

BEETHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a remote (Zoom) meeting of Beetham Parish Council held on Monday 6 July 2020.

Present were - Cllrs Brian Meakin, David Crayston, Brian Dean, Becky Dewar, Peter Greifenberg, Margaret Knowles and Bob Pickup. Also Parish Clerk John Scargill. Julian Oston (Dallam Estate) attended as a member of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence - Cllr Yates.

2.0 The minutes of the previous meetings, held on 1 June 2020, had been circulated by email. Dallam Estate were known to be unhappy about the accuracy of min 7.1. After the meeting, it was verified that their concern related to the suggestion in the minutes that there was a concessionary path from Carr Bank to the embankment, which should be waymarked. Dallam Tower Estate confirmed that there was no such concessionary path and that all definitive footpaths and concessionary paths on Estate land were appropriately waymarked.

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

4.0 Announcements by the Chair - Cllr Meakin drew the attention of members to the amended format of the agenda, rearranging the sequence of items and giving more prominence to Parish Footpaths with a dedicated item (new item 10).

5.0 Matters arising from the minutes 1 June 2020 and not included elsewhere on the agenda:

- 5.1 Beetham flooding (5.1)** - no further progress with Environmental Agency work delayed due to the current pandemic.
- 5.2 Leighton Beck Road surface water (5.3)** - no further developments.
- 5.3 Beetham ghost footpath (5.4)** - CCC legal advice is for a site meeting between their officers and the householder's legal team, delayed due to coronavirus restrictions.
- 5.4 Carr Bank Road phone box (5.5)** - most BT equipment now removed. **Agreed** - further work to be halted at BT's request until formal transfer of the kiosk from BT to BPC is confirmed.
- 5.5 Land at Beetham stocks (7.3)** - extensive enquiries had failed to establish ownership and now assumed to be 'common land'. Work to control the ivy on the large tree had already been carried out by the Parish Steward.
- 5.6 Path alongside the River Bela at Beetham (7.4)** - paper litter (from the paper-works) had now dispersed and the installation of chicken wire along the interior of the boundary fencing should help in eliminating this problem for the future.

6. Public Participation.

6.1 Police Report - no report.

6.2/3 County and District Council matters - due to a technical hitch, C Cllr McSweeney was unable to be present at the meeting but subsequently emailed a number of points he had intended to raise, namely:

- i.** the re-opening of CCC libraries following the coronavirus lockdown
- ii.** a request that BPC respond to the SLDC call for sites for the Local Plan 2024
- iii.** the A6 speed reduction petition for the A6 at Beetham (419 signatures to date)
- iv.** D Cllr Audland had spoken to the owners of The Wheatsheaf about overgrown vegetation and a site meeting was planned for 7 July.

Cllr Yates had confirmed by email that quite a number of people in Slackhead had signed the A6 speed reduction petition.

6.4 Matters raised by members of the public - none.

7.0 New matters for consideration:

7.1 SLDC Local Plan – Cllr Yates had emailed that he (pp BPC) had nothing he particularly wanted to raise.

7.2 Beetham A6 speed limit revision – Cllr Dean had been in contact with Milnthorpe PC's Cllr Adair on the subject of hand-held speed cameras, but progress here was limited due to other policing priorities. Cllr Crayston would investigate the possibility of setting up the loaned mobile speed camera on the A6.

7.3 Storth Community Transport, Annual Report 2019/20 – this service was now in its ninth year. Despite recent usage of the service being abnormally low, due to the Covid 19 pandemic, total usage in the year had more than doubled compared with the equivalent period in 2018/19. The balance of funds in hand at 30 June 2020 was £129.47.

7.4 Sandside promenade anglers – there had been no response from the police to BPC's request for periodic monitoring of the situation. Cllr Meakin had used the promenade recently without any obstruction from anglers.

7.5 Carr Bank Aspen Carr TPO proposals – the aspens were slowly disappearing and a TPO application was to be submitted to SLDC by local residents.

8. BPC Land issues – none.

9. Car Bank issues – excessive traffic speeds remain a problem on the B5282.

10. Parish Footpath issues:

i. a site meeting had been held, attended by BPC Cllrs Meakin & Yates and Dallam's Julian Oston, at which Dallam had confirmed its commitment to maintaining definitive Public Rights of Way within the estate. AONB to replace a missing finger post at The Mains, Beetham (to be kept under review).

ii. Google advice on directions to Fairy Steps had now been modified as requested and should prove a big step forward in relieving altercations and tensions between walkers and local residents on High Cote Lane and Hillcrest Drive, Slackhead.

iii. New signage to Fairy Steps from Slackhead was welcomed as helpful. Two existing finger posts to Fairy Steps (from Cockshot Lane and Hazelslack) were old, in a poor state of repair and indistinct, and there could be others. Cllr Pickup to email the Clerk with details and Clerk asked to contact Guy Timperley about this.

