

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of Beetham Parish Council, Monday 5 June 2023 at Storth Village Church.

Present were – Cllrs Meakin (Chair), Clark, Greifenberg, Knowles, Phillips and Yates. Also Cllr R Audland (for item 6 only), Parish Clerk John Scargill and three members of the public.

- 1.0 **Apologies for absence** – had been received from Parish Steward Bill Haddow.
- 2.0 **Minutes of the previous meeting** – the minutes of the meeting of 15 May 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** – Cllr David Clark re agenda item 5.6 – though this item was not discussed at this meeting.
- 4.0 **Announcements by the Chair** – none.
- 5.0 **Matters arising from the minutes of 15 May 2023 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:**
 - 5.1 **Beetham flooding (12.1)** – no further progress.
 - 5.2 **Leighton Beck Road surface water (12.2)** – no further progress
 - 5.3 **Queen’s Jubilee seat and Storth Playing Field benches (12.4)** – the Clerk was asked to urge the contractor to proceed with the installation as a matter of urgency now that weather conditions had improved.
 - 5.4 **Beetham Village Planters (12.5)** – the Clerk had been unable to make contact with Aztec Signs for the purpose of inspecting their product but would continue to try.
 - 5.5 **Lovers Lane litter problem (5.8)** – action agreed – remove from future agendas.
 - 5.6 **Sandside mixed-use development (5.10)** – no further development expected in the near future – remove from future agendas pro tem.
 - 5.7 **BPC member vacancies (12.8)** – appropriate notices now in all BPC notice boards. An email is awaited from a Storth resident who has expressed interest.
 - 5.8 **BPC B5282 traffic mirror (14.2)** – agreed that BPC take no further action at this time. The mirror is currently out of alignment – to be re-aligned ASAP.
 - 5.9 **Hale defibrillator (14.3)** – BPC’s offer of a £500 grant towards the cost of housing the equipment had been accepted by the organisers. Clerk asked to ensure that there was written agreement from them that BPC be specifically excluded from any future cost liability, maintenance or otherwise as a condition of the grant.
 - 5.10 **The Ship car park rubble (14.4)** – noted that the pile of rubble had now disappeared, reportedly buried on site.
 - 5.11 **Four Lane Ends verge (20i)** – BPC Chair and Clerk had inspected the site with a Highways representative and formal approval subsequently received for BPC action for its re-instatement/future protection. Clerk to contact the owners of vehicles parked on the site and request they be removed from the verge.

6.0 Public Participation.

- 6.1 **Police matters** – Police Report for May 2023 received today (5 June) and circulated. Multiple burglaries throughout South Cumbria, though no specific reference to Beetham parish.
- 6.2 **Higher authority report** – WFC Councillor Audland reported that the transfer of responsibilities to the new unitary council was generally going well. A new Locality Board within WFC would handle a range of day-to-day matters and generally be a parish’s first point of contact; it would be glad to receive from each parish a prioritised list of its future major projects

for attention.

6.3 Matters raised by electors – Mrs Helen Burrow expressed extreme disappointment with the lack of any apparent progress by BPC and/or the SLDC/WFC Monitoring Officer with regard to events recorded at BPC’s meeting of 6 February 2023, item 3.

7.0 New Matters for consideration –

7.1 BPC’s prioritised list of projects for submission to WFC’s Locality Board – a list of project suggestions from various BPC members, and circulated to all, was discussed and priorities **agreed**. Cllr Meakin to summarise and circulate the prioritised list for final approval at the next BPC meeting (3 July 2023).

7.2 Stanley Street, Beetham, street lamp 247 – this lamp had been out of commission for some years and was regarded as obsolete/unsafe. The home owner on whose property it was mounted had suggested its complete removal as there was sufficient other lighting on the street – **agreed** that the Clerk would undertake the necessary formalities to bring this about.

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8. BPC Land issues:

i. Land transfers at The Pasture, Storth – legal formalities completed but update of related Land Registry amendment remained outstanding.

ii. Tree management etc – tree-work for 2023/24 had now been completed. Work plans for 2024/25 to be considered and agreed at an early date.

9.00 Planning.

9.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

May 2023 – June 2023 meeting.

Nothing to report for this period.

9.4 Related matters & correspondence – none.

10. Financial matters:

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT			MONTH – MAY 2023	MEETING – 5 JUNE 2023	
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c £	Premium a/c £
01/05/23	Opening balance			13,053.19	19,381.97
31/05/23	Receipts	Ground rents May -	B-Jones Ryan	8.34 160.00	
			HMRC – VAT refund 2022/23		168.34 2,675.29
		Payments			
	798 1514	Haddow – 2 Grass cuts	April	380.00	
	799 1515	Hurst – Beetham notice board repair		58.00	
	800 1516	Haddow – 2 Grass cuts	May	380.00	
	801 1517	Scargill – half-yearly allowances		412.00	
	802 1518	Scargill – Clerk’s sal	May (net)	613.73	
	804 1519	HMRC – PAYE	May	154.66	
				-1,998.39	
31/05/23	Closing balances			13,898.43	19,381.97
31/05/23	Total funds all accounts			£ 33,280.40	
Breakdown of Total Funds at 31/05/23			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		22,230.40
			Total funds		33,280.40

Resolved – that the above payments be APPROVED.

Other financial matters – appropriate notices re public rights to inspect annual accounts 2022/23 were now in all BPC notice boards and on the BPC website.

11.0 Parish Steward:

11.1 Update on current events – Bill Haddow happy to continue to mow parish grass as normal and undertake other minor repair etc jobs as required. Arrangements in place for dealing with bigger/technical jobs (eg as used for BPC's recently repositioned Storth notice board). Clerk to check and report on hourly rate of charge for this category of work.

11.2 Additions to work programme – possibly dealing with work needed at the Four Lane Ends site re verge reinstatement/protection (see item 5.11).

12.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies – none.

13.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Meakin – a national fell race recently organised from Storth Playing Field had been a great success.

Cllr Knowles – the footpath linking Storth school directly with the B5282 had become overgrown. Highways have agreed to deal with this.

14.0 General correspondence – a letter from Burton in Kendal Educational Foundation and dated 5 June 2023 had been received. This trust was experiencing some organisational difficulties and was requesting that external administrative appointees to the trust (of which BPC was one) be reaffirmed. **Agreed** – that Cllr Phillips be reaffirmed as BPC's representative - Clerk to notify the trust.

15.0 Reading Matter received – none.

16.0 Items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting (May 2023) and additional to items referred to above – none.

17.0 Date of next meeting - monthly BPC meeting, 7pm Mon 3 July 2023 at Beetham School.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.