

**SEBERGHAM & WELTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 24 JANUARY 2007**

PRESENT

Mr S Hollins-Gibson
Mr M Stockdale
Mr J Burrow
Mr M Carruthers
Mr R Fawkes
Mr P Wybergh
Collr D Fairbairn
20 members of the public

APOLOGIES

Mr G Gash

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Clerk opened the meeting following the resignation of Mr Gash. Nominations for the vacant position of chairman were requested.

Nomination	Proposer	Seconder
Mr S Hollins-Gibson	Mr P Wybergh	Mr M Carruthers

This was agreed unanimously.

Mr Hollins-Gibson then took the Chair and called for nominations for Vice chairman.

Nomination	Proposer	Seconder
Mr M Stockdale	Mr J Burrow	Mr S Hollins-Gibson

Mr Hollins-Gibson wished to record thanks to Mr Gash for all the years he had Chaired the Parish Council which he had done using a light touch and good humour. He also stated that he had done a fair bit of chairing meetings and he wanted everyone to speak through the Chair. It was necessary to be orderly to get through the business in 1½ hours.

DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Mr Dixon was welcomed as the new Parish Councillor and invited to sign a declaration of acceptance of office and a registration of financial interests form. The Clerk invited all the Parish Councillors to review their registration of financial interests forms and make any amendments that they consider necessary.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Hollins-Gibson had not been present at the last meeting. Members were asked if the minutes were a correct record, they were agreed.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Burrow declared a personal interest in the Standards Board report and a personal and prejudicial interest in the planning application at Lingside and in the parking in Churchtown item.

Mr Stockdale declared a personal interest in the parking at Churchtown item.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow members of the public an opportunity to ask questions or raise matters of interest. The Chairman stressed that all those who wished to speak must keep their comments brief. A point of order was raised as to whether members of the public were allowed to ask questions at other times during the meeting. The Chairman informed the meeting that this was the only opportunity the public would have to ask questions.

Three people indicated that they wished to speak.

Mr Hilton wished to comment on the temporary traffic lights at Sebergham Bridge, whilst they do appear to be slowing the traffic down he cannot turn safely out of his side road onto the main road as he cannot see a light. There is water still running across the bridge and the grit bin is empty and has been since before Christmas.

Mrs Ivinson wished to complain about the road surface on the B5299, the Parish Council complain about this on a regular basis but will do so again.

Mr Gibson of Churchtown would like the PC to clarify the costs of £10k that have been quoted for reducing the speed limit in Churchtown from 40 to 20, the Clerk will request this. Also the previous minutes do not show that the PC would be prepared to contribute towards this cost, the PC did not say they would do so. He also queried the fact that a discussion at the end of the last meeting had not been minuted, this had taken place after the Chairman had closed the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk had circulated a note about the SIDS (speed indication devices) which had arrived after the agenda had been printed. The PC had applied to join the SIDS scheme earlier in the year but had been unlucky, there were now enough PCs to run a second scheme and a meeting will be held on 1 February to get this underway. It was agreed that the Clerk together with Mr Wybergh and Mr Fawkes would attend the meeting as the devices would be situated in Welton the first time they are used.

The Clerk confirmed that she has sent a report of the last meeting to both Sebergham and Welton Church magazines.

CORRESPONDENCE

CALC circular January 2007, noted.

Bowness & Thursby Neighbourhood Forum, Monday 26 February in Sebergham village hall. The primary topics for discussion at this meeting will be the parking in Churchtown and the improvements to Sebergham bridge. Everyone is welcome to attend, including members of the public. Posters advertising the meeting will be put on the noticeboards.

Planning Cumbria the Cumbria and Lake District joint structure plan adopted version was noted.

Cumbria County Councils proposal to establish a single unitary authority was noted.

Mr Rule's letter of 6 January addressed to Mr Gash had been circulated to all Parish Councillors and was noted.

REPORT ON SEBERGHAM BRIDGE & CHURCHTOWN PARKING

Councillor Burrow left the meeting in case he needed to declare a prejudicial interest on the parking in Churchtown as the garage owner is his brother in law.

Councillor Fairbairn delivered a report on the meetings that were held at Sebergham Bridge and in Churchtown.

The traffic is slowing down on the bridge approaches as a result of the temporary traffic lights. The Environment Agency won't allow scaffolding to be erected in the river for some months yet so the lights will remain for some time. Collr Fairbairn also noted that there are problems getting out of the side road. The engineer in charge of the repairs will be attending the Neighbourhood Forum meeting on 26 February and will give an updated report then. Andrew Butler is dealing with the problems with the water on the road., the problem is caused by a combination of the fall not being very big and the pipe at the other side of the road is too small for the volume of water. The pipe is also susceptible to breakage caused by the lorries. The damage to the bridge will be expensive to repair, in the last 6 years the repairs have cost over £100,000 and none of this cost has been recouped from any of the perpetrators. Residents have agreed to try and get details of any vehicles that they see damaging the bridge. Mill Lane is being damaged by the water running off the bridge, repair work will be done here as required. It was noted that damage from HGVs to the road surfaces is likely to increase. Collr Fairbairn was

asked why the lights could not be 3 way which would allow easier access from the side road. There has been no decision made yet on permanent lights here, this will be done after the Neighbourhood Forum meeting. The PC wondered if there was any possibility of banning HGV's from the bridge, the only possibility of doing this will be immediately following the opening of the Carlisle Northern Relief road and work has not yet started on this.

