

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21st July 2021 at 7:30pm
Venue: Sedgwick Village Hall

Present: Cllr B Holmes (Chairperson), Cllr G Stoker, Cllr B Tanham, Cllr A Holmes, Cllr W Burrow and Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk). 2 residents attended

23/21 Apologies: It was resolved for apologies with reasons given, to be noted from Cllr Doug Rathbone and Cllr R Smith

24/21 Non-Attendance: County Cllr B Gray

25/21 Minutes: It was resolved for the Chairperson to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 5th May 2021 as a true record.

26/21 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests: Cllr B Tanham declared that as she is the owner of a part of the canal towpath, she is able to take part in the discussion but cannot vote on any decisions.

27/21 Public Participation: None

28/21 Reports

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

District Cllrs: Cllr R Bingham explained the unitary changes would shortly be decided by the Secretary of State. The impact of this would cause elections and was proposed to be in place in a 2-year period. Covid figures are rising in this area. Also to note SLDC Boundary Consultation was in place and the deadline is 2nd August

County Cllr B Gray: Cllr D Rathbone sent his apologies with a report highlighting the unitary changes. No progress had been made with highways due to their lack of response, hopefully the new HIMS system would improve the situation and he would like to discuss these issues with SPC. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact him and request him to email Cllr A Holmes. SLDC Local Plan is being discussed and there are several issues that SPC need to be aware of especially the land allocation, but the deadline is not until September. Also, he and Tim Farron will be at Sedgwick Aqueduct Bridge tomorrow at 3:45- 4:15 pm

Village Hall Report: Village Hall Report from Diana Holmes
Sedgwick Village Hall Committee held a user group meeting on Monday 19th July 2021
The Hall is now available for bookings, the Parish Council Meeting is the first to take place this year.
Main Issues: New Hire Agreement including amended addenda and risk assessment.
A gap needs to be incorporated between groups. Signed record required plus register of attendees.
Hire charges same. The Clerk to contact the Committee to find out if any Defibrillator training refresher course was available. - which could be added to the newsletter.
The Parish Council wished to thank the Committee and express their appreciation for the opening of Sedgwick Village Hall.

29/21 Training: Cllr W Burrow – Effective Councillor module 1 1/6/21 & 2 8/6/21, Cllr Burrow found the training very helpful and user friendly.

30/21 Meetings Attended: Cllr Tanham reported that she attended Climate Change and Solutions and SLDC Local Review Plan. These reports are displayed on the website.

31/21 Review Emergency Plan: The plan has been updated and all equipment checked. The website has been updated.

32/21 Planning Application submitted: Applications received – TR/2021/0130- Sycamore View- Installation of root protection system adjacent to parking area. Cllr Tanham reported this was imposed by SLDC to protect the health of the tree. All councillors agreed to this and had no objection.

33/21 Sedgwick Parish Council COVID 19 – Cllr B Holmes reported that the website had been updated with lockdown information. **Sedgwick Neighbours and Friends Resilience Group.** This group remains in operation and will continue to support residents.

34/21 Highways/Footpaths

- a) Cllr A Holmes presented the highways report. Repairs that we have campaigned for since 2019 have been carried out by the riverside and at Raines Hall, but potholes remain at Box Cottage, Wellheads Lane and Back Lane. She went through the audit which the Clerk had updated and she will follow up outstanding issues with Highways Department. She also reported that the new fault reporting system was up and running and had attended a meeting where this was discussed.
- b) Safer Roads and Footpaths Initiative/funding – Cllr Rathbone sent a report stating no progress.
- c) Safer Roads Issues Station Parish Council- Cllr B Tanham attended a Parish Meeting with Stainton, Hincaster and Heversham all had similar problems and it was felt by working together they could improve the Parishes Highway Problems. Date of the next meeting 11th August for 4 Parishes
- d) Request for extra Litter Bins – Cllr Tanham has contacted SLDC Sion Thomas and completed application for funding for waste bins. - Awaiting update
- e) Cllr B Holmes reported on a very productive meeting with Kendal Cycle Club who explained their protocols which enable them to use local roads without conflict.
- f) The Contractors have cut the Canal Path as requested, all agreed it was well done.
- g) Update on No Cold Calling Signs: The Clerk has received several new signs which Cllr Stoker and Cllr A Holmes will install at all roads into the village. There was a Cold Calling incident on Wednesday 14th July and it has been reported by the Clerk, who told the Council “The Police are collating all cold calling incidents and anyone with any information to contact the police telephone 101”
- h) The footpath Information sign by the aqueduct steps needs updating now that its ownership has been confirmed. It was originally donated by the Parish Pathway Project some years ago. It was agreed that it will be cleaned and updated information would be added.

