

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Monday 7th September 2015 at Beetham School.

Present were - Cllrs Brian Meakin (Chair), Ken Blenkham, David Clark, Chris Noble and Ian Stewart. Also Parish Clerk John Scargill and two members of the public.

- 1.0 **Apologies for absence** - Cllrs P Jupe (holiday), Pickup (holiday), Yates (family priority), Parish Steward Bill Haddow and Cumbria Police. Cllr Pickup had emailed details of his involvement in the forthcoming Hale Marble Quarry inquiry and Cllr Yates likewise, plus other parish matters.
- 2.0 **The minutes of the previous meeting**, held on 6th July 2015, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Meakin.
- 3.0 **Declarations of interest by members in respect of items on this agenda** - none.
- 4.0 **Announcements by the Chair** - the improved BPC website was now up and running and fully compliant with relevant current legislation.
- 5.0 **Matters arising from the minutes 6th July 2015 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:**
 - 5.1 **Highways flooding (Leighton Beck Road and B6384 at Whassett (5.1))** - no developments.
 - 5.2 **Burntbarrow/Shaw Lane link path handrail (5.2)** - the local contractor originally approached had now promised to complete this job during the month of September and at no cost to the Parish Council. Cllr Noble to check site for progress
 - 5.3 **Beetham Jubilee Garden (5.3)** - no further progress.
 - 5.4 **Beetham parish sign survey (5.4)** - no progress. Cllr Stewart urged action as grant for this purpose already received by BPC.
 - 5.5 **BPC member co-option (5.5)** - a letter of interest from a West Ward resident (but for the East Ward vacancy) had been received following contact by Cllr Yates. Cllr Meakin, Cllr Yates and the Clerk to arrange a meeting with the applicant and report back.
 - 5.6 **Streetlamps (5.6)** - lamp 262 (Keasdale Road) was to be removed by Electricity Northwest and would not be replaced by them. The resident at St John's Cottage, Sandside had asked for an old, non-functioning lamp (217) on this building not to be replaced. **Agreed** - that there was no need for either lamp to be replaced.
 - 5.7 **Burntbarrow Woods ROW public inquiry (5.7)** - the Inspector had received no objections to his proposed modifications of CCC's original Map Modification Order No 6, 2013, and would now write his final Decision (Planning Inspectorate letter dated 7 August 2015).
 - 5.8 **Hale Marble Quarry ROW public inquiry (5.8)** - CCC had indicated that it would act in a neutral capacity on this issue (Map Modification Order No 1, 2014) - as with the similar Burntbarrow Woods issue. Recent obstruction to other paths in the wider area had been reported, but information was needed on precisely which paths were involved before BPC could decide what action, if any, to take.
 - 5.9 **Farleton Knott fencing (14)** - the response received from the Local Access Forum had been generally supportive of Farleton Knott Commoners' Association proposals to improve the condition of the Knott and help prevent unauthorised use. **Agreed** - that BPC support these measures, always provided that public access, including wheelchair access, be maintained. Clerk to notify Commoners' Association accordingly.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report – none received.

6.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart) – A proposed zip-wire addition to Storth Playing Field facilities may need planning permission. The list of Highways capital schemes for the coming year included some much needed work in Beetham parish, but improvements to Storth Road were considered to have been given too low a priority. CCC's continuing budget shortfall seemed likely to result in its Council Tax requirement increasing by the allowed maximum of 2%pa over the coming years. Arnside Fire Station looked vulnerable to future expenditure cuts. The already high cost of Adult Social Care was particularly worrying in view of a predicted substantial future increase in the qualifying population. The level of allowances for County Councillors had steadily fallen behind in real terms and an early increase in this cost seemed justified and likely. Cllr Stewart hoped that the allocation to BPC from his annual discretionary allowance could be increased to £2,000 for 2015/16, as against previous estimates (and BPC's budgeted figure) of £1,000. **Agreed** – that related work be focussed on the clearance of weeds and debris from roadways and footways in the parish during 2015/16 and the Parish Steward be instructed accordingly – Clerk to implement.

6.3 District Council matters (Cllr Stewart) – new waste collection calendars had now be distributed. There is to be a consultation exercise on possible improvements to Milnthorpe as a service centre. Future improvements to Quarry Lane need to be considered, to include employment and housing facilities.

