

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held on Monday 7th October 2013 at Storth Village Church at 7.00pm.

Present were Cllrs Ken Blenkharn (chair), Brian Meakin, David Clark, Pru Jupe, Chris Noble and Ian Stewart. John Scargill (Parish Clerk), Bill Haddow (Parish Steward)) and PCSO Hutchinson also in attendance. No members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence - Jessica Harvey (work), Bob Pickup (holiday) and Steve Yates (holiday).

2.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 2nd September 2013, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Blenkharn.

3.0 Announcements by the Chair - Cllr Harvey had advised the Clerk that, due to new work commitments, she would be unable to attend most BPC meetings for the foreseeable future and had offered to resign from the parish council if that was the wish of members. Members regretted this development. They were unanimous in their appreciation of the valuable contribution made by Cllr Harvey during her years on the parish council and were reluctant to accept her offer of resignation.

Agreed - that no hasty decision be taken. Cllr Harvey to be asked to remain on the parish council at least for the next three months in the hope that she might be able to continue her contribution as an active members of both the parish council and the wider community, without necessarily attending meetings during that time. The situation to be reviewed at the January 2014 meeting. In the meantime, the alternative of finding a suitable (co-optee) replacement to be explored. BPC's bank mandate to be amended, substituting Cllr P Jupe for Cllr J Harvey (Clerk to implement).

4.0 Declarations of Interest by members in respect of items on this agenda - Cllr Meakin declared an interest as a close neighbour of the applicant re planning application SL/2013/0832 (to be discussed under agenda item 7 below).

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes: 2nd September 2013 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

5.1 Unauthorised usage of Plot 4 (5.3) - the caravan had not yet been removed. Owners to be given one further month to arrange this. Clerk to implement.

5.2 Bus-stop signs on A6 (5.4) - no further developments, replacement sign still awaited.

5.3 Community Transport (5.5) - Margaret Parker was reported as experiencing difficulty in recruiting volunteers for a Beetham-based scheme

5.4 Hale Interpretation Panel (5.4) - no progress. Awaiting a decision by local residents on a precise site for the panel.

5.5 Sandside Cutting tree management (5.7) - Martin Wain has still not made contact.

5.6 Beetham Parish Assembly 2014 (15.8) - three acceptances had already been received to the eight invitations sent out, a positive sign for the new format.

5.7 Land beside the B5282 at Sandside (5.9) - ownership as yet unconfirmed. Clerk to contact the Clerk to Arnside PC, who it was thought may be able to help.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report – a comprehensive verbal report was presented by PCSO Hutchinson. Crime rate in the wider general area was low, especially in rural communities. Main incidents involved thefts from unsecured outbuildings. Few local incidents. Public asked to be aware and vigilant and to report suspicious vehicles via the 101 call number. Clerk reported that CALC had asked (as last year) what frequency of police attendance at parish council meetings was hoped for; members agreed that this should be monthly if at all possible.

6.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart) – CCC still needed to make a further £24m savings in its 2014/15 budget, in addition to the £88m already identified. Beetham PC could expect a grant of £1,500 in 2013/14 from Cllr Stewart’s discretionary amenities budget. Beetham should ensure that it was included in a special fund allocation for the refreshing of white lines on road surfaces – members asked to email Clerk with locations needing attention. BPC’s SID requirements/locations urgently required by LAP. Highways restructuring ongoing.

6.3 District Council matters (Cllr Jupe) – SLDC had received a very favourable audit report indicating good financial health. Cabinet changes could mean a greater local emphasis in future. The budget meeting for the 2014/15 budget was imminent.

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public – none.

7.0 Planning Matters

7.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

Oct. 2013 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 – Ward members to discuss at mtg.

SL/2013/0716	Orchard Cottage, Carr Bank Road	Poole	Single-storey extension	10/10/13	No objections
SL/2013/0821	Knott Hill Farm,, Whassett	Thompson	Extension of agricultural building	21/10/13	No objections
SL/2013/0829	Field House, Hale	Morphet	Extension & change of use of paddock	09/10/13	No objections
SL/2013/0832	9 Old Myse, Storth	Singleton	Construction of 2.4m high boundary fence	17/10/13	No objections
SL/2013/0897	39 Burntbarrow, Storth	Grundy	Single-storey rear extension	22/10/13	No objections

7.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SL/2013/0455 /0456	Heron Corn Mill, Beetham	Bingham	Major repairs & development	Approved with conditions
SL/2013/0616	Old Cottage, Hale	Gardner	Detached timber home office	Approved with conditions
SL/2013/0696	Heron Brack, Sandside	Clark	Alterations to domestic garage	Approved with conditions
SL/2013/0722	Buckthorn Cottage, Leighton Close, Slackhead	Houghton	Single-storey extension etc	Approved with conditions

