

SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 19 MAY 2009

PRESENT

Mr J S Hollins-Gibson
Mr J M Carruthers
Mr M Stockdale
Mr P Pearson
Mr A Bell
Mr A V Rule
Mr P Wybergh

APOLOGIES

IN ATTENDANCE

Collr D Fairbairn and 6 members of the public.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of 11 March and 15 April 2009 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

The meeting had earlier been joined by Mr David Hughes the Planning Enforcement Officer for Cumbria County Council who gave an update on the work at Parkhead Quarry.

The Hanson Group owned the quarry for many years. When their lease was due to run out they sought an extension from the County Council and submitted a clean up and landscaping proposal for the site that was agreed. Hanson sold the quarry towards the end of the lease, before the landscaping scheme was implemented to a Northern Ireland based company called Taymar-Selby.

Taymar Selby approached the county Council to re-open the quarry and they were told that a formal application would be refused. They were told that, as owners of the site they were obliged to restore it in accordance with the plans that had already been agreed. To date, the only thing that has been done is that the overburden has been pushed into the quarry bowl.

Mr Hughes was asked by the meeting if the County Council would be prepared to undertake the restoration work and then invoice the owners for the work but there is a marked reluctance on their part to do this.

There is insufficient soil in the quarry to adequately cover the rocks making it necessary to import several hundred lorry loads of top soil onto the site to do a proper landscaping job. The alternative would be to import recycled compost and other products to create soil. A third option would be to sow seeds on the sparse soil that is there and, in time, get some form of greenery covering the area.

The County Council are almost ready to begin enforcement proceedings against the quarry owners to get them to implement the landscaping scheme but they anticipate it being a lengthy procedure that could take several years.

It was suggested that the owners may be considering applying for permission to turn the area into a caravan site but neither the County Council nor the neighbouring residents were in favour of this proposal.

Mr Hughes undertook to keep the Clerk up to date with developments.

District/County Councillor Report

Nothing

Police Report

This information is now available on the Police website www.Cumbriapolice.gov.uk

5.MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Nomination for a Parish Council representative on Allerdale Standards Committee. Mr Rule took the application form which was countersigned by the Chairman.

Digital TV information pack, everyone was reminded to check to see if elderly neighbours needed any help with this.

Public Sector Equality duties, noted.

Clerks & Councils Direct, noted.

Annual report from the Friends of the Lake District, noted.

Allerdale Outlook, the clerk had received this but most members had not. Collr Fairbairn will check this out.

Cumbria Highways newsletter, noted.

7. SIDS

The Chairman had attended a meeting of the new SIDS group to work out a rota for the machine. Next Tuesday 26th May PC Monte is holding a training session at All Hallows PC to demonstrate how to look after the machine. Mr Stockdale will attend . There have been some comments about the SIDS in the Parish Plan questionnaires that have been returned. People are suggesting that they should be sited outside the 30mph limit.

8. PROBLEMS WITH SECURITY LIGHTS AT STEADMANS

It appears that there are less lights on at night and they are not staying on as long but with the light evenings it is difficult to tell if there is still a problem. It was agreed to put this on the agenda again later in the year. The Clerk will write to Allerdale and ask if planning permission was sought for the lights and the outbuildings that have been built in the last few years.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2/2009/0316 Proposal for a 6kw wind turbine at Rylands Farm. There were no objections.

10. PARISH/COMMUNITY PLAN

The questionnaire has been delivered to every home in the Parish. A total of 149 copies. To date, 25 have been returned. The forms are anonymous but they are numbered so that a winner can be selected in the prize draw. The closing date for returning these is 30 May. Mr Pearson said that, anyone who would like to join the steering group would be welcomed.

11. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009 had been circulated to all Parish Councillors for their consideration. These were agreed and signed and the Annual Return to BDO was signed at the same time. Having looked at the figures it was agreed to write cheques at the next meeting for the 2 PCCs for £150 each.

The following cheques were signed by two signatories present.

78 P L Gauntlett 217.04

79 Allianz Insurance 285.50

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 13 July

Provisional dates for future meeting

23 September

18 November

The meeting was closed at 9.10

Mr JS Hollins-Gibson