progress.

5.4 Beetham parish sign survey – no progress.

5.5 BPC member co-option (5.6) – no response to vacancy notice. David Jupe to be approached for co-option.

5.6 Streetlamps (5.7) – Andy Vickers (SLDC) considered it unnecessary to replace lamp 224 in Storth Road, as and when it was removed, in view of adequate nearby lighting – **agreed**.

5.7 Burntbarrow Woods ROW public inquiry (5.8) – the deadline for objections to the Inspector's decision was 23 July 2015, subject to which his proposals would stand.

5.8 Hale Marble Quarry ROW public inquiry (13) – to be held at Storth Village Hall on 13 October 2015.

5.9 Farleton Knott fencing (14) – the advice received from CCC's Countryside Ranger was noted and it was **agreed** that the Local Access Forum's recommendation be sought and followed. Clerk to establish who would be making the final decision on this matter.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report – received and circulated. Five reported crimes in the parish since the last BPC meeting in June - three thefts, a robbery and an assault. Ongoing problem with rural acquisitive crime.

6.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart) – the County Council's financial situation continued to cause concern, with more cuts in prospect to balance the books. No early prospect of devolution from central government due to structural complexities in the wider northern area. Network Rail's unnecessary access restriction to the Arnside embankment had been dealt with by Cllr Stewart. Appreciation generally from members of the recent work done by Highways in cutting and tidying highway verges at various locations in the parish and wider local area.

6.3 District Council matters (Cllr Stewart) – SLDC was thriving and appeared well placed for the future. In answer to a question from the floor, its Health & Wellbeing Board would meet on 7 July 2015.

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public – the ‘ghost’ footpaths in Beetham village were being encroached by plant containers and the seasonal growth of vegetation generally. Concern was expressed that various (mostly small) plots of land assumed to be ‘parish land’ had been taken over in the past by third parties and without protest from the Parish Council. This matter had been dealt with at length in a number of recent Parish Council meetings. It was pointed out that disabled access to common land such as Farleton Knott was a legal requirement.

7.0 Planning Matters:

7.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

July 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/2015/0569	Church View, Beetham	McPoland	Replacement porch	14/07/15	No objections
SL/2015/0430	Dukes Bridge Farm, Farleton	Robins	Change of use from barn to dwelling + s.s. extension	23/07/15	No objections

7.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SL/2015/0152	Beetham Holiday Homes	Westmorland Caravans	Time extension to allow year-round use	Approved with conditions
SL/2015/0164	Town End Cottage Farleton	Chapman	Installation of PV panels on garage roof	Approved with conditions
SL/2015/0384	Cautley Farm, Whassett	Bowness	Livestock building	Approved with conditions
SL/2015/0434	Rose Villa, Hale	Christou	Single-storey extension	Approved with conditions
SL/2014/1192	Garden of Kern Knotts, Storth	Robinson	Erection of dwelling	SLDC refusal now appealed

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

7.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – (as above)

7.4 Related matters & correspondence – as previously reported, Fishwick’s appeal against refusal of its Beetham Hall crematorium proposal (SL/2014/0701) was now to be dealt with through a hearing procedure. The Clerk read out the Planning Inspectorate’s reasons for its decision, received in response to his question about this change in normal procedure.

8.0 Financial Matters:

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT MONTH – JUNE 2015 MEETING – 6th July, 2015

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		HIBA
				£	£	£
01/06/15	Opening balances				20,908.22	19,224.94
30/06/15	Receipts:					
	703	HMRC	VAT refund for 2014/15		285.41	
		Barclays	Bank interest to 7 June			2.58
		Parker	Cancellation of chq 923 (31/03/14)		100.00	
30/06/15	Payments:					
	344	991 SLDC	Street lighting 2014/15	2,627.79		
	345	992 BDO	Audit fee 2014/15	100.00		
			VAT	20.00		
				120.00		
	346	993 Curtins	Dixies survey	250.00		
			VAT	50.00		
				300.00		
	347	994 Scargill	Clerk's sal Jun '15 (net)	380.58		
			Postage & stationery	15.68		
			VAT	2.65		
				398.91		
	348	995 HMRC	PAYE remit. June qutr	285.00		
	“	Total payments in month			- 3,731.70	
30/06/15	Closing balances				17,561.93	19,227.52
30/06/15	Total funds all accounts				£36,789.45	
Reserve Funds at 30/06/15		Street lamp reserve		4,800.00		
		General Reserve		14,427.52		
		Total reserves		19,227.52		

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

8.2 Other financial matters:

- **Annual Return for 2014/15** – had been approved by BDO as external auditors and was duly **approved and accepted by Beetham PC members.**
- **BPC accounts for the quarter ended 30 June 2015** - were distributed at the meeting and **approved.**

9.0 Parish Steward:

9.1 PS's update on current events – details of the four new concrete planters along the A6 had been submitted to Highways by the Clerk, with a request for formal permission.

