

## SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7:30pm Venue: Sedgwick Village Hall

**Present:** Cllr B Holmes (Chairperson), Cllr G Stoker, Cllr B Tanham, Cllr A Holmes, Cllr W Burrow, Cllr D Rathbone and Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk) and No members of the public attended.

**106/21 Apologies:** None received

**107/21 Non-Attendance:** County Cllr B Gray and District Cllr R Bingham

**108/21 Minutes:** It was resolved for the Chairperson to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 as a true record.

**109/21 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests:** Cllr B Tanham declared that as she is the owner of a part of the canal towpath, she can take part in discussion regarding the Canal but cannot vote on any decisions.

**110/21 Public Participation:**

A resident has requested wider circulation of firework updates received by the Council - The Council agreed any information received will be now made available on the website news section as well as the Parish facebook page which feeds onto the homepage – the date will appear in the heading so users do not need to have facebook accounts to view. If residents need further information, the contact details of The Villa are tel 015395 980980.

**111/21 Reports**

**Police Report:** The Council are receiving Covid Police Updates and a monthly community newsletter.

**District Cllrs:** Cllr R Bingham - no report provided. Cllr Bingham's offer of £500 funding to support SPC was gratefully accepted, and the Clerk agreed to ask Cllr Bingham for this funding to cover path repair and storm damage to the woodland area.

**County Cllr B Gray:** Cllr D Rathbone reported he had no further information to report on the Local Government Changes and discussed the highways issues effecting the Parish. We are not the only Council experiencing problems tracking existing faults and succeeding in getting work done.

**Village Hall Report :** Clarification has been requested regarding meetings held in 2021 and dates have been confirmed by the Parish Clerk. Shell Energy Broadband will upgrade the service to the Village Hall to Fibre Broadband at no extra cost. The VHC would be holding a meeting on 18th January in the Hall at 7:30 pm all welcome but face masks to be worn in the Hall.

**112/21 Vacancy of a Parish Councillor:** The Parish Council have advertised the Casual Vacancy by poster in the Cabinet and on the website with the deadline for submission being 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022. No applications have been received to date.

**113/21 Training:** Neighbourhood Planning 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 7pm - Cllr B Holmes reported the training was interesting and had advised that the formulation of such a project was a significant undertaking only relevant where planning issues are impacting on the community. It was agreed not to take the matter further.

**114/21 Planning Application submitted:** None received

**115/21 Sedgwick Parish Council COVID 19** – Cllr B Holmes reported that the website had been updated with COVID- omicron variant advice. **Sedgwick Neighbours and Friends Resilience Group.** This group has not been active, so it was agreed to close it and use the parish facebook page to circulate future COVID updates.

**Correspondence:** Cumbria Resilience Group regarding Covid -19 31/1/21, 23/12/21 SLDC Covid -19 infection update, 22/12/21 SLDC Covid-19 news release. 15/12/21 SLDC – new rules on mandatory Covid-19 checks. 9/12/21 SLDC – Rise in Covid cases for six weeks, Neighbourhood Alert Covid 6<sup>th</sup> January

**116/21 Highways/Footpaths**

a) Highways Report - Cllr A Holmes reported that changes in the CCC reporting system meant that it was no longer possible to monitor existing faults so The Clerk could not fully update the Highways Report. The Council have asked Helen Karaasian if she could look into this issue and the outstanding highways faults. The ability to track and monitor reported issues was promised at training attended when the

system was changed. It was agreed Cllr A Holmes would report all issues again and Cllr D Rathbone would contact Highways about their progress. Cllr D Rathbone also asked to receive an update a week before the next SPC meeting which was agreed.

- b) It was noted that Wellheads Lane would be closed for up to 18 months to carry out repair works to prevent future flooding. There is confusion over whether it is a continuous permanent closure. This will significantly affect some residents and will increase traffic in the village. The Council asked Cllr D Rathbone to enquire why the PC had not been notified and to find out what was happening. It was noted that the Council had been involved in trying to get this problem fixed when it was caused by the contractors removing a drain when a telephone mast was erected a decade ago.
- c) Correspondence with Helen Karaaslan – the speed monitoring exercise was completed in November and data was being reviewed in early December, but we have received no information. HK was liaising with the landowner to agree where the new aqueduct pedestrian sign would be located. Cllr B Holmes reported she had emailed for an update on these issues on 6<sup>th</sup> January and had no reply to date, a further email will be sent before next meeting.
- d) Cllr R Bingham has requested a replacement Back Lane sign but nothing has happened.
- e) Bus Shelter funding- Cllr B Holmes wrote to Linda Hardy (Bus infrastructure Officer) to request a site visit to discuss the feasibility of building a bus shelter near the aqueduct but is still awaiting a reply. Cllr D Rathbone asked to be copied into the email so he could chase this up.
- f) Fly tipping by the River Kent, reported by Cllr B Holmes ref 1332317- 10/01/22. SLDC reported no action would be taken, Cllr D Rathbone agreed to chase this up.

