

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council held on Monday 6 Sept 2021 at Storth Village Church.

Present were - Cllrs Yates (Chair), Clark, Crayston, Dean, Dewar, Greifenberg and Meakin. Also Cllr McSweeney (for item 6 only), Beetham Parish Clerk John Scargill, Beetham Parish Steward Bill Haddow and one member of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence -received and accepted from Cllr Knowles (family commitment)).

Members were reminded that it was a legal requirement for apologies to be sent to the Clerk in writing in advance of the meeting with a brief reason for absence.

2.0 The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 23 August 2021, had been circulated by email.

These were **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record and signed by Cllr Yates.

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

4.0 Announcements by the Chair - Cllr Yates announced and apologised that, due to exceptional and unexpected family commitments, he had come to the conclusion that he could not continue to serve as BPC Chair at the present time. Cllr Meakin had agreed to serve as Chair for at least one more year and Cllr Knowles had agreed to share the Vice-chair function with Cllr Yates until further notice. These proposals were **agreed** by the meeting.

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes 5 July 2021 and 23 August 2021 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

5.1 Beetham flooding (5.1) - Cllr Dean had had recent contact with Environment Agency personnel and would be meeting them during the next week to review the situation and report back. **Agreed** - that Cllr Greifenberg would join these discussions. Ongoing. The road drain near Beetham cenotaph had recently been cleared.

5.2 Leighton Beck Road surface water (5.2) - as with 5.1 above. Ongoing.

5.3 Beetham ghost footpath (5.3) - it seemed that a tentative and unofficial compromise situation had been reached with concessions from both sides (CCC and resident). No further action planned at this time. Continued monitoring.

5.4 Mobile SIDs on loan (5.4) - no further developments. SID currently out of action and in need of battery recharge. Ongoing.

5.5 Electricity North West funding for street lamps conversion to LED (5.5) -no response from the Clerk's letter to ENW CEO in June 2021. **Agreed** - remove from agenda.

5.6 A second SID for BPC (5.6) - Beetham Nurseries had asked to be kept informed of any revised BPC proposals for purchase and deployment of a second SID. Billerud had been informed of the situation and a reply was awaited. Noted - that BPC's first SID (on Sandside promenade) had now been totally destroyed in a traffic accident - insurers informed and claim procedures underway.

5.7 Slackhead Refuse Tip (Hale Marble Quarry) leachate (5.7) - the soil samples taken by CCC had proved not to be contaminated by substances unacceptable for human health.

5.8 BPC admin contingency planning (5.9) - the Clerk had made good progress in preparing notes of his detailed duties and revising his filing system. **Agreed** - that two BPC members be appointed to become familiar with these in the event of any sudden incapacity of the Clerk.

5.9 BPC member vacancy (5.9) - Cllr Yates introduced Paul Harnett, a newcomer to Storth village, who had shown interest in being co-opted to fill this vacancy. Mr Harnett confirmed his continuing interest and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the meeting. The Clerk to proceed with remaining formalities.

5.10 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2/6/22 (5.10) – Tree planting was **agreed** as being BPC's favoured contribution, as far as possible in a joint project with other Beetham parish groups and neighbouring parish councils. Clerk to initiate this liaison. Young trees were currently available from Woodland Trust and free-of-charge for this purpose. The hollow behind Stanley Street, Beetham, **agreed** as a good location.

5.11 Wild flower planting (7.1) – on verges in Beetham parish had been suggested as another project for BPC involvement. **Agreed** - that the wide verge in Storth Road, between Paddock Way and Four Lane Ends, be selected as a trial area for this scheme. Clerk to approach CCC Highways for the necessary permission.

6. Public Participation.

6/1. Police Reports – for Kendal and the Kendal Rural Area had been received for the months of July & August 2021. The July report mentioned heavy traffic problems on Cockshot Lane, Storth.

