

SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 30 NOVEMBER 2011

PRESENT

Mr S Hollins-Gibson
Mr P Pearson
Mr M Stockdale
Mr A V Rule
Mr G Gash
Mr A Bell
Mr M Hilton
Mrs S Bennett
Collr D Fairbairn
Ms P L Gauntlett (Clerk)

1.APOLOGIES

None

IN ATTENDANCE

1 member of the public.

Mr Hilton as the newly co-opted member of the Parish Council was asked to sign the acceptance of office and declaration.

2. MINUTES

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting of 14 September 2011 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Mrs Chesters who lives in part of Sebergham Castle, joined the meeting. She is concerned about the planning application for part of Sebergham Castle (neighbours). The application as originally submitted is not in keeping with the house, it is too big and the grounds for requesting such a large extension are spurious, why does it need an equipment store when there is barely an acre of land with the property. The PC had had similar concerns with the application, but it has now been withdrawn. The PC will, however, bear these concerns in mind as the application will probably be resubmitted at a later date.

Report from Collr Fairbairn. The Highways Hotline has now moved premises and runs from Lillihall, there are 4 receptionists there to take the calls. The Highways Stewards are working in pairs but can still be contacted on the same number. There is concern in Allerdale about the number of planning applications that are being received for windmills (turbines). It is government policy to allow these and the costs involved in Allerdale opposing the applications are high.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The 2 new councillors would like to go on the New Councillors course at Newton Rigg on 4 April.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Community Green Spaces, booklet, noted.
Cumbria County Council local news & views, noted.
Clerks & Councils Direct, noted.
Fire Brigades Union closure of Cumbria Control Function, noted.
Cumbria Community Foundation, booklet, noted.
The Winter Warmth fund, noted.
CALC annual report, noted.
CALC conference on radioactive waste storage in Cumbria, noted.
Cumbria Rider (passenger transport guide).

7. PARKING IN CHURCHTOWN

The planning dept at Allerdale report that no application from Mr Little has been submitted.

8. SIDS

We have the SIDS for 4 weeks. They will be 2 weeks in Sebergham & 2 weeks in Welton.

9. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

There are no small jobs that require the Highways Steward in the area. The servicing team are doing the tarmac on the roads. The road into Churchtown is breaking up, Mr Pearson will pass the details on about this. The potholes in Ling Lane have not all been repaired. The road at Bell Bridge is still not finished, despite the Clerk being told that it would be finished off a couple of months ago. Clerk will pursue.

10. PARKHEAD QUARRY

The update from David Hughes has been circulated to all Parish Councillors.

11. NORTHERN FELS BROADBAND

Mr Hilton reported that 83% of the households in the Parish have registered support for the broadband project. The major costs of the project are being met by the major bodies but the broadband group are trying to raise £1000 to cover their day to day running costs (meetings, printing etc) and also for legal advice if necessary. It was agreed that the PC would donate £300. Mr Gash will approach Steadmans to see if they are interested in taking the broadband hub from the school and hosting it for the community. Northern Fells would like the PC to apply for a grant from the Neighbourhood Forum for £300.

12. WELTON SCHOOL

The County Council were agreeable to handing the building over for community use, but, there is someone who is interested in buying the building at market value. The Broadband hub can be moved to the village hall at a cost of £4k. However, the annual running costs are £81/2k and they will not fund this. This would mean charging an annual rental fee to everyone who uses it. There are other options available which could supercede this. The village hall committee are not interested in taking the school building on as they feel it is too big a commitment for them. The PC wondered if there was a possibility of taking the play equipment and installing it in the village. Diane Wood director of resources CCC is in charge of the sale of the whole site. Other monies would be required to site the playground and bring it up to scratch.

13. PARLIAMENTARY BOUNDARY CHANGES

The Boundary Commission proposals are not suitable. The working parties suggestions are much better and are more in tune with the geographical split in the county. The response to the Boundaries Commission must be in by Tuesday. The Clerk will do this on line tomorrow.

14. SQUIRREL UPDATE

The Penrith Red Squirrel Group have a ranger who recently spent 3 weeks in Dentonside Woods. She killed 18 grey squirrels and released red squirrels into the wild. It was agreed that the Clerk would send a thank you note to the group. There are now 3 squirrel rangers working full time in Cumbria, hopefully one will be based in Greystoke soon..

15. PARKING BOLLARDS

After a lot of e mails the Clerk has secured an agreement from the County Council to install 2 bollards in front of the notice board in Churchtown. Mr Stockdale will supervise the plans and their installation.

16. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2/2011/063 2 Sebergham Castle, granted

2/2011/0819 withdrawn

2/2011/0880 extension to cubicle shed, The Ling, Ling Lane. No objections.

17. WEBSITE

Apart from things from the Clerk other groups in the Parish are not utilising the website. We need to promote the website as much as possible.

18 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS & ACCOUNTS

The Accounts for the year ended 5 April 2011 have been returned and signed off by BDO. BDO have made the comment that the Parish Council have not reviewed the effectiveness of the Internal Audit.

The clerk is now paid monthly by standing order direct into her bank account.

The following cheques were authorised and signed by 2 signatories.

331 Andrew Ward (website repairs) (last meeting)	30.00
332 Welton Village Hall (last meeting)	65.00
333 BDO (external audit)	174.00
334 Northern Fells Broadband	300.00

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 1 February 2012.

Wednesday 28 March 2012.

Meeting closed at 21.35

Mr S Hollins Gibson
Vice Chairman.