

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council, Monday 4 March 2024 at StorthVillage Church.

Present were – Cllrs Greifenberg (Chair), Knowles, Marsden, Phelan, Phillips and Yates. Also WFC Cllr R Audland (from items 5.6 up to and including item 6.3) and Parish Clerk John Scargill.
No members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence – Cllrs Clark (work) and Meakin (holiday). As a member of the public, Mrs Helen Burrow had also asked that her apologies for absence through ill-health be recorded.

2.0 Minutes of the previous meeting – the minutes of the meeting 5 February 2024, previously circulated, were **approved** by the meeting and signed by Cllr Greifenberg 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 5 February 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) – nothing to report.

5.3 BPC member vacancies (5.3) – currently 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) – the appointed waller had been asked to proceed with this job as soon as possible.

5.6 Beetham village traffic speeds (5.6) – Cllr Phillips made a short presentation, copies of which had been circulated to all members earlier on 4 March. From a mass of recorded data at four village locations over the months of Jan/Feb 2024, a picture had emerged of generally high average traffic speeds, with over 50% in excess of the speed limit and dangerously high recorded maximum speeds. Relevant agencies to be advised and various alternative traffic calming possibilities to be considered.

5.7 BPC Code of Conduct (5.7) – No further progress.

5.8 Beetham stocks (7.1) – Some questions about whether repair, rather than replacement, might be possible after all. Clerk to arrange for Cllr Marsden and the appointed workman to undertake joint inspection to resolve.

5.9 Beetham Annual Assembly, 14 March at Heron Hall, Storth (7.3) – advertising flyers now in place around the parish and press release arranged. Clerk to undertake catering arrangements as usual. Lucy Barron, Manager of Arnside & Silverdale National Landscape (AONB) to give short opening presentation.

5.10 Beetham dog-fouling survey (7.4) – a second, more recent, survey had shown continuation of the practice of thrown-away dog-poo bags, albeit at a reduced level, and thought to be by a relatively small number of regular dog walkers.

6.0 Public Participation.

6.1 Police matters – no police reports received/circulated since December 2023.

6.2 Higher authority report – (WFC Councillor Audland):

- the WFC 2024/25 budget had now been approved – ‘safe but careful’.

- harmonisation of WFC’s collection of household green waste was under discussion.

- formal traffic speed checks expected in the new financial year.

- an alternative way to display Remembrance Day poppies, as used by Milnthorpe PC in 2023, had impressed.

6.3 Matters raised by electors – none.

7.0 New Matters for consideration –

7.1 damaged access gate to Beetham Playing Field - being assessed by the ASNL (AONB).

8. BPC Land issues:

Unauthorised car parking at Plot 4, Slackhead – BPC to proceed to re-seed the affected area and to cordon-off/appropriately sign until damage rectified– Clerk to initiate.

9.00 Planning.

9.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

February 2024 – Mar 2024 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
2024/0009/FPA	Knott View Barn, Farleton	Detached timber car port	5 Mar 2024	No objection
2024/0108/FPA	Blackberry Hill, LBRd, Slackhead	Outbuildings demolition plus erection of two dwellings.	7 Mar 2024	BPC unable to access data!
2024/0114/FPA	Kilnsey, 6 Keasdale Ave, CB	Reconstruction of car port roof.	20 Mar 2024	No objection

9.2 Decisions received from SLDC

WFC decisions

None			
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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:

10.1 BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH – FEBRUARY 2024

MEETING – 4 MARCH 2024

Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c		Premium a/c	
				£	£	£	£
01/02/24	Opening balance				9,161.88		19,542.23
29/02/24	Receipts	Ground rents Feb - B-Jones			8.34		
		WFC grant (RA) re Community Hub Storth			1,000.00		
		Elec NW – wayleaves			50.00		
		Payments					
	846	1444	Athena – annual payroll admin.	200.00			
	847	1445	Storth Vil Hall – annual storage rent	25.00			
	848	1446	Beetham School – mtg room rent '23/'24	100.00			
	849	1447	Scargill – Clerk's sal Feb (net)	647.63			
	850	1443	HMRC – PAYE Feb	169.12			
		DD	Barclays – charges (stopped chq 1505)	12.50			
					1,154.25		
29/02/24	Closing balances				9,065.97		19,542.23
29/02/24	Total funds all accounts						£ 28,608.20
Breakdown of Total Funds at 29/02/24							
			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 17,558.20

Total funds 28,608.20

10.2 BPC grants awarded for 2023/24.

Grants awarded to date for 2023/24 total £620 against a budgeted £500, as a result of funding the new Hale defibrillator (£500) plus usual amounts - £60 each to British Legion (Remembrance Day) and Beetham Christmas tree. **Agreed** – to pay the usual £700 grant to AONB, making a grand total of £1,320 for 2023/24. **NB** – grants for previous year 2022/23 **underspent** by £380 against budget.

11.0 Parish Steward:

11.1 Update on current events – the retiring PS had inspected all thirteen BPC grass-cutting sites with two potential applicants for the job and their quotes for the work were awaited.

11.2 Additions to work programme – PS to remove Silent Soldier emblems from Beetham and Storth cenotaph sites for ‘off-duty’ storage. To consider basic handrail for BPC’s Carr Bank notice board – next meeting agenda.

12.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies – none.

13.0 Parish Matters (for information only) :

Cllr Marsden – had received the suggestion from a resident to create a designated car parking area in Stanley Street, Beetham, along the easterly boundary of the playing field – not generally supported by members as a way to deal with the congestion problem at this location.

Cllr Greifenberg – traffic dangers along the very narrow road running west from the A6 at The Oasis.

14.0 General correspondence – none.

15.0 Reading Matter received – none.

16.0 Items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting (April 2024) and additional to items referred to above:

- hand rail for BPC’s Carr Bank notice board.

- BPC data storage/security arrangements, locations etc.

17.0 Date of next meetings - Annual Assembly, 8pm Thurs 14 March 2024 at Heron Hall, Storth.

- BPC monthly meeting – Mon 8 April 2024 at Beetham School.

The meeting closed at 8.30-pm.

