

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9 September 2015 in Sedgwick Village Hall at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs B Holmes (Chairman), J Goodland, R Gill, D Willacy, Cllr G Willacy, District Cllr S Eccles, County Cllr B Gray, Mrs S Roberts (Clerk) and no members of the public.

51/15 Apologies

It was resolved for apologies with reasons given to be noted from Cllr Oscroft and the Police

52/15 Minutes

It was resolved for the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2015 as a true record.

53/15 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests

None

54/15 Appointment of new Parish Clerk:

It was confirmed Sylvia Roberts would commence work as Sedgewick Parish Clerk from 9th September 2015. Sylvia would email all Cllrs the Contract which had been agreed by herself & the Chairperson. This would be on the agenda next month for approval of the Council. The bank details had been changed so that the new clerk would receive all relevant paper work for the Parish

55/15 Public Participation

- Police report. We are reminded to be vigilant with regard to security. Two events are taking place this week which will have an impact on the roads. The police advise to plan ahead and to look for alternative routes. 1 crime has been reported in Sedgewick Parish 12/08 – damage to a vehicle. Residents are urged to keep an eye out for any suspicious activity and to check on elderly and vulnerable people. Any concerns should be reported by calling '101' with a description of individuals or vehicles.
- District Cllr Eccles advised that she had no relevant matters to bring to attention.
- County Cllr Gray reported that the SLDC budget would be reduced yet again, efficiency savings would be identified and voluntary redundancies were being requested. Highways Department had a Steward for the area – Steve Jefferies- he would deal with any issues relating to Sedgwick.

56/15 Planning

It was noted that no planning applications have been submitted to, or granted by, SLDC since the last meeting.

57/15 Parish Council Action

- I) **Newsletter-** Delivered to all residents, – great feedback. Plan to compile another before Xmas
- II) **Parish Plan-** It was agreed that the Canal project was a higher priority than the Parish Plan. It was agreed this would be renewed in the New Year. Chairperson to notify an interest resident of this decision.
- III) **'No Cold Calling'** Chairperson had made enquiries still awaiting response. Chairperson would email Clerk the details, who would forward this information to County Cllr Gray, who would investigate the matter further on the Parish's behalf

58/15 Highways/Footpaths

- a) Cllr D Willacy noted an improvement to road under the bridge and drains in the area.
- b) The Clerk was requested to contact the Area Steward for Sedgwick in order to discuss repairs to the road from Castle View to Raines Hall Farm.

59/15 Playground /Millennium Field

1) The annual ROSPA Playsafety Report carried out in August seems to be inaccurate:

- Item 2 – the tables photographed and described as decaying were replaced with new ones earlier this year – the new tables are photographed as item 3 so the inspector must have used last year's photographs and assessment.
- Multiplay with slide – the chains mentioned as needing removal were removed some time ago – again the photographs and comments seem to have been included by error from last year's report.
Councillors resolved to withhold payment for the report. The clerk was requested to write a letter informing the company of these issues.
- Cllr D Willacy's proposal of acquiring Adult Exercise equipment for use on the Millennium Field has been investigated by Chairperson and there is a possibility of a grant from South Lakeland Leisure. It was agreed by all to consider the proposal at the next meeting.

60/15 Canal

1) The report from Frank Sanderson & Trevor Cotton (Lancaster Canal Trust) was acknowledged. It recommends that a significant amount of trees are removed from both the canal bed and embankment. This will encourage the re-growth of the ground level herbaceous layer which stabilises the ground and will decrease the levels of soil erosion which is adversely affecting the towpath. It will also reduce further damage to the clay lining of the canal.

2) Chairperson contacted Graham Nicholson the Arboriculture Officer at SLDC who advised that there were no tree preservation orders in force but recommended that the Parish Council seeks independent advice from a qualified tree consultant before removing trees.

3) It was agreed to seek quotes from local specialists and discuss these at the next meeting.

4) Stoker's Seat: Mr J Stoker has provided a panoramic view sign in front of the Stoker's Seat so that people will be able to recognise the view in front of them. This has been erected and the Council request the Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Mr Stoker

5) The bridge in the middle of the field by the canal has trees growing from the stone work cause damage to the structure. Cllr D Willacy has been notified about this by a resident. On reporting the matter it appears that the bridge is in the Parish of Natland so Cllr D Willacy has informed all interested parties.

61/15 Sedgwick Village Hall

Cllr D Willacy advised the Sedgwick Village Hall Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday 21 September 2015 at 7:30pm when he would be stepping down, after many years, from being the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee.

The hall had a coat of varnish on the floor and quotes for new chairs where being sort.

62/15 Finance

a) The bank balances as of 30 July 2015 were noted.

b) It was resolved for the following payments to be approved :

Printing Plus- newsletters	£146.83
D H Willacy - work to lane at Village Hall/Playing Field	£ 924.00
D H Willacy – Sedgwick Notice Board	£ 552.00

63/15 Meetings Attended / Correspondence

- Several Cllrs attended the Canal meeting with Frank Sanderson, which highlighted the issues in hand.
- It was noted a change in time table for the refuse collection, As of 21st September Black bins would be collected on Mondays and alternate weeks for Green bins & a new recycle bag for cardboard & plastic waste.
- Cllr G Willacy would make arrangements with John Holmes during the bad weather if the roads required any salt etc.
- Chairperson had provided a reference for Jacky Davidson and she has subsequently been appointed Parish Clerk in her new village and councillors wished her well.
- Any correspondence, notices and publications received since the last meeting and not included on the agenda was noted

64/15 **Items for consideration for a future agenda**

- Defibulator
- Canal Management Plan
- Playsafe correspondence
- 'No Cold Calling'

65/15 **Date of next meeting**

It was confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council for will be 14 October 2015 and will commence at 7.30pm in the Sedgwick Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8 45 pm

Signed : *Baptawitz* (Chairperson)
Date : 14 October 2015