

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council, Monday 5 February 2024 at Beetham School.

Present were – Cllrs Meakin (Chair), Clark, Greifenberg, Knowles, Marsden, Phelan, Phillips and Yates. Also WFC Cllr R Audland (up to and including item 6), Parish Clerk John Scargill and three members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence – none.

2.0 Minutes of the previous meeting – the minutes of the meeting 8 January 2024, 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 – none.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes of 8 January 2024 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

5.1 Beetham flooding (5.1) – nothing to report.

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

5.3 BPC member vacancies (5.3) – following the appointment of Alan Marsden as a BPC member for Beetham East Ward, one West Ward vacancy remained.

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

5.5 Sandside Cutting wall at properties 3 & 12 Rose Hill Grove (5.5) – no further progress. Clerk to follow up with waller.

5.6 Beetham village traffic speeds (5.6) – the village tests were now in progress and producing useful results; Cllr Phillips to make a short presentation on the project at the next BPC meeting. Various alternative traffic calming possibilities to be considered.

5.7 BPC Code of Conduct (5.7) – Cllr Meakin's recent update of BPC's Code of Conduct had been circulated and was **agreed** for adoption and publication on the BPC website.

5.8 Beetham stocks (7.1) – that, due to its historical significance for the village, this be considered as a BPC regeneration project, with public involvement and subject to cost.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police matters – a Police Report for December 2023 had been received and circulated on 9 January 2024.

6.2 Higher authority report – (WFC Councillor Audland) – nothing to report.

6.3 Matters raised by electors – none.

7.0 New Matters for consideration –

7.1 D -Day Pin Badge Scheme – some interest among BPC members. Cllr Audland to check on WFC response to the scheme.

7.2 Proposal for a Storth Social Hub – WFC had confirmed its offer of a £1,000 grant as start-up and reserve operational funding, to be held by BPC and disbursed as required. **Agreed** as a worthwhile development for the community.

7.3 Beetham Annual Assembly (14 March 2024 at Heron Hall, Storth) – Cllr Meakin to ask Lucy Barron (AONB) to give the presentation.

7.4 Dog-poo issue in and around Beetham village – was causing concern among residents. Cllr Phillips to investigate and monitor.

8. BPC Land issues:

i. Unauthorised car parking at Plot 4, Slackhead – BPC to proceed with re-seeding the affected area, subject to advice from arboriculturist Jennie Keighley – Clerk to initiate.

ii. Tree management etc – the BPC budget for annual major tree work (Sandside Cutting/Plot 4) had been increased to £5K for 2024/25.

9.00 Planning.

9.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

January 2024 – Feb 2024 meeting.

Type A applications – WFC 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
2024/0091/FPA	Primrose Cottage, Shaw Lane, Storth	Change of use – woodland to garage and car parking.	INVALID APPLIC'N	
2024/0111/LBC	Townend Farm, Farleton	Max 11 solar panels, for installation on rear roof..	26/02/24	No objection

9.2 Decisions received from SLDC

WFC decisions

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(More planning information available on WFC website – westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk)

9.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – as above.

9.4 Related matters & correspondence – none.

10. Financial matters:

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – JANUARY 2024

MEETING – 5 FEBRUARY 2024

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c £	Premium a/c £
01/01/24	Opening balance			10,008.98	19,524.42
31/01/24	Receipts	Ground rents May - B-Jones Barclays Bank – balance of interest to Dec 2023		8.34	17.81
	Payments				
	843 1441	National Highways – access rent		38.69	
	844 1442	Scargill – Clerk’s sal Jan (net)		647.83	
	845 1443	HMRC – PAYE Jan		168.92	
				-855.44	
31/01/24	Closing balances			9,161.88	19,542.23
31/01/24	Total funds all accounts			£ 28,704.11	
Breakdown of Total Funds at 31/01/24					
		Street lamp reserve			9,600.00
		Sports Field path project reserve (SLDC/PMS)			450.00
		SID2 (SLDC/PMS)			1,000.00
		Total reserves/allocated funds			11,050.00
		Working funds			17,654.11
		Total funds			28,704.11

Resolved - that the above payments be APPROVED.

Other finance matters:

- the BPC precept of £24,362 for 2024/25 had been submitted to WFC and acknowledged.

- proposed changes to the Clerk's financial allowances, circulated to all members, were **agreed**.

11.0 Parish Steward:

11.1 Update on current events - the PS and his proposed replacement, together with the Clerk, would be undertaking a joint survey of all BPC grass-cutting sites prior to the 2024 season.

11.2 Additions to work programme - none.

12.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies - none.

13.0 Parish Matters (for information only) :

Cllr Phillips - the Stanley Street, Beetham, potholes had been reported via the appropriate channels.

14.0 General correspondence:

- **complaints re The Ship Inn, Sandside** - faulty fire alarms disturbing local residents.

- **CALC** - new employment contract template now available.

- **Cumbria Police** - fraud presentation (to precede BPC March meeting). Clerk to check electrics.

15.0 Reading Matter received - none.

16.0 Items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting (March 2024) and additional to items referred to above - damaged access gate to Beetham playing field - Clerk to check ownership.

17.0 Date of next meeting - monthly BPC meeting, 7pm Mon 4 March 2024 at Storth Church.

- Annual Assembly, 8pm Thurs 14 March 2024 at Heron Hall, Storth.

The meeting closed at 8.20-pm.