iv. Cllr Greifenberg suggested signage excluding cyclists from selected paths, to avoid excessive surface deterioration.

v. Cllr Pickup reported increased litter as evidence of the growing incidence of laughing gas parties.

vi. Cllr Crayston noted that the path along the A6, between Heron Theatre and the war memorial, was severely restricting use of the path. This was one of the Parish Steward's regular work-list items, for attention as needed. Cllr Dean to meet with the Parish Steward to discuss appropriate action, such as a formal BPC letter to relevant property owners.

vii. It was reported that an overgrown hedge in Storth Road, opposite the school, was at the Orchard View property. Clerk to write to the owner of the property asking that it be dealt with.

viii. The footpath at Hang Bridge had become difficult for walkers to use because the field had been ploughed and a maize crop planted. The farmer had now run over one row of the maize to re-create the footpath.

11. Planning Matters:

11.1 Applications under consideration by BPC:

July 2020 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	Applicant	Development	Response deadline	BPC response
SL/2020/0353	Hazelslack Farm		To site 5 touring caravans	None given	No objection
SL/2020/0354	Stoneycroft, Leighton Drive, Slackhead		Alteration to balcony & roof pitch.	None given	No objection
SL/2020/0394	Moss Lea, Carr Bank Road		Non-material amendment to SL/2019/0543	None given	No objection

11.2 Decisions received from SLDC

SLDC decision

SLDC ref	Address	Applicant	Development	SLDC decision
SL/2020/0225	Brocco Bank, Church St, Beetham		Replacement of rear conservatory.	Approved with conditions
SL/2020/9002 & 9003	Sandside Quarry		Additional storage area for road planings	Approved unanimously by CCC

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

11.3 Minutes of Planning Committee meetings – as above.

11.4 Related matters & correspondence – none.

12. Financial Matters.

BPC – FINANCIAL REPORT			MONTH – JUNE 2020	MEETING – 6 July, 2020	
Date	Transaction	Payee/er	Detail	Current a/c £	Premium a/c £
01/06/20	Opening balances			18,766.02	19,328.99
30/06/20	Receipts:				
		Ground rents May - B-Jones		8.34	
		Ryan		20.00	
		Smith		200.00	
		Hunn		20.00	
				248.34	
		HMRC – VAT refund 2019/20		590.68	
		Storth Com Grp – donation for defib		1,000.00	
		Barclays - Bank interest to 7 June			5.19
30/06/20	Payments:				
	604	1258	SLDC – Street lighting 2018/19 + Elec costs 2019/20	3,936.10	
	605	1259	GHS – grass-cutting	185.00	
	606	1260	Scargill – post & stat'y 3mths	57.32	
	607	1261	Scargill – salary June (net)	539.25	
	608	1262	HMRC – PAYE Jun 2020	134.80	
				-4,852.47	
30/06/20	Closing balances			15,752.57	19,334.18
30/06/20	Total funds all accounts			£35,086.75	

Breakdown of Total Funds at 30/06/20		
	Street lamp reserve	9,600.00
	Sports Field path project reserve	950.00
	General Reserve	8,784.18
	Working funds	15,752.57
	Total funds	35,086.75

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

12.2 Other financial matters – BPC quarterly accounts to 30/06/20 circulated and **approved**.

13.0 Parish Steward:

13.1 Update on current events - no report.

13.2 Further additions to work programme: to review condition of all six BPC notice boards with a view to refreshing varnished wooden frames and replacing glazing where necessary with either toughened glass or perspex.

14.0 Reports from representatives on outside bodies – a meeting of Beetham Exhibition Trust scheduled for Thursday 9 July, although form of meeting uncertain in view of coronavirus lockdown.

15.0 Parish Matters (for information only):

Cllr Meakin – Storth community shop was working towards reopening with an extensive refit, although there was a problem in finding enough volunteers to run it.

Cllr Knowles – reported some construction work underway at 4 Shaw Green. Clerk to contact SLDC to check if appropriate planning permission had been sought and granted.

Cllr Dean – noted that some cats' eyes had been removed on the A6, prior to resurfacing

16.0 General Correspondence:

16/06/20 – C Cllr McSweeney – complaint to CCC from a Stanley Street, Beetham resident re the problem of tourist car parking in the village (a long-standing problem).

19/06/20 – notification of urgent road closure, Park Road, Milnthorpe on 21/06/20.

26/06/20 – complaint about household bonfires – referred to SLDC Environmental Health.

17.0 Reading Matter – none.

18.0 Items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting (September 2020) and additional to items referred to above – none.

19.0 Date of next meeting – 7.00pm Monday 7 September 2020 – format unclear, but at Storth Village Church if lockdown restrictions permit, otherwise remotely via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.