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

7.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings 7 Oct 2013 - if any (as above)

7.4 Related matters & correspondence : none

8.0 Financial Matters

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c £	HIBA £
01/09/13	Opening balances			57.53	24,306.45
30/09/13	Receipts:				
		Barclays	Bank interest to 1 Sept		3.36
30/09/13	Tsfr to Cur a/c from HIBA			1,200.00	-1,200.00
30/09/13	Payments:				
“	261 906	GHS	Grasscutting etc	-245.00	
“	262 907	Dallam	Bus shelter ground rent	-50.00	
“	263 908	Lanc.CC	AONB – S Cutting work	122.50	
			VAT	24.50	
				-147.00	
“	264 909	J Scargill	Clerk’s sal Sept. (net)	350.35	
			Postage & Stat’y	5.80	
			VAT	-	
				- 356.15	
“	265 910	HMRC	PAYE remit, Sept. qutr	-265.00	
“	Total payments in month				-1,063.15
30/09/13	Closing balances			194.38	23,109.81
30/09/13	Total funds all accounts				£23,304.19

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

8.2 Other financial matters:

- BPC 6mths accounts distributed at the meeting.
- timetable for budget/precept 2014/15 - for all parish councils, deadline deferred this year until January 2014
 - BPC budget meeting accordingly deferred until December’13/Jan’14
- ElecNW notification to intention to remove/replace 3 poles at Hale - BPC site visit to assess needs and financial consequences.
 - need for consultation with residents.

9.0 Parish Steward:

- 9.1 PS update on current events** – reported differing preferences of residents re verge tidying.
- 9.2 PS additions to work programme** - further tidying of Bela Jubilee Garden (item 76) needed
 - also see agenda item 11 below (add as appropriate).

10.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies – none. AONB meeting 9 October - noted.

11.0 Local highways amenity work – areas for which BPC was willing to take maintenance responsibility were identified and drawn in rough on a sketch map of the parish. These areas would later be highlighted on an identical map. This map would then be used by members and the Parish Steward and made available to the public. Clerk to implement.

12.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

- Cllr Stewart** – thanked the Parish Steward for work done along Storth Road
- Cllr Jupe** – asked members for permission to welcome the new vicar of Beetham on behalf of the parish council – **agreed.**
- Cllr Clark** – the footway along the B5282 from New Bridge to Quarry Lane had been resurfaced, but not entirely satisfactorily. Similarly – some nearby road surface repairs.

13.0 Standing Orders re Chair's term of office.

To provide adequate opportunity for new ideas, it had been suggested that there should be some planned rotation of the office of Chair of Beetham Parish Council. In this context members had been asked to consider limiting the number of consecutive years that this office should be held by any one member and to inform the Clerk of their preferred approach. Responses had been received from all members indicating a clear majority in favour, a view confirmed by vote by those members present at the meeting. However, CALC had advised that no formal restriction of this nature could be legally imposed eg. by writing it into Standing Orders.

Resolved – that, whilst recognising that no legal limit could be imposed on the right and duty of members to elect a Chair of their choice annually at the Annual Meeting, the majority of members in principle favoured an informal understanding for the periodic rotation of this office between members, wherever practicable, by agreeing a limit for the number of consecutive years that any given member should hold office.

14.0 Beetham Parish Council website. Cllr Meakin reported good progress. The basic layout of the site had been done, although further work was needed on amendments and refinements. A further meeting with A2A was scheduled for Friday 11 October.

15.0 General Correspondence:

a) Received and circulated by email:

15.1 – 6 Sept 2013 – SLDC – reply to BPC query on progress with Land Allocations

b) Received in hard-copy form (not circulated):

15.2 – 2 Oct 2013 – Dallam Tower Estate re reference to Burnbarrow Woods ROW issue in BPC Newsletter Sept 2013. Clerk to write to Dallam with offer to clarify and rectify any inaccuracies in next (December) Newsletter.

16.0 Reading Matter:

- Clerks & Councils Direct – September 2013 – Issue 89.

17.0 Items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting (November 2013):

- Proposed response to Dallam letter re Burntbarrow Woods/ROW issue.
- Amenity work – schedule & plan of BPC's agreed areas of responsibility (with map)
- BPC-owned street lamps at Hale – results of site inspection etc.
- BPC 2014/15 budget/precept timetable
- Ownership of land opposite former Flippin' Fluke restaurant
- Arrangements for Clerk's annual appraisal.

20.0 Date of next meeting – Monday 4th November 2013 at 7.00pm at Beetham School, preceded at 6.45pm by any Planning Committee meetings (as notified).

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

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.