

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council, Monday 6 November 2023 at Storth Church.

Present were – Cllrs Meakin (Chair), Greifenberg, Knowles, Phelan, Phillips and Yates. Also WFC Cllr R Audland, up to and including item 7. Parish Clerk John Scargill and three members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence – had been received from Cllr Clark (work).

2.0 Minutes of the previous meeting – the minutes of the meeting of 2 October 2023, previously circulated, were **approved** by the meeting and signed by Cllr Meakin as a correct record.

3.0 Declarations of interest by members present in respect of items on this agenda – none.

4.0 Announcements by the Chair – Cllr Meakin asked for his apologies for absence from the December meeting to be noted - to be submitted in writing in due course.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes of 21 August 2023 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

5.1 Beetham flooding (5.1) – Cllr Greifenberg had contacted the Environment Agency (EA) again, but as yet no response; WFC Cllr Audland to check status of previously allocated funding availability from former the Cumbria County Council. Cllr Audland also to seek to restart joint working between the new Highway Authority, EA & others.

5.2 Leighton Beck Road surface water (5.2) – as 5.1 above.

5.3 BPC member vacancies (5.3) – some progress with filling the vacancies.

5.4 Four Lane Ends verge (5.4) – repair of the damaged grass by AONB volunteers is anticipated in the near future.

5.5 Sandside Cutting wall at properties 3 & 12 Rose Hill Grove) – quote awaited from walling contractor – Clerk to chase.

5.6 Beetham village traffic speeds (7.5) – the meeting warmly welcomed the initiative of Cllr Phillips in setting up and managing this project. The test equipment would now be retained for a six-week period.

5.7 BPC Code of Conduct (7.1) – Cllr Meakin had submitted WFC's requisite form as formal notification of this issue, being follow-up to protracted correspondence and personal contact. Members unhappy with WFC's slow progress and lack of urgency in dealing with the matter.

5.8 Streetlamps (7.5) – a very broad cost estimate had been received for replacing the Keasdale Road lamp (number 270), dependent on power-supply issues. In progress. The implications for BPC's many old and vulnerable streetlamps needed to be considered in due course and an updated inventory of these lamps was underway. WFC understood to be exploring the possibilities for rationalising the treatment of streetlamps within its area at the request of Cllr Audland.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police matters – Police Reports for August, September and October. had been received and circulated to members.

6.2 Higher authority report – WFC Councillor Audland updated the meeting on progress with carrying out repairs to the A6 bridge at Beetham and Highways roadworks in the parish

6.3 Matters raised by electors – a traffic frequency test cable had been observed in Quarry Lane, then subsequently removed when the lane's privately-owned status had been pointed out to WFC as the authorising body. Subsequent traffic monitoring had been observed at

both ends of this road. WFC's tardy and unprofessional way in dealing with BPC's Code of Conduct issue was commented on.

7.0 New Matters for consideration –

7.1 Remembrance Sunday – BPC representation. The customary wreaths to be laid at Beetham and Storth cenotaphs, by Cllr Phillips and Cllr Greifenberg respectively.

7.2 Woodland Trust – had more free-of-charge saplings to offer, but none needed in Beetham Parish at this time.

8. BPC Land issues:

i. Unauthorised car parking at Plot 4, Slackhead – BPC's solicitor had written to the offender.

ii. Tree management etc – Clerk to ask BPC's arboriculturist to advise on overgrown ivy on trees at Beetham playing field.

iii. Silverdale Wood Bank – had taken away surplus timber from earlier routine felling in Sandside Cutting.

9.00 Planning.

9.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

October 2023 – Nov 2023 meeting.

Type A applications – SLDC response deadline precedes next PC meeting – Clerk to respond. (Members on relevant ward committee to email comments to Clerk ASAP & before deadline)

SLDC ref	Address	Development	Response deadline	BPC response
SL/2023/0742	Land at Beetham	Request for formation of cow track		No objection

9.2 Decisions received from WFC

SL/2023/0524	Wings School, Whassett	Replacement of existing signboard	Grant with conditions
SL/2023/0537	New Acre, Carr Bank Road	Single-storey extensions	Grant with conditions

(More planning information available on SLDC website – southlakeland.gov.uk)

9.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – as above.

9.4 Related matters & correspondence – none.

10. Financial matters:

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT			MONTH – OCTOBER 2023	MEETING – 6 NOVEMBER 2023	
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c	Premium a/c
				£	£
01/10/23	Opening balance				19,474.42
31/10/23	Receipts	Ground rents - October	B.Jones 8.34 Harper 150.00		
		WFC – precept 2023/24 (second 50%)		158.34	
				12,315.28	
	Payments				
	823 1539	Hurst – mtce work on notice boards		54.00	
	824 1540	Zurich – insurance prem 2023/24		451.85	
	825 1541	Info. Com. – annual data protection fee		40.00	
	826 1542	CALC – course fees (D Phelan)		30.00	
	827 1543	GHS (Haddow) – 7 grass-cuts etc		1,365.00	
	828 1544	Scargill – Post/Stationery 6 mths	133.99		
		VAT	20.57		
				154.56	
	829 1545	Scargill – Clerk's sal Oct (net)		613.73	
	830 1546	HMRC – PAYE Oct		154.66	
				-2,863.80	
31/10/23	Closing balances			13,162.24	19,474.42
31/10/23	Total funds all accounts			£ 32,636.66	

Resolved - that the above payments be APPROVED.

Breakdown of Total Funds at 31/10/23	Street lamp reserve	9,600.00
	Sports Field path project reserve (SLDC/PMS)	450.00
	SID2 (SLDC/PMS)	1,000.00
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	Total reserves/allocated funds	11,050.00
	Working funds	21,586.66
	Total funds	32,636.66

Other finance matters:

- BPC cheque 1505 (March 2023) to Lancaster City Council (AONB) - not presented, so presumed lost in post – to cancel then replace.
- BPC half-year accounts circulated and **approved**.
- BPC had been asked for their usual financial support to provide a 2023 Christmas tree in Beetham village. Cllr Phillips to make further enquiries and report back.

11.0 Parish Steward:

11.1 Update on current events - supporting structure for Beetham stocks need attention - next meeting agenda. Bill Haddow had given notice to resign as BPC Parish Steward (mainly grass-cutting) with effect 31/03/24, but had identified a possible replacement. Clerk to follow up.

11.2 Additions to work programme - none.

12.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies - Cllr Phillips to attend forthcoming meeting of Burton-in-Kendal Educational Foundation.

13.0 Parish Matters (for information only) - none.

14.0 General correspondence - none.

15.0 Reading Matter received - Keer to Kent.

- Clerks & Councils Direct

16.0 Items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting (December 2023) and additional to items referred to above - arrangements for BPC Finance Com. Meeting (re budget 2024/25).

17.0 Date of next meeting - monthly BPC meeting, 7pm Mon 4 December 2023 at Beetham School

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.