

# ***BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL***

**MINUTES** of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at Storth Village Church at 7.00pm.

**Present were** Cllrs Ken Blenkarn (chair), David Clark, Jessica Harvey, Pru Jupe, Brian Meakin, Chris Noble, Bob Pickup, Ian Stewart, Steve Yates. John Scargill (Parish Clerk) and Bill Haddow (Parish Steward and member of the public) also in attendance.

**1.0** Apologies for absence - none.

**2.0** The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2013, had been circulated by email. These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Blenkarn.

**3.0** Announcements by the Chair - none.

**4.0** Declarations of Interest by members in respect of items on this agenda - Cllr Harvey declared an interest in agenda item 8.2, re a grant application received from Storth Playing Field Committee.

**5.0** Matters arising from the minutes: 4<sup>th</sup> February 2013 and not included on agenda below :

**5.1 SLDC land allocations (6.3) - Resolved** - that Beetham Parish Council agreed with the proposed Joint AONB/DPD approach by SLDC. Clerk to provide written confirmation of this to SLDC, as requested.

**5.2 Fairy Steps footpath closure (6.4)** - Cllr Jupe had investigated and reported that closure of this permissive path was for health and safety reasons and only temporary whilst AONB-approved coppicing work was undertaken, although further closures at lambing time might be expected.

**Agreed** - that, in response to public concerns, the explanation for closure should be given some publicity eg via Gateway and the Westmorland Gazette (Beetham correspondent Katie Ellams) and possibly signage to this effect on the locked access gate. Clerk to implement, with form of words to be agreed between BPC and landowners Ashton House Estate.

- Clerk to contact CCC to establish definitive criteria for permissive footpaths.

**6.0 Public Participation.**

**6.1 Police Report** - none.

**6.2 County Council matters (Cllr Stewart)** - confirmed no increase in CCC's Council Tax requirement for 2013/14 but further reductions in spending necessary to balance the budget, dependent on the eventual amount of government grants received. The extra cost of providing established and expected services in rural areas to be taken up with the government. CCC's decision against the storage of radio-active waste in Cumbria affirmed.

**6.3 District Council matters (Cllrs Jupe and Stewart)** - confirmed no increase in SLDC's Council Tax requirement for 2013/14. Compared with other parishes, householders in Beetham enjoyed a relatively modest level of Council Tax. Cllr Jupe had been a member of the panel at a recent 'Young Persons' Question Time' at Rheged, which she had found useful. £1,000 was likely to become available to the parish council for general improvement work.

**6.4 Matters raised by members of the public** - the Clerk had been alerted by phone by a resident that long-standing access restriction (for health and safety reasons) to the Marble Quarry land-fill site behind Hale had been breached, probably by vandalism, and the site was now open to unsuspecting members of the public. Cllr Stewart confirmed that this site was a CCC responsibility - Clerk to email Cllr Stewart with details.

## 7.0 Planning Matters

### 7.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

Mar 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
SL/2013/0024	Hall More Caravan Park, Hale	Morphet	Change of use for caravan site – static to mobile	04/03/13	No objections (but extra traffic considerations)

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

SLDC ref	Address	Applicant	Development	Response deadline	BPC response

### 7.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SLDC ref	Address	Applicant	Development	SLDC decision
SL/2012/1041	Felstone, Whassett	Simpkin & Bowness	Extension and alterations	Approved with conditions

(More planning information available non SLDC website – [southlakeland.gov.uk](http://southlakeland.gov.uk))

### 7.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings 4 Mar 2013 - if any (as above)

### 7.4 Related matters & correspondence : none.

## 8.0 Financial Matters

### 8.1 Bank receipts, payments (for approval) and balances.

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – FEB 2013

MEETING – 4<sup>th</sup> Mar 2013

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c	HIBA
				£	£
01/02/13	Opening balances				17,423.70
28/02/13	Tsfr to Cur a/c from HIBA			400.00	-400.00
28/02/13	Payments:				
“	232 877	J Scargill	Clerk's sal Feb (net)	418.62	
			Postage & Stat'y	8.18	
			VAT	1.12	
				-427.92	
“	Total payments in month			_____	-427.92
28/02/13	Closing balances				65.14
28/02/13	Total funds all accounts				£17,088.84