6.1/2 County and District Council matters (C Cllr McSweeney): the process of setting up a new unitary authority for Cumbria had become more complicated as a result of formal objections to the original proposals. Nevertheless, a final central government decision was expected imminently. Neighbouring parishes had expressed interest in the possible joint employment of a Parish Steward (Lengthsman) to service the three parishes of Arnside, Milnthorpe and Beetham; Clerk and Chair to meet the other Clerks and Chairs to discuss. Local bin collections had become a major problem in South Lakeland, mainly due to staff shortages

6.3 Matters raised by electors – Bill Haddow voiced his concerns and those of many Beetham residents over the very poor state of the Beetham cenotaph compared with years past. Urgent action was needed by whoever was responsible for the cenotaph to bring it back to an acceptable state. Royal British Legion and War Graves Commission may be able to help with establishing where this responsibility lay. Clerk to investigate. Continued proliferation of roadside signage noted on the A6 at Beetham and also the stumps for previous signs now removed or defunct; Bill to provide location details of stumps. He also suggested replanting last year's Christmas tree in a slightly different location – **agreed**. As an alternative to live Christmas trees for the future, Bill suggested seasonal scaffolding poles carrying fairy lights, which could be removed entirely when not in use.

Separately, concerns had been raised re a banner sign advertising the re-opening of The Wheatsheaf, as this sign was obscuring the view of the A6 for traffic turning onto it from the village, presenting a safety issue. **Agreed** – Clerk to refer this to the Highways Authority.

7.0 New Matters for consideration – none.

8. BPC Land issues:

i. BPC tree management policy (TMP) – the document presented to the Extraordinary meeting on 23 August 2021 was **approved and adopted**, signed by Cllrs Meakin, Dean and Yates.

ii. Land/boundary wall 14 Rose Hill Grove – legal formalities for the transfer now in progress.

iii. Other land matters – noted, that other residents with properties bordering Sandside Cutting had expressed interest in similarly acquiring narrow strips of boundary land

iv. Trees at Sandend, Green Lane, Storth (Stringer) – the newly agreed TMP document could now be applied to this situation and would limit work by adjacent landowners to the removal of overhanging branches of BPC trees, unless danger to the public was involved. Noted that this work had already been done at Sandend.

v. Tree near Crow's Nest, Green Lane, Storth (Dale) – established as not a BPC-owned tree.

vi. Oak tree near 5 Dallam Drive, Storth (Francis) – using the TMP document, no action was needed re the adjacent BPC-owned oak tree.

vii. Trees on Plot 4, Slackhead. Local residents had asked for permission to continue their practice of regular selective pruning of BPC trees in order to restrict their shading effect. **Agreed** – BPC to meet residents on site to discuss future plans in the context of its TMP. Clerk to arrange.

9. Carr Bank B5282 bus stop – the completed agreement document between Highways and BPC to enable plinth enlargement work to proceed was now with Highways for attention.

10. Parish Footpath issues – nothing to report.

11. Planning Matters:

**11.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:
2021 meeting**

Sept

**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	Applicant	Development	Response deadline	BPC response
SL/2021/0713				04/08/21	No objection
SL/2021/0777	Land east of Leighton Beck Rd	Ashton House, Beetham		Roof repairs, rooflight etc	Strong objections
SL/2021/0779	Garden at Carr Bank Nurseries		Change of use to commercial land (storage)		No objection
SL/2021/0793	Little Shaw, Storth		Detached office/studio		No objection
SL/2021/0796	Barcaldine, Leighton Drive		New first floor studio/ bedroom extn etc		No objection
SL/2021/0799	Beetham Caravan Park, Hale		Discharge of various conditions		No objection
SL/2021/0847	Ashton House, Beetham		Temporary removal of wall segment to enable access for repairs.		No objection
PN/2021/0061	Dallam Tower Estate		New access track to deer park.		No objection
PN/2021/0072	Opposite Kentrigg (Teddy Heights) & Hampsfell, (Keasdale Rd)		Installation of BT light wooden poles.		No objection

Type B applications – SLDC deadline falls after next PC meeting – members to discuss at meeting.