#### **117/21 Canal Wildlife Area Report**

- a) Monthly report with the monitor of usage- see website and cabinet. Several trees had blown over during Storm Arwen in late November. They had blocked the path and road. Our contractor visited promptly and cleared the access and returned later to remove the wood. The walls were not damaged. The cost of this work was £180.
- b) The monitoring of the use of the canal path shows that its usage remains high.
- c) The WI have been successful in their application to the Woodland Trust for a pack of 104 trees. This will allow us to restock the 72 trees felled last season. They will be planted by our woodland contractor- quote to yet to be received.
- d) Repair of the towpath: Cllr Holmes has met the contractor and the work was completed on 12/01/22. The worn sections between the Easy path and Stoker Seat have been patched at a cost of £350.
- e) LCRP Interpretation Installation of iron sculptures/waymarkers at Sedgwick Aqueduct - A decision by SLDC will be made on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022
- f) CRT representative Angela Parkinson Green had postponed the meeting with Cllr B Tanham to discuss ongoing maintenance and access issues at the aqueduct. Hopefully she will visit soon – Cllr Tanham to follow up.
- g) Information Sign- Cllrs G Stoker reported that the information board had been repaired and would be reinstalled near the Footpath Board.
- h) Repairs to the Path it was agreed it could be SLDC responsibility so Cllr B Tanham would contact them to establish if and report back at the next meeting.

#### **118/21 Playground /Millennium Field**

- a) Monthly Safety Report- by Cllr Stoker reported he had checked the field and repairs needed to the goal post nets were carried out and replacement stumps will be fitted in the spring.
- b) Cllr Stoker reported that the large slide is showing more signs of wear and that, as outlined in ROSPA reports over the last 5 years, it seems to be reaching the end of its life. It was noted that it must be around 40 years old and it was agreed that it would be prudent to begin to explore how we can replace it in the long term. Members agreed to research possible pieces of multi play equipment suitable for older (5-12) children so that discussions can continue in the future.

#### **119/21 Website/social media:** Cllr Holmes reported that the website has been updated and was well used and that regular posts are being added to the facebook page.

#### **120/21 Finance**

- a) The bank statements received Bank Balance as of 30 December Current £8,867.00 Reserve £10,039.90
- b) Payments Approved: Shell Energy Broadband -December £16.98, Calc Training £20.00, Treble3 Web Site design £152.01, S Roberts/ J Lewis Laptop Computer and J Park Storm Damage along Woodland Path £180.00
- c) Accounts reported on 10<sup>th</sup> November & 13<sup>th</sup> October which cleared the bank account was approved by Cllr A Holmes
- d) Consideration of Precept 2022-23. Although costings for next financial year are extremely uncertain, inflation running at 5% and rising and we are expecting additional costs for the Jubilee, ash die back and to cover inflation, it was agreed to increase the precept by just 3% which will generate an extra £350 income taking it to £11,252.90.

**121/21 Winter Newsletter – Review-** the Council received compliments about the Photo and content.

**122/21 The Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons- 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022:** Cllr B Holmes reported that Stainton Parish Council welcome working with Sedgwick to plan the commemoration. One resident has come forward as a volunteer. The Chair asked if any Cllrs would become involved in planning. CALC guidelines have been received 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**123/21 Items for consideration for a future agenda**

- Updates on Covid-19
- Highways/Millennium Field/Website/Canal Report
- Local Government Reorganisation
- APM
- Millennium Field
- Arrangements for SPC Annual APM-16th March 2022

**124/21 Correspondence:** All the documents have been circulated to the Councillors.

- **Police and Crime Commissioner -Council tax Precept Consultation 2022/23**
- **Police and Crime Commissioner – Policing element of Council Tax Consultation**
- **SLDC Postcard campaign to reach dog walkers**
- **Latest News from ICO- December 2021**
- **Street Naming & Numbering Policy Consultation – extended to 7/2/22**
- **SLDC – have your say on Street naming & numbers**
- **Calc Local Government Reorganisation newsletter – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**125/21 Date of Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the next Parish Meeting will be on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7 30 pm**  
This would take place in Sedgwick Village Hall unless there is a change in the Government's Covid Restrictions.

*The meeting closed at 9: 15 pm*

Signed:..... (Chairperson) Date: 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022