

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 17th March 2021.

This meeting took place using the videoconferencing platform “Zoom”.

Members of the public were given the opportunity to request a link from the clerk to enable them join the meeting online or by phone. The meeting was recorded.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972 using Council remote meeting protocols.

Present : Cllrs B Holmes (Chairman), Cllr B Tanham, Cllr G Stoker, Cllr R Smith, Cllr A Holmes, Cllr W Burrow, Cllr D Rathbone Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk) and 23 Members of the Parish.

1. Welcome and Introduction.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from County Cllr Gray, District Cllrs Bingham, Mrs D Holmes (Village Hall Committee)

3. Minutes of the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 20 March 2019 were approved and signed as a true record.

4. Councillors Reports for 2020/21

Parish Councillors

- Chairperson: Introduction and COVID response - gratitude was expressed to volunteers who supported the COVID neighbourhood resilience group.
- Vice/ Cllr Tanham: Planning, implication of Darker skies & wildlife
- Cllr G Stoker: Millennium Field/play area
- Cllr A Holmes: Highways/gritting
- Cllr W Burrow: newly appointed Cllr introduction
- Cllr B Holmes & Cllr B Smith Sedgwick Canal Wildlife Path

Financial – Draft Report: The Clerk

Summing up - Cllr B Holmes - continuing management of Cold calling/Community Emergency Plan, Communications - via newsletters/ facebook/website.

Thanks given to retiring Councillors R.Gill and D.Willacy.

District Cllr Bingham - Report given

County Cllr Gray/Cllr Rathbone- Report given

Copies of the reports are available for inspection from the Clerk.

5. Reports from Parish Organisation

Reports were presented on behalf of the following Parish Groups:

- Crosscrake C of E School
- St Thomas Church
- WI Group
- Creative Embroidery

Copies of the reports are available for inspection from the Clerk.

6. Lancaster Kendal Cycle Path Proposals: Background and update given by Cllr B Holmes: Village Residents have contacted the Parish Clerk and expressed their views on the proposal 6 residents in favour of a cycle route and 28 against as of 17th March 21
Copy available for inspection from the Clerk

7. Public Participation: Questions and Future Priorities

Multiuser path along the Canal Wildlife Area; comments made by public

- It would provide a safer route than a road, especially for children
- Negative views exist between cyclists and residents in the village
- Kendal Cycle Club would be willing to start dialogue with Sedgwick Parish Council and it was noted that not all cyclists that use the village are from the club
- Access for children/disabled, family leisure is made difficult by the gates along the canal
- Riverside is a better route for cyclists than the middle of the village and there is no conflict between users along that route
- Consideration of which surface is chosen is important especially through pastures so that cycle tyres do not erode the surface.
- Safety problems on Back Lane where the footpath crosses the road was flagged up: PC replied this has been raised with CC Highways and action is pending
- There is a need for younger children to have access to safe cycling and walking
- Responses regarding the proposed path have been collated with 28 opposing the proposal and 5 supporting it.

BARN- non-for-profit community lead broadband; comments made by public

- A resident agreed to be the volunteer point of contact for the village, looking into networking with Crosscrake/Stainton. PC welcomed this progress and offered support to publicise via website/newsletters.
More volunteers will be required to progress the project further.

Future Priorities

- Covid-19 recovery - resumption of face to face meetings and reopening of adult gym equipment
- Safer Roads/pavements initiatives
- Woodland Management in the Canal Wildlife Area
- Highway Maintenance
- Local Government Reorganisation
- Climate Change/darker skies initiative/ nature recovery

The Chairperson conveyed thanks to everyone for attending the meeting

Meeting closed at 9 pm

Signed : (Chairman)
Date : 16th March 2022