

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held on Monday 4th February 2013 at Beetham School at 7.00pm.

Present were Cllrs Ken Blenkharn (chair), Jessica Harvey, Pru Jupe, Brian Meakin, Chris Noble, Bob Pickup, Ian Stewart (for items 1 through 6.2), Steve Yates and Parish Clerk John Scargill

1.0 Apologies for absence - Cllr David Clark and PCSO Jayne Park.

2.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 7th January 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 - none..

4.0 Declarations of Interest by members in respect of items on this agenda - none.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes: 7th January 2013 and not included on agenda below - none

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report - circulated on 22 January 2013 - no significant crimes reported.

6.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart) - Beetham's unpopular white line 'ghost footways' had now been removed (4 February 2013) but not the related symbols; these would be removed within the next few days. CCC had agreed not to increase Council Tax for 2013/14. Discretionary funding for parishes (including Beetham) would continue to be available, at least for 2013/14. CCC had voted against the long-term storing of nuclear waste in West Cumbria, which effectively killed the proposal. Clerk to email Cllr Stewart requesting more bus service information at Stagecoach bus-stops along the A6. Clerk also to seek advice from CALC on the financial implications for parishes (namely the potential costs of maintaining current lighting coverage) following ElectricityNW's policy decision to disallow the mounting of footway lamps on any new or replacement poles it might erect. Beetham had a number of such lamps on existing poles. Cllr Jupe had already raised the matter with Tim Farron and asked to be kept informed of developments. It was noted that this ElecNW policy was also the policy for BT poles. (Cllr Stewart gave his apologies and left the meeting at this point).

6.3 District Council matters (Cllr Jupe) - although still to be ratified by the full council, it was now almost certain that SLDC would not increase Council Tax for 2013/14. Final LDF land allocations in the whole AONB area were taking longer than expected as the districts of both S.Lakeland and Lancaster City affected. SLDC had published its long-term financial plan

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public - although unable to attend the meeting, Mrs Lucy Hunn had indicated to Cllr Jupe that she was anxious to progress the provision of a children's play-park in Beetham village. A suitable plot of land had been identified but the owner had so far been unwilling to make it available on the necessary long lease. Similarly, the Clerk had been advised by a Beetham resident about new groundwork on the track from Leighton Beck Road, through the woods to Fairy Steps, which had the effect of restricting public access to the area. The area directly affected was private land with permissive rights of way. Cllr Jupe to investigate. A complaint had been received (by phone to the Clerk) about the re-emergence of unauthorised commercial signage along the A6 at Beetham.

7.0 Planning Matters – no planning applications received in January, but notification that SLDC had approved applications SL/2012/0952 (Durie) and SL/2012/0981 (Billerud), for both of which Beetham Parish Council had lodged no objection.

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

7.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings 4 Feb 2013 - none

7.4 Related matters & correspondence : none

8.00 Financial Matters

8.1 Bank receipts, payments (for approval) and balances

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT			MONTH – JAN 2013		MEETING – 4 th Feb 2013		HIBA	
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail		Current a/c			
					£	£	£	£
01/01/13	Opening balances					24.61		17,923.70
31/01/13	Receipts:	ElecNW	Wayleaves			50.00		
31/01/13	Tsfr to Cur a/c from HIBA					500.00		-500.00
31/01/13	Payments:							
“	230	875	GHS	New locks for 3 notice boards	-54.00			
“	231	876	J Scargill	Clerk’s sal Jan (net)	427.55			
				Postage & Stat’y	Nil			
				VAT	Nil			
					-427.55			
“	Total payments in month					-481.55		
31/01/13	Closing balances					93.06		17,423.70
31/01/13	Total funds all accounts							£17,516.76

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

8.2 Other financial matters:

- VAT reclaim timetable – Clerk’s proposal to make the reclaim henceforth in April (rather than January) – **approved**.
- malfunctioning parish-owned footway lamp in Meadowbank, Beetham – SLDC had agreed to repair and bill parish council.
- Clerk’s forthcoming eye operation – may have some impact on his availability over the next three months.

