

SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Sebergham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23 March in Welton Village Hall

Present:

Chairman Alan Rule
Vice Chairman Peter Pearson
Councillors Ken Graham, Michael Stockdale, Christine Tinnion.

Also in attendance: Councillor Duncan Fairbairn.

Procedural Items

16/3/96 Apologies Councillors Bell and Chesters-Bouma

16/3/97 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Stockdale declared a pecuniary interest in 16/3/110 B. as it was a financial reimbursement to himself.

16/3/98 Dispensations

No requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

16/3/99 Minutes 27 January 2016

Resolved to authorise the Chairman to sign these minutes as a true record.

16/3/100 Public Participation

The chairman adjourned the meeting to allow members of the public an opportunity to ask questions or raise matters of interest.

It was reported to the meeting that there were concerns at the increase in overnight parking at the layby at Sebergham Bridge. The council continues to report these concerns to Highways. It was also mentioned that although the overnight parking of HGV's was a problem, the areas at both Sebergham Bridge and Goose Green were valuable car parking spaces for locals and visitors.

Councillor Fairbairn reported that a number of road safety plans would be implemented on the A595 and A596. A change to parking charges are planned for Wigton. Hesketh Newmarket Bridge would be closed for two weeks for repairs from 21 March 16.

The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

Planning

16/3/101 Planning Applications

2/2016/0139 Mr and Mrs D Petty. Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of new single story sun room. The Old Barn Welton. **Resolved** no objections.

16/3/102 Planning Decision Notices

2/2015/0724 Mr Andrew Bell. Variation of condition 1 of planning approval 2/2013/0228 to allow temporary siting of static caravan for an additional 2 years. **Full plans approved but with a time limit of '1 year' only.**

Business

16/103 Highways

Re bollards in Churchtown. This had been raised by parishioners during the Annual Parish Meeting when a view was put forward that some people would like the bollards to be removed. The Chairman explained that the decision for Highways to install bollards had been taken some years ago following a significant number of complaints to Highways and the Parish council regarding excessive parking in that stretch of Churchtown, and garage repairs being carried out on the roadside. A meeting had taken place between

Highways and the Parish Council to consider replacing the existing bollards which were being continually knocked down with vehicles returning to using the area for parking. This issue will be given further consideration at a future meeting.

Re parking at Sebergham Bridge. Discussions took place around how to prevent HGV overnight parking but allowing cars to park for walkers etc. The parish council and councillor Fairbairn will continue to look into possible measures to resolve these concerns.

Concern was expressed that the work being undertaken by Highways at Sebergham Bridge lay-by was more limited than expected. This will be pursued with Highways.

Re roadworks through Welton for the solar farm. There has been significant disruption in Welton for more than two months due to roadworks relating to the Solar Farm in Dalston Parish. There is noticeable damage to the roadsides and continued use of the lay by at Goose Green. It was **resolved** to write to the developers, Lightsource, and request that appropriate compensation should be agreed.

Re Bell Bridge following the flood damage. There is frustration among residents that more was not done to preserve this historic bridge. There is also great concern that it may not be replaced in its original stone construction. It was **resolved** that the parish council writes to Highways and to MP Rory Stewart, expressing these concerns and asking for some clarification on current and future plans for Bell Bridge. It was also agreed to write seeking urgent repairs to the road running alongside the river Caldw as its prolonged closure is a great inconvenience to local residents.

16/3/104 Notice Boards

The parish council has previously resolved to site a new notice board at Sebergham layby. There has been a request from Sebergham village hall committee for a notice board outside the village hall. It was **resolved** that the notice boards at Churchtown and Sebergham layby were sufficient and that there were not funds available for a third board at the village hall.

16/3/105 Foliage Sebergham layby

A regular road user has expressed concern that the view over Sebergham Bridge is affected by the foliage. This has already been reported to Highways. As the land is not owned by the parish council it was **resolved** that there was little to be done at present.

16/3/106 Re-cycling Bins in Welton

A parishioner has expressed concern over the prominent position of these bins. It was **resolved** to contact Allerdale and ask if it would be possible for the hard standing to be extending allowing the bins to be placed nearer to their original position next to the fence. Councillor Pearson will also make enquiries as to the preference of the residents immediately affected by the positioning of the bins.

16/3/107 Broadband

The Chairman and Councillor Stockdale attended a meeting with BDUK, Cumbria County Council and Solway Communications in an effort to gain an improvement in the broadband provision to all properties in the parish. There is some doubt about the extent to which Solway could provide wireless coverage. The Chairman is to meet with CCC to agree detailed property maps which will be marked up and returned for evaluation. It is hoped that BDUK and CCC will agree to reconsider the use of state aid to provide superfast coverage to all properties.

16/3/108 Speed Indication Device (SID) and Community Speed Watch

Councillor Graham reported that the SID would be brought in to use in the longer days. He will communicate with the community police officer regarding the community speed watch.

Accounts

16/3/109 Current Accounts and Budget

Resolved that the circulated accounts and budget to 29 February 2016 are a true record.

16/3/110 Resolved that the following Payments be made.

- A. Hire of Village hall £88
- B. M. Stockdale, reimbursement for web hosting. £29.99

16/3/111 Bank Account On the 14 March 2016 the parish council bank account was transferred from HSBC to Nat West. There appears to be a charge of £13.03 by HSBC to close the account. The transfer was arranged as HSBC would have started to charge business rates for the account. The Nat West account will be a Community account with no routine charges.

The chairman thanked the clerk for all of her work in making arrangements for the new bank account.

Next Meeting: Annual Meeting 25 May 2016 7.30pm Welton Village Hall.