35/21 Playground /Millennium Field

- a) Monthly Safety Report- by Cllr Stoker who reported he and Cllr Burrow had installed 2 new steppingstones, he had filled in the rabbit holes on the football area as it had become dangerous for the children whilst playing. The compost would be turned over shortly but not ready for use for a few years
- b) Council agreed to instruct ROSPA to carry out the Annual Playground report and agreed to future ROSPA Automatic Schedule. Cllr Stoker asked the Clerk to request the date of the inspection, this was agreed.

36/21 Canal Wildlife Area Report

- a) Monthly report - Cllr B Holmes said how pleasant it was last Wednesday when the Cllrs walked the path, it was identified a dead tree near the path would need removing but there were no other hazards for council to consider. Cllr Stoker asked if the old benches needed removing as they were a safety risk, it was agreed to take photos of them and ask the insurance if they are acceptable before considering replacements.
- b) Monitoring of use of the canal path: it was agreed that at present the path was extremely popular with walkers and joggers but that cyclists were still using the path illegally.
- c) Post of Woodland Contractor: The Clerk presented a report outlining the need for a contractor and to offer a three-year contract. All agreed to this proposal, with an advert being placed in the cabinet and on the website, this to be done immediately with a closing date Friday 6th August with interviews on 10th August. It was agreed with Cllrs B Holmes, A Holmes and W Burrows to be on the interviewing panel.
- d) LCRP issues
 - i) The required repair to the Towpath over the aqueduct has been further delayed. Likewise, there has been no progress with the handrail or wildflower project.
 - ii) Towpath Trail Group meeting 19th May 2021, Cllr Tanham reported there was little or no progress in many issues affecting Sedgwick. It was noted that antisocial behaviour is an issue along the whole tow path and a campaign for behaviour change had begun. There were issues with the installation of the interpretation features which they hoped to install in August. One was to be installed on the aqueduct bridge but requires planning permission and the landowner of Sedgwick Hill Bridge has not yet given permission for the one there. The LCRP have requested how to approach Council to ask if the waymarker could be installed on our land. Cllr B Tanham agreed to ask the LCRP to put details in writing to the Parish Clerk. The existing LCT information board will be replaced but we understand that the information will be replicated on the new installation.
 - iii) LCRP Questionnaire. Cllr Holmes completed the questionnaire to reflect the Council's concerns. The Council was under the impression that residents would be part of the consultation but it seems that only selected stakeholders had been approached directly, meaning that significant resident opposition to creating a cyclepath along the Canal Wildlife area has not been heard.
 - iii) LCRP Summer 2021 Newsletter received and noted.

37/21 Website: Cllr Holmes reported that the website was well used. Cllr Tanham asked if the website could have link added to LRCP questionnaire feedback when it is published.

38/21 Finance

- a) The bank statement received Bank Balance as of 28 May £13,874.27 and Reserve Account 20 May £10,039.40
- b) Payments Approved: S Roberts salary/expenses £ 1,575.29, CALC Training Cllr W Burrow £40.00 and Village Hall Committee (annual hire & Difb pads) £161.27, Shell Energy- Broadband Village Hall DD 9/7/21 £21.46 and Material expenses Cllr Stoker £ 26.53
- c) Accounts reported on 14th April/5th May 2021, which cleared the bank account was approved by Cllr A Holmes
- d) Financial Report - the completed Audit notice is displayed for examination in the cabinet & website
- e) VAT reclaim returned - amount must be over £100 (claimed £97.12)

39/21 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Update on Covid-19
- Highways Report
- Canal Wildlife Area Report
- Millennium Field Report and Rospa Annual report
- Standing Orders/ Financial Standing Orders review
- PSPO 2021- Consultation Process- Cllrs to consider if this was necessary
- Local Government reorganisation

40/21 Correspondence: All the documents have been circulated to the Councillors.

41/21 Open Action not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

- **The Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons – 2nd June 2022 Event;** This would be raised at the 4 Parish meeting next month as we previously had worked with Stainton on a similar event.
- **CCRG NL Funding Programme:** Cllr B Holmes agreed to investigate funding for the ash dieback project
- **New CALC Clerk Induction Guide and Volunteering Agreement:** Clerk has saved these documents on the computer
- **Black Ink cartridge low on printer;** It was agreed to order a new cartridge by the Clerk
- **Update Roll Board – Village Hall:** David Willacy agreed to phone the Clerk with the information of the man who has previously updated the board. Cllr Stoker and the Clerk will arrange this to be updated.
- **Newsletter- information and photos required:** Councillors to send any of these to Cllrs B Holmes who will collate the information and email it to the Cllrs for approval.

42/21 Date of next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next Parish Meeting will be on **Wednesday 8th September 2021 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: 30 pm

Signed:..... (Chairperson) Date: 8th September 2021