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public - the lack of progress on Mill Lane issues was again raised. The safety of pedestrians was of particular concern. Clerk to review recent history of attempts to deal with this and, together with Cllr Meakin, to prepare an appropriate letter to Dallam emphasising the Parish Council's concern for the safety of pedestrians using Mill Lane, particularly at times when large vehicles are accessing the Corn Mill, and proposing a separate pathway to deal with this problem. Clerk to email CCC/AONB re the overdue replacement of the broken bridleway sign at the southern end of the lane. Clerk to check for any large-scale detailed map of the parish that might be to hand and which showed all pathways, including both those with and those without ROW status. Cllr Stewart would obtain such a map from CCC if necessary.

7.0 New matters for consideration.

7.1 Heron Theatre restoration work – David Ashworth (Chairman) had responded in detail to BPC's suggestions and its request for more information before committing funds to the appeal. Following a vote of BPC members present - **agreed** that BPC should donate a sum of £500 to this appeal immediately and suggest that the Theatre approach bodies such as CCC, SLDC and Friends of the Lake District for possible funding, unless this had been done already. Cllr Stewart offered to help with identifying the appropriate responsible individuals in CCC and SLDC.

7.2 Lyth Valley Internal Drainage Board – on behalf of BPC, Cllr Meakin had asked its local SLDC councillors to object strongly to the new proposals when they come to be considered by SLDC. He had also written to a) the Environment Agency, b) the NFU Project Manager for the scheme and c) Tim Farron along the same lines.

7.3 South Lakeland Local Plan (land allocations) – the Clerk was asked to request clarification from SLDC on the precise subjects covered by its 2 September email re Development Brief Phases, before consideration by BPC. Deferred to next BPC meeting.

7.4 Beetham burial ground (lych gate) – reported and noted that the lych gate was in a poor state of repair and unsafe, so was to be dismantled. The Church proposed to replace the existing gate with a good quality conventional gate, rather than a much more expensive like-for-like version.

7.5 Flooding in Betham Church – reported and noted that, as a result of heavy and unexpected rain, the resulting high volume of water flows from Church Street down the connecting path and into the church itself. Cllr Stewart to ask Highways to check Church Street drains.

8. Planning Matters.

8.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

Sept 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
SL/2015/0570	Poachers Cottage, Hale	Copeland	Vehicle access & off-street parking	03/08/15	No objections
SL/2015/0712	MosSDale Service Station	Vincent	Replacement signs	28/08/15	No objections
SL/2015/0722	Dungarth, CarrBank Rd	Smith	Front conservatory	02/09/15	No objections

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

SL/2015/0753	Keasdale, Carr Bank Rd	Milne	Rear conservatory	17/09/15	No objections
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8.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SL/2015/0569	Church View, Beetham	McPoland	Replacement porch	Approved with conditions	
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(More planning information available on SLDC website – southlakeland.gov.uk)

8.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – if any (as above)

8.4 Related matters & correspondence: following the Informal hearing at Kendal Town Hall on 11 August 2015, the Inspector's final decision on the Fishwick's crematorium planning application for Beetham Hall is now awaited.

9.0 Financial Matters:

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – JULY/AUGUST 2015

MEETING – 7th September, 2015

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		HIBA
				£	£	£
01/07/15	Opening balances				17,561.93	19,227.52
31/08/15	Receipts					
31/08/15	Payments:					
	349 996 Harvey		Payroll service 6mths	25.00		
	350 997 Cartwright		Tree survey – S Cutting	64.50		
	351 998 Pickup		Bluebell etc bulbs	109.46		
			VAT	21.89		
					131.35	
	352 999 CCC		Mtg room rent (Storth Sch)	20.00		
	353 1000 Hurst		Notice board repairs	30.00		
	354 1001 Scargill		Clerk's sal Jul/Aug (net)	761.16		
			Postage	6.21		
					767.37	
	355 1002 Dallam		Bus shelter rent 2015/16	50.00		
	356 1003 GHS		Grasscutting etc June/Jul/Aug	1,230.00		
	“	Total payments in month			- 2,318.22	
31/08/15	Closing balances				15,243.71	19,227.52
31/08/15	Total funds all accounts				£34,471.23	
Reserve Funds at 31/08/15						
		Street lamp reserve		4,800.00		
		General Reserve		14,427.52		
		Total reserves		19,227.52		

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

9.2 Other financial matters: none.

10.0 Parish Steward:

9.1 PS's update on current events - none, in absence of Parish Steward.

9.2 Additions to PS's work programme - work done as paid for at September meeting.
 - footpaths generally (see 6.2 above).
 - Whassett Common (see 12.0 below).

