

SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Sebergham Parish Council Meeting 26th July 2017 in Welton Village Hall

Present:

Chairman Alan Rule
Vice Chairman Peter Pearson
Councillors Andrew Bell, Ken Graham, Michael Stockdale.

Also in attendance: Councillor Duncan Fairbairn, and three parishioners

Councillors agreed that Christine Rule should take the minutes in the absence of the Clerk

Procedural Items

17/7/21 Apologies; Maria Chesters-Bouma, Christine Tinnion

17/7/22 Declarations of Interest; Cllr Stockdale declared an interest in item 17/7/28 as this affects the land he farms, and item 17/7/29 as his partner is Clerk to the Council.

17/7/23 Dispensations

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

17/7/24 Minutes 24 May 2017

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

17/7/25 Public Participation

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow members of the public an opportunity to ask questions or raise matters of interest. A parishioner commented on the recent partial re-surfacing of the lay-by at Sebergham Bridge which has raised the surface and will create additional flooding on the adjacent B5305 road. This flooding had already been reported to Highways and this worsening of the situation will be reported for further investigation.

A question was raised about the previously resolved provision of a noticeboard at the lay-by. A grant has been acquired towards the cost, but installation has been delayed pending resolution of resurfacing issues.

Provision of one or more boulders to protect the board when installed is under consideration by CCC. Councillor Fairbairn reported on completion of the B5305 resurfacing & related issues.

The Chairman then reconvened the meeting and took item 17/7/28 next because visiting CCC speakers & parishioners were in attendance for this item.

Business

17/7/28 Arthur Lester & Dave Harrison (CCC) and John Slee (Story Contracting Ltd) were present to provide an update on the re-construction of Bell Bridge and proposals to repair/re-open the adjacent road (Bell Lonning).

Bell Bridge

Mr Lester reported that work to reconstruct Bell Bridge has commenced, and completion is expected by end November. A parishioner asked if the previous access for horses to/from the river under the bridge could be retained, & Mr Slee confirmed this would be done.

Mr Slee presented revised proposals for the Interpretive Feature & Seat at the bridge, and Cllrs confirmed their acceptance of these. He reported that the use of new stone work had been trialled and judged to be out of keeping with the reclaimed masonry; further options will be considered. Draft wording for the commemorative plaque to be included in the seat was circulated for consideration by Cllrs, and it was agreed that any comments would be forwarded to Cllrs Pearson & Stockdale who would liaise with Mr Slee.

Bell Lonning

Mr Lester confirmed that repair work will commence in August to enable Bell Lonning to be opened for access to light traffic by the end of September, and that CCC would undertake local consultation with residents. When questioned about the practical means of limiting access, i.e. traffic orders, weight restrictions, or by other means, Mr Lester said he was not aware whether this has been considered and undertook to liaise with the relevant CCC departments. He agreed that this may delay the re-opening of the road.

It was reported that consideration is still being given to the options available to fully open the road to all traffic in 2018, and that nothing will be done this year. Concerns were expressed by a local resident who reported on an approach he had received from CCC to sell land to allow Bell Lonning to be re-routed, which he had declined. He referred to the claim frequently made by CCC that its proposals were being thwarted by Environment Agency restrictions on access to, and working in, the river. He reported on his discussions with a number of EA officials who had indicated their acceptance in principle of various options, but said they were unable to confirm these in detail because CCC has not yet submitted any formal requests. In general discussion, Mr Lester confirmed that no permits had yet been sought, but said that a number of options were being considered & would be discussed with EA. He said that availability of finance also had to be taken into account and quoted potential total repair costs of five to seven hundred thousand pounds. When questioned, he was unable to confirm whether adequate funding to repair this road had been included in CCC's grant applications to repair storm damage.

Councillors agreed that the PC should continue to seek meetings with senior CCC officers regarding the policy and operational strategy for the future availability of this road, and that Cllr Fairbairn would continue to pursue the matter through CCC channels.

Instances were reported of heavy goods vehicles recently using this road and having to turn round or reverse out when they reached the road closure. Mr Lester undertook to seek additional signage to indicate that there is no access to the B5305.

The Chairman thanked the officers for attending & explaining the current situation.

Planning

17/7/26 Planning Applications

HOU/2017/0155 Mrs Graham. Brothybeck, Welton. Demolish existing barn and build extension to existing house. **Resolved** - No comment

17/7/27 Planning Decision Notices

The following Decisions by Allerdale BC were noted.

2/2017/0158 Ms Carole Holden. Erection of a wooden horse stable, field north-west of meadow side, Warnell. (Retrospective) **Full plans approved 19/5/17.**

2/2017/0201 Mr P Little. Re-Submission of application 2/2016/0544. Change of use to convert former store to dwelling, including part demolition and extension to create car park area. Holm Croft access road to Churchtown. **Full plans approved 20/6/17**

2/2017/0204 Andrew Bell. Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling. Spedding Heads, Ling lane, Carlisle. **Full plans approved 4/7/17.**

2/2017/0327 Mr and Mrs Henderson. Proposed local occupancy dwelling, land between Church and Beech Cottages, Welton. **Outline application approved 20/7/17**

17/7/29 Temporary arrangements for administration of the PC

This was taken as an Urgent item due to circumstances which had arisen since the issue of the agenda. The Chairman reported that the Clerk will be absent for several weeks due to ill-health, and will therefore be unable to fulfil her duties. He also reported that due to impending medical treatment he would temporarily stand down as Chairman w.e.f the end of the meeting.

Councillors welcomed the vice Chairman's indication that he was prepared to assume the role of acting Chairman. The Chairman reported that CALC had offered to assist by suggesting a Clerk from its list of volunteers to stand-in when vacancies arise, and it was **resolved** that the vice-Chairman be authorised to appoint a temporary clerk on terms to be agreed.

Proposed date of next meeting: 27th September 2017, 7.30 p.m. in Welton Village Hall