9.0 Parish Steward & Area Steward:

9.1 PS update on current events – not present.

9.2 PS additions to work programme – retrospective **approval** given to replacement of three locks on parish notice boards (see item 8.1 above) under Parish Furniture Maintenance (item 58 on Parish Steward’s rolling work list).

9.3 AS – nothing to report.

10.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies.

10.1 Cllr Meakin – reported on a successful AONB annual conference – excellent speaker and good attendance.

10.2 Cllr Harvey – as Chair of Storth School governors, reported that the head teacher of the school was leaving and a new head was being sought.

11.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

11.1 Cllr Jupe – very severe potholes in Pool Darkin Lane. Clerk to measure, count & report.

11.2 Cllr Meakin – potholes now developing at the bottom of Storth Road.

11.3 Cllr Noble – the unusual number of punctures (reported earlier) experienced by traffic along the B5282, west of Friar Cote Bridge, were believed to be weather-related with destabilisation of the rock face causing stones to fall onto the road. Also potholes generally.

11.4 Cllr Pickup – potholes along the B5282 and Carr Bank Road.

11.5 Cllr Harvey – reported overgrown vegetation (including trees) in Sandside Cutting and suggested the need for an updated tree survey in view of potential danger to the public.

Agreed – Clerk to instruct Roger Cartwright to undertake survey.

11.6 Cllr Blenkharn – a garden seat stolen from his property in Whassett.

11.7 Cllr Clark (by email in his absence) – soil left beside wall near New Bridge still not cleared by ElecNW following work at the site; B5282 eastbound carriageway here needs resurfacing.

12.0 Annual Parish Assembly (14 March 2013 at Heron Theatre, Beetham) – Richard Leafe (Chief Executive of the Lake District National Park Authority) had accepted the parish council's invitation to attend as principal speaker. **Agreed** – that the new owners of Beetham shop (the Old Post Office) should be asked to undertake the catering (Cllr Jupe to contact) and that proper publicity be given to the event in order to attract a good audience (Clerk to organise).

13.0 Cumbria Highways (notification of priority work) – a pro-forma report layout had been received on which parishes could notify Highways of identified priorities for road repairs. **Agreed** – that this form (or something similar) be adopted by Beetham Parish Council, to be updated monthly as required, by members emailing information to the Clerk for forwarding to Highways. Clerk to implement and to include, for a trial period, as a separate item on the agenda for PC meetings.

14.0 Beetham Parish Geology Trail (Peter Standing) – a draft of the proposed information boards was now available. **Agreed** – that credit reference to Beetham PC was acceptable.

15.0 General Correspondence.

a) Received and circulated in email form:

15.1 – 9 Jan '13 – SLDC – parish briefings on SL Community Governance Review 2013.

15.2 – 14 Jan '13 – SLDC – collective bargaining to improve power supply costs.

15.3 – 15 Jan '13 – CALC – broadband update.

15.4 – 21 Jan '13 – CCC – Police Commissioner road-show dates.

15.5 – 1 Feb '13 – SLDC – District Council Plan 2013/17

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

15.6 – 18 Jan '13 – Kendal Mountain Rescue Team – publicity material for distribution.

(Clerk to organise and request more leaflets).

15.7 – 1 Feb '13 – Storth Playing Field Committee – detailed proposals for improved facilities.

(Clerk to acknowledge and place on March PC meeting agenda).

16.0 Reading Matter:

- Clerks & Councils Direct – Issue 85 – January 2013.

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

- Annual Parish Assembly update

- BPC Grants & Donations 2012/13

- Highways form for priority jobs.

15.0 Date of next meeting – Monday 4th March 2013 at 7.00pm at Storth Village Church, preceded at 6.45pm by any Planning Committee meetings (as notified).

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

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.