A meeting was held in Churchtown on 21 December between Collr Fairbairn, Steve Long from Allerdale planning dept and a number of residents. Everyone agreed that the number of vehicles parked on the road needs to be decreased. Three sites for parking vehicles were discussed but no consensus was reached. It was agreed that better management of the vehicles at the garage would help and the garage owner agreed to tidy up his yard to take more vehicles off the road and to encourage his customers to collect their vehicles promptly and not park in the lane. The Chairman commented that no one appears to have any authority to do anything about this problem. Allerdale are only interested in planning aspects, no one is actively pursuing the parking problem. PC Benson stated that someone is looking into the ownership of the land behind the garage. Mr Long has been looking at the planning permissions that have been granted on the garage over the years and he is investigating reports of out of hours work, he is also liaising with the Environmental Health dept on the matter.

Mr Burrow re-joined the meeting.

REPORT FROM THE STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND

The Clerk read the letter she had received from the Standards Board, it states that no action needs to be taken in respect of these matters which are the subject of the investigation. A copy of the final finding will be issued in due course.

NOTICEBOARDS

Due to problems with the notice boards it was decided to install a new lockable Parish Council board in Welton and a new board in Sebergham part of which will lock. Mrs Ivinson confirmed that a new board could be sited on her wall in Welton., the space needs to be measured and then some quotes obtained before the next meeting, the Welton Councillors will do this. Mr Stockdale had got several sets of details off the Internet and one quote for £500 for a brand new board in Churchtown, it was suggested that this be re-sited at the same time. It was suggested that Sebergham Councillors look at the proposed new site and come back to the next meeting with suggestions. The Clerk will get some brochures for the next meeting and approach David Holliday who is a furniture maker and Malcolm Foster who could make a metal one for some quotes.

TRAINING

The Clerk had provisionally booked the CALC road show to come and do an evening of training for all Parish Councillors, this was to be on 7 March at 7pm in the old school in Sebergham. It was expected that all Parish Councillors would attend. There is no charge for the course and CALC will pay for the hire of the hall and any refreshments that are provided. The PC also agreed that any Councillor who wants to go on a training course can do so and the fees will be paid by the PC. The Clerk circulated the list of CALC courses that are coming up. She mentioned a course at Allerdale in September about planning matters which will be worth attending, hopefully more details will be received in due course.

LING LANE

The Clerk had received complaints about the state of the road surface on Ling Lane, she had been and looked at it and agreed. She will report it to Capita. The PC have suggested that it would be appropriate for passing places to be constructed on the lane but residents are against this idea as they feel it will encourage fly tipping along the road.

WEBSITE

Mr Stockdale has had a meeting with Mr Ward and produced several templates for websites, which were displayed on boards in the hall. He was thanked for his work. Councillors were asked for their preferred contact method and these details were noted. The Clerk will get in touch with CALC and ask what the situation is with taking payments for adverts towards the running costs of the website.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Since the last meeting application number 2/2006/1294 for the re-roofing of Mr Carruthers cattle shed had been agreed.

Mr Burrow declared a personal and prejudicial interest and left the meeting.

2/2006/1103. The Clerk had written to Allerdale immediately she had received notification that they had passed the planning application for a barn as requested in this application. She pointed out that the PC had only been consulted on a barn including a workshop not on just a barn. It was incorrect to attribute the PC's comments about an industrial unit on the site to the construction of just a barn. She felt a separate consultation should have taken place. The reply received from Allerdale was read out. Everyone agreed it was most unsatisfactory but there was nothing further that PC could do about it.

Mr Burrow re-joined the meeting.

DOG CONTROL ORDERS 2006

Allerdale are extending the areas where owners must clean up after their dogs. This will cover every open space in the Borough. Anyone caught not cleaning up after their dog is liable to be fined.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The new signatory had been added to the bank account.

It was agreed that the Clerk would be paid for her additional work

It was confirmed that the cheque for £299 for the SIDS would be re-issued.

The following cheques were written

226 P L Gauntlett extra hours 223.92

227 Cumbria Police Authority 299.00

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was thought that three meetings on the same night in May was too much. It was proposed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting the week before and have a guest speaker. The Clerk asked for suggestions for a speaker. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 21 March.

The meeting was formally closed at 9.40.

Mr S Hollins-Gibson
Chairman