--	--	--	--	--	--

11.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SL/2021/0221	Brantwood, Storth		Detached open garage etc	Approved with conditions
SL/2021/0226	Unnamed field in Holme		Erection of 4 stables etc	Approved with conditions
SL/2021/0305	Hazelslack Tower Farm		Concreting farmyard	Approved with conditions
SL/2021/0462	Orchard Cottage, Leighton B Rd		Conservatory replacement & kitchen/d. room ext'n	Approved with conditions
SL/2021/0537	Swallowdale, Storth		Replacement single-storey rear extension	Approved with conditions
SL/2021/0595	Rose Lea, Keasdale Av. C Bk		Detached double garage	Approved with conditions
SL/2021/0606	Farleton View, 3 Leighton B Rd		Replacement of windows etc	Approved with conditions

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

11.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – as above.

11.4 Related matters & correspondence:

- 3 Rose Hill Grove, Storth – planning enforcement complaints form lodged by BPC with SLDC re extensive building work currently underway, apparently without planning permission.
- SLDC Local Plan Review – public consultation – attended by Cllrs Meakin & Knowles. (see item 14 below).

12. Financial Matters:

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT			MONTH – JULY 2021	MEETING – 6 Sept 2021		
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		Premium a/c
				£	£	£
01/07/21	Opening balance				7,363.57	19,338.29
	Receipts	Groud rents July	Ryan	80.00		
			Smith	200.00		
			Hunn	20.00		
					308.34	
	Payments					
	671	1326	Glasdon – outdoor seat	565.97		
			VAT	113.19		
					679.16	
	672	1327	CHBT – annual support defib fee	135.00		
			VAT	27.00		
					162.00	
	673	1328	Storth VH – mtg rom hire		17.00	
	674	1329	Lakeland Tree – annual risk assess't		250.00	
	675	1330	Scargill – Clerk's sal July (net)		569.48	
	676	1331	HMRC – PAYE July		142.40	
					-1,820.04	
31/07/21	Closing balances				5,851.87	19,338.29
31/07/21	Total funds all accounts				£25,190.16	

Breakdown of Total Funds at 31/07/21				
		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		11,310.00
		Working funds		13,880.16
		Total funds		25,190.16

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT			MONTH – AUGUST 2021	MEETING – 6 Sept 2021		
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		Premium a/c
				£	£	£
01/08/21	Opening balance				5,851.87	19,338.29
31/07/21	Receipts	Ground rents August	B-Jones	8.34		
			Ryan	80.00		
			Harper	150.00		
					238.34	
		Storth Com Shop – donation			565.97	
		SLDC – Street lighting refund			537.96	
	Payments					
	677	1332	PKF – external audit 2020/21	200.00		
			VAT	40.00		
					240.00	
	678	1333	Scargill – Clerk's sal Aug (net)		569.48	
	679	1334	HMRC – PAYE Aug		142.40	
	680	1335	Dallam – bus shelter land annual rent		50.00	
					-1,001.88	
31/08/21	Closing balances				6,192.26	19,338.29
31/08/21	Total funds all accounts				£25,530.55	

Breakdown of Total Funds at 31/08/21				
		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		11,310.00
		Working funds		14,220.55
		Total funds		25,530.55

Resolved – that the above payments be **APPROVED**.

12.2 Other financial matters – conclusion of external audit 2020/21 (clean sheet).

13.0 Parish Steward:

13.1 Update on current events – none.

13.2 Further additions to work programme – none.

14.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies – Beetham Exhibition Trust – Cllrs Crayston & Dean attended – 14 grants awarded in total.

15.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Knowles – reported (by email) on residents’ suggestion for a wild flower verge in Storth Rd- see 5.11 above.

16.0 General Correspondence received:

June 2021 – Storth Community Shop – Annual Report 2020/21.

15/07/21 – copy correspondence between Beetham resident and Tim Farron re Beetham traffic.

25/08/21 – SLDC – relaunch of Handy Person Scheme in South Lakeland.

02/09/21 – South Lakeland Area Support – flood training sessions flyer.

17.0 Reading Matter – Clerks & Councils Direct – Sept 2021.

18.0 Items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting (Oct 2021) and additional to items referred to above – none.

19.0 Date of next meetings - PC meeting 7.00pm Mon 4 Oct at Beetham School.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.