

SEBERGHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Parish Council Acting Chairman Peter Pearson

***Parishioners were invited to the Annual Parish Meeting
at Welton Village Hall on Wednesday 28 March 2018 at 7pm***

Minutes

- 18.1 *Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Stockdale*
- 18.2 *Minutes 22 March 2017*
Resolved *that the Acting Chairman sign these minutes as a true record.*
- 18.3 *The Acting Chairman of the Parish Council presented a report on the activities of the parish council in the previous year.*

Welcome to the Annual Parish Meeting. These meetings provide an opportunity for us to summarise the work of the Parish Council over the past year, and for local residents to ask any questions or make suggestions about the activities of the Council.

Throughout the year we liaise with the County Highways department and Cumbria Police in an attempt to maintain & improve the condition of our roads, and safety concerns. A number of improvements have been made, particularly on the road leading from Welton to Bell Bridge, and the Goose Green junction is being actively reviewed by the multi-agency "CRASH" (Casualty Reduction And Safer Highway) panel. We strongly encourage parishioners to report pothole and flooding problems themselves through the Cumbria Highways hotline or website, as well as advising the parish council (with the reference number).

A large focus this past year has been liaising with Cumbria County Council and their contractors in the rebuilding of Bell Bridge. The bridge was officially reopened in December, with wide coverage by the media. I would like to record the thanks of the parish council to Sebergham Women's Institute for undertaking the planting of bulbs around the seat area.

Repairs to the adjacent riverside road (which had become undermined in part, making it unsafe for use) also took place, with a width restriction put in place. We will be liaising with the County Council over possible further works on this road.

This year will probably see the main Sebergham Bridge saddled and strengthened, which we will report upon at future meetings.

We continue to respond to planning applications received from Allerdale BC, and Councillors welcome the views of residents when applications are advertised for consultation in order that the Parish Council can reflect local wishes & concerns.

We are a statutory consultee, not the planning authority (which is Allerdale Council), and whilst we should take a view, we cannot object unless we have a material planning objection. Again, we would strongly encourage parishioners to raise any concerns directly with the planning authority.

Through the hard work of the Chairman Alan Rule, and Mal Hilton from Northern Fells Broadband, and the support of County Councillor Duncan Fairburn, it looks as though the whole parish should be getting a better and faster broadband service in the foreseeable future. Work to connect improved broadband services is now taking place.

All of the Council's activities & decisions are reported in our published minutes which are posted on the noticeboards, on the parish website, and in the local press & parish magazine.

Finally, my thanks to our Clerk & Councillors, and our Borough Councillor Duncan Fairbairn, for all their efforts on behalf of local people.

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p.m. In the absence of any parishioners, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15