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

### 8.2 Other financial matters:

- **Grants for 2012/13 – Resolved** – that grants of £700 to AONB and £440 to Storth Playing Field Committee, as well as £60 to British Legion (for Remembrance Day 2012 wreaths retrospectively) be **approved**.
- **Street lamps** – CALC had been unable to provide reassurance on a national policy to cover the cost of replacement where these lamps are mounted on poles belonging to service companies, should these poles become no longer available due to a change in company policy. This was a serious matter, potentially with far-reaching cost implications for parishes, Clerk to raise the issue with Tim Farron MP, to ask CALC to seek advice from NALC and to forward any email correspondence to Cllr Stewart.
- Cllr Stewart was now fully briefed on the malfunctioning lamp in Meadowbank, Beetham, and was investigating the delay in organising a replacement, which involved both SLDC and CCC.

## 9.0 Parish Steward & Area Steward:

9.1 PS update on current events - nothing to report.

9.2 PS additions to work programme - some clearance work done in Sandside Cutting (to be billed next month) and clearance work in front of Beetham School authorised.

9.3 AS - nothing to report.

## 10.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies: nothing to report.

## 11.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

11.1 Cllr Jupe - SLDC to advise on suitability of land at bottom of Beetham playing-field as a possible site for a children's playground, though the problem remained of securing a lease of sufficient length to attract funding.

11.2 Cllr Pickup - Johnny's Steps in need of attention due to collapsed wall and an unstable tree. Newly painted white lines at Carr Bank and some temporary repairs to potholes. Noted - the breached wall on Friar Cote Bridge as a result of vehicle impact.

11.3 Cllr Harvey - the new grit bin on Yans/Throughs Lane had been overturned.

11.4 Cllr Clark - public footway outside Hanafin's entrance deteriorating fast and usual lack of maintenance of B5282 between Milnthorpe New Bridge and Quarry Lane.

11.5 Cllr Stewart - a damaged grid by Rock Cottage on the B5282 and a nearby broken drainage pipe could be the explanation for recent flooding in this area.

12.0 Annual Parish Assembly (14 March 2013 at Heron Theatre, Beetham) - The Clerk had produced a publicity notice which was now in all parish notice boards, the Beetham and Storth shops and the Carr bank Garden Centre. It was also in the March edition of Gateway. The Westmorland Gazette's Beetham correspondent had agreed to mention nearer the time. Lee and Katie Ellams (Beetham shop) had agreed to do the catering, with Mr & Mrs Jupe providing drinks. Cllr Jupe agreed to chair the Annual Assembly on this occasion. Clerk to prepare formal agenda and summarise points for Cllr Blenkarn's annual report.

13.0 Cumbria Highways (notification of priority work) - the Clerk had prepared suggested working documents to provide Highways with the information needed. **Agreed** - that these should be adopted on a trial basis initially, then adapted as necessary.

## 14.0 General Correspondence.

### a) Received and circulated in email form:

14.1 - 5 Feb '13 - SLDC - annual review of SLDC constitution.

14.2 - 6 Feb '13 - SLDC - notification that parish review underway

14.3 - 7 Feb '13 - SLDC - Community Governance Review.

14.4 - 13 Feb '13 - SLDC - 20's Plenty event 23/03/13

14.5 - 18 Feb '13 - CCC - legal event modification order No 3.

14.6 - 21 Feb '13 - CCC - consultation on Cumbria Minerals & Waste local plan.

14.7 - 27 Feb '13 - CALC - Connecting Cumbria broadband project.

14.8 - 27 Feb '13 - CALC - National Grid - NW connections.

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

14.9 - 7 Feb '13 - Mark Ryan (Rock Cottage, Slackhead) - plan for tree work on Plot 4 - **agreed.**

## 15.0 Reading Matter:

- Clerks & Councils Direct - Issue 86 - February 2013.

- Keer to Kent - No 80 - Spring 2013.

**16.0 Items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting (April 2013):**

- Annual Parish Assembly report.
- Beetham children's playground.
- Highways form for priority jobs.
- Temporary closure of footpath (Leighton Beck Rd to Fairy Steps) - public information.

**17.0 Date of next meeting** - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at 7.00pm at Beetham School, preceded at 6.45pm by any Planning Committee meetings (as notified).

The meeting closed at 8.23pm.

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.