11.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies - the Chairman felt that BPC should be represented at the District Association meeting at Gilpin Bridge Hotel on 17 September.

12.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

- **Cllr Clark** - a direction sign to Haverbrack that had recently been poorly repaired had fallen down again. Clerk to check any earlier reporting to AONB and follow up accordingly. Cllr Clark to email photograph to AONB. Trees and general vegetation overgrowth on the B5282 footway between New Bridge and Quarry Lane.
- **Cllr Noble** - Quarry Lane hedge overgrowth encroaching onto highway and impeding traffic but CCC not responsible (unadopted road).
- **Cllr Blenkharn** - recurrence of overgrown vegetation at Whassett Common. Clerk to instruct Parish Steward.

13.0 Parish Land:

13.1- Land at Dixies - Curtin's estimate of £100K for proper sea defences considered to be unrealistic for intended purpose of site improvement. Cllrs Meakin and Yates to put together a much more basic scheme, including protective rocks from Sandside Quarry as originally proposed. Curtin's initial bill for £250 + VAT (as agreed and per quote) received and paid but a subsequent additional bill for £208.55 + VAT unpaid pending protest. Ms Truscott hoping to resolve.

13.2 - Plot 4 - the meeting with BPC requested by tenants was scheduled for Friday 25 September at the Wheatsheaf - Cllrs Meakin and Yates to attend for BPC (Clerk away). There were now two expressions of interest in taking over the woodstore plot vacated by Mr Rockliffe.

13.3- Sandside Cutting - Cllr Pickup had reported concerns about the spread of invasive non-native cotoneaster(?). Funding for clearance may be available from Morecambe Bay Partnership and Landscape Trust. BPC may be asked to contribute.

14.0 General Correspondence :

- 21/08/15 - Storth Playing Field Ass'n - request for contribution from BPC to annual cost of grass-cutting of field and surrounding verges. **Agreed** - BPC to offer £1,000 for 2015/16 but unable to commit annually.

15.0 Reading Matter:

- Clerks & Councils Direct - Issue 101 - Sept. 2015.

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

17.0 Date of next meeting - Monday 5 October 2015 at Storth Village Church at 7.00pm - to be preceded at 6.45pm by any planning meetings (as notified).

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

APPENDIX 1

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING

7.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

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APPENDIX 2

PARISH STEWARD WORK PROGRAMME

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL – PARISH STEWARD

ROLLING WORK PROG. 2015/16 – update from Sept 2015 meeting

Job Ref	Brief job details	Council meeting ref.	Date started	Date finished	Invoice Ref	Total Cost £
77	Clean out 3 bus shelters (as & when needed)	07/07/14	July 2014	July 2014	304	45.00
78	Trim hedge beside Carr Bank bus shelter (as & when needed)	07/07/14	July 2014	July 2014	304	18.00
79	Path along A6 from Beetham cenotaph to Heron Theatre – trim overhanging hedge at 6-monthly intervals in future.	02/09/13 – 9.2	June 2014 Jly/Aug '14 Summer'15	June 2014 Jly/Aug' 14 Summer '15	301 304 356	48.99 60.00 120.00
83	Prepare a list of all village name-signs, stating general condition of each sign. Clean where possible and indicate where repainting or total replacement necessary.	07/04/14 – 9.2	To do soon			
87	Clear drains – where?		Feb 2014	Feb 2014	293	16.00
89	Trim verge by Rocklands, Storth Rd	01/09/14 retrospect	To do soon			
91	Sandside Cutting – fill in pathway holes left by felled trees (in exch. for residual timber)	01/09/14 13.4				
94	Jubilee Garden – keep tidy and remove overgrowth (at regular intervals)	13/04/15 Min 9.2				
96	Keasdale Road – trim overhanging trees/shrubs	13/04/15 Min 9.2				
97	Refurbishment of all parish outdoor seats – especially those at Storth WM & Storth junc. with B5282	14/05/15 min 16.2				
98	Grasscutting 2015 - Apl/May (5) - Jun/Jul/Aug (6)		Apl 2015 Jun 2015	May 2015 Aug 2015	343 356	555.00 1100.00
100	Sandside Cutting	01/06/15 Min 9.2				
101	Parish footpaths generally – clear of weeds and debris.	07/09/15 Min6.2				
102	Whasett Common – clear vegetation overgrowth (check with Cllr Blenkharn)	07/09/15 Min 12.0				