9.2 Additions to PS's work programme – none.

10.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies – Cllr Noble, as BPC nominated representative, would attend a meeting of Beetham Exhibition Trust on 8 July 2015.

11.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

- **Cllr Pickup** – the usual potholes and speeding traffic concerns. Access at Johnny's Steps had been much improved by the adjacent resident's erection of a fence in place of the overgrown hedge.
- **Cllr Stewart** – a hedge at Shaw Green was seriously overgrown and the responsible resident had ignored all requests to trim. CCC now to carry out the necessary work and pass the charge to the resident.
- **Cllr Blenkharn** – was pleased with the new 'Whassett' signs at the entrance to the village.

12.0 Parish Land:

12.1- Land at Dixies - approval for the Clerk, on behalf of BPC, to sign/accept the quotation by

Spatial Data Ltd for undertaking a survey of the plot for a fee of £250. The result of the survey and the estimated cost of the recommended sea-defence work were now to hand and needed to be carefully considered by BPC before proceeding with the project.

12.2 - Plot 4 – it had not yet been possible to hold the meeting with the group of garage tenants who had requested it. One other tenant had failed to accept the recorded delivery of the new tenancy agreement. A further garage tenant was interested in taking over the wood-store if it were vacated by the present tenant – **approved in principle** subject to agreement on rental and proposed use, and further enquiry by Cllrs Meakin and Yates.

12.3- Sandside Cutting – Cameron Durie had withdrawn from undertaking felling work in the Cutting due to the prohibitive cost of insurance cover. **Agreed** – that Bill Haddow be considered for this work. Cllr Meakin had already asked David Wain for a quotation and had a further contact to approach. Quotations were awaited for repairing the collapsing wall at Crow's Nest and the owner of the property had offered to make a contribution to the cost.

13.0 General Correspondence – BPC had been advised that the LAP's Speed Indicator Device (SID) was now again available for use by member parishes, but a suitable pole was needed to carry it. CCC would arrange a site meeting with Cllr Meakin to agree an appropriate location for the pole and would require their contractor to carry out the installation work, with BPC to bear the cost. A grant towards the cost had already been received from the LAP.

14.0 Reading Matter:

- Landscape Trust - Keer to Kent – Issue 87 – Summer 2015
- Clerks & Councils Direct – Issue 100 – July 2015.

15.0 Items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting (September 2015) – nothing additional to those items mentioned above.

16.0 Date of next meeting – Monday 7 September 2015 at Beetham School at 7.00pm – to be preceded at 6.45pm by any planning meetings (as notified).

The meeting closed at 8.33pm.

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

FINANCIAL YEAR 2015/16

12 mths ACT 2014/15 £		3 mths ACTUAL £	+ 9 mths ESTIMATE £	= 12 mths FORECAST £	12 mths BUDGET £	Notes ref.
	INCOME (ex VAT refunds)					
17,216	Precept - SLDC	17,327		17,327	17,327	
651	Special CT grant	661		661	661	
250	Ground rents & wayleaves		830	830	830	
10	Bank interest	2	8	10	10	
2,120	Grants & donations received/(repaid)				1,000	A
	Other income					
20,247	TOTAL INCOME	17,990	838	18,828	19,828	
	EXPENDITURE (Net of VAT)					
	General Admin:					
5,497	Clerk - salary (gross)	1,427	4,281	5,708	5,650	
500	- car allowance	250	250	500	500	
150	- computer allowance	75	75	150	150	
40	- telephone	20	20	40	40	
105	- sundries		60	60	60	
213	Postage & Stationery	108	142	250	250	
25	Room hire - storage		40	40	40	
255	- meetings	20	180	200	200	
404	Insurance		410	410	410	
150	Audit fees	150		150	150	
852	Professional fees	250	250	500	500	
65	Website		100	100	100	
273	Subscriptions	282		282	300	
	Training (Clerk, Cllrs & PS)			100	100	
8,529		2,582	5,908	8,490	8,450	
700	AONB donation		700	700	700	
60	Other grants & donations		500	500	500	
120	Chairman's honorarium		120	120	120	
9,409		2,582	7,228	9,810	9,770	
	Other costs:					
350	Parish Landscape maintenance		1,000	1,000	1,000	
1,850	Grasscutting & tree work (PS)	555	1,945	2,500	2,500	
	Gritting (PS)		750	750	750	
2,687	Street lighting - energy (re prev yr)	2,628		2,628	2,628	
	- equipment		2,400	2,400	2,400	B
100	Parish furniture - repairs/renewals		500	500	500	
684	- new					
30	Access rental (Br Rail/Sandside)		30	30	30	
135	Other Expenses)
	Contingencies		250	250	250)
15,245	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	5,765	14,103	19,868	19,828	
5,002	SURPLUS(+)/DEFICIT(-) ex VAT	12,225	13,265	-1,040	-	

Notes: A Budgeted £1K from CCC (IS), local amenity grant, no longer likely.
 B Assumed expenditure on new free-standing street lamps.