

## SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Sedgwick Parish Council  
held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7:30pm

This meeting took place using the videoconferencing platform "Zoom".

Members of the public were given the opportunity to join the meeting online or by phone.

**Present:** Cllr B Holmes (Chairperson), Cllr R Gill, Cllr R Smith, Cllr Stoker, Cllr B Tanham, Cllr A Holmes and Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk)

**88/20 Apologies:** It was resolved for apologies with reasons given, to be noted from PCSO Boaks

**89/20 Non-Attendance:** County Cllr B Gray. District Cllr B Cooper District Cllr R Bingham and District Cllr T Harvey

**90/20 Minutes:** It was resolved for the Chairperson to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020 as a true record.

**91/20 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests:** None

**92/20 Public Participation:** None received

**93/20 Reports**

**Police Report:** None Available due to Covid-19 lock down, but receive weekly updates on Covid\_19  
**District Cllrs:** Did not attend the meeting.

**County Cllr B Gray:** Cllr Gray did not attend the meeting.

**Village Hall Report:** The Parish Clerk reported The Broadband contract had ended and she had cancelled the account, Future Parish Council Meeting dates have been emailed to the Village Hall committee and Baywind Energy Trust Funding information had been forwarded to the Committee.

**94/20 Training / Developing your Skills – CALC September to December 2020 & South Lakeland Area Support Training:** Cllr Tanham has taken part in Effective Cllr module 1 on 10<sup>th</sup> Nov and will take part on 16<sup>th</sup> Nov module 2. Cllr A Holmes will attend the same training on 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> December. Also, Cllr B Tanham & Cllr A Holmes are taking part with the CALC Code of Conduct Training on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**95/20 Planning:** None Received. Although a notice has been erected at Sedgwick House. It was agreed that Cllr B Tanham to investigate and report back to the Council.

**96/20 Sedgwick Parish Council COVID 19 – Cllr B Holmes reported the update of help line has been put on the website and will be on the forth coming newsletter.**

**Sedgwick Neighbours and Friends Resilience Group.** This group remains in operation and will continue to support residents as the second wave worsens in the area.

**Correspondence:** Local Resilience Forum News Release 15<sup>th</sup> October, County Cumbria Help & Support Line 6<sup>th</sup> November

**97/20 Highways/Footpaths**

1. Highways report was presented by Cllr Stoker. All current faults are logged, and it was agreed to use the audit as evidence to highlight the fact that the Parish Council have reported incidents and logged them. Victoria Upton from Highways department has contacted the Council about concerns of the speed limit on Back Lane, it was agreed for Cllr B Holmes to ask for clarification as Council is not clear about her response. Council also received confirmation from CCC Highways Department that outstanding issues reported over 12 months ago are being scheduled. This did not include the sign problem causing accidents under the Aqueduct. The grit boxes are to be checked by Cllr Gill. Cllr B Holmes will report the broken grit box by the River Kent, the flooded area under the railway bridge on Wellheads lane and check if the new bus route through the village is going to be gritted by CCC.
2. The Clerk has contacted Cumbria County Council Monitoring Officer and has received confirmation that County Cllr Gray is still in post but is still waiting for a reply regarding non attendance and unavailability to deal with residents' emails and Parish Issues After further discussion it was agreed for the Clerk to phone County Councillor Gray and report back to the Council.
3. Sedgwick Parish Council received an update from the Flood Advisory Service of expected implications of flooding for the area.
4. Road Safety report request from The Police & Crime Commissioner: This was a means of reporting Parish Council outstanding issues. Cllr Holmes to raise aqueduct safety

**98/20 Playground /Millennium Field**

1. Monthly Safety Report: Cllr Stoker reported the playground is not used as much due to the inclement weather, the hand sanitizers have been replaced, bin emptied, equipment checked over.
2. David Willacy has agreed to repair the rotten wood on the tree house slide. This is not urgent.
3. Update on Covid-19 lockdown implications reported by Cllr B Holmes that the play area can remain open and all Covid-19 measures are in place.

**99/20 Canal**

- a) The monthly safety check by Cllr Gill was discussed. There are no new issues and he recommended further delaying the small wall repair until after the felling is carried out. Also, the grass was cut as requested.
- b) Cyclists using the Canal Path – still occurring but is not increasing.
- c) Woodland Management: the Canal Woodland the Consultant Arboriculturalist A.Hearn is still awaiting for confirmation if the Council needs a felling licence, until this is established work cannot commence.
- d) The Clerk to update J Park contractor and D Willacy of this situation so that work can progress asap.
- e) Cllr Holmes is trying to obtain grant funding to cover some or all of the felling work. A community grant for match funding could be applied for (£1500) and District Cllrs Bingham and Harvey have indicated that they could offer some support in April 2021.
- f) Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership - Autumn Newsletter which has been received and noted.
- g) Towpath Trail Project – Virtual Steering Group Meeting Wednesday 25/11/2020 at 10 – 11.30 am, Cllr B Smith & Cllr B Tanham agreed to attend the meeting and report back.

**100/20 Website**

A verbal report was given by Cllr B Holmes who reported the website has not been accessed as often since the tourist season ended prematurely due to COVID 19. Updated information about Covid-19 has been added to the website with the helpline details. The highways audit has been updated and minutes from September/October's meeting and the draft of October's meeting have been added.

**101/20 Finance**

- a) Bank Balance as of 30 October 2020 Current a/c £12,023.90
- b) Payments Approved: Broadband Village Hall November £17.99, Calc Training £20 & £40, Clerk Salary & Expenses £1,572.52, Cllr B Holmes- hand sanitizers £32.44 and Continental Landscapes 2<sup>nd</sup> grass cutting Invoice £468.00
- c) The Accounts Report from meeting dated 9<sup>th</sup> September & 14<sup>th</sup> October including transactions cleared was signed. (Cheques awaiting signing and banking due to Covid-19)
- d) It was agreed to reclaim VAT for 2020 at the end of the year.
- e) Zoom overpayment £14.39 - will be corrected.
- g) Budget update - the Draft Budget 2021-2025 was discussed and agreed; it highlighted the implications for future spending of the heavy cost of Ash Dieback.

**102/20 Sedgwick Precept for 2021/22** the implications of the costs of ash dieback on future financial years were discussed and it was agreed to make a final decision at the January meeting**103/20 Christmas Newsletter:** Draft sent to Cllrs, it was agreed to send to the printer the last week in November so the Covid-19 news is up to date. Clerk to advise on distribution date.**104/20 Arrangements to acknowledge David Willacy's Long Service to Sedgwick** Cllr B Tanham has ordered a Monkey Puzzle tree which will be planted when it arrives in November. Cllr B Holmes has arranged for a plaque to be made.. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions an official ceremony will have to be postponed.**105/20 Items for consideration for a future agenda**

- Update on Covid-19
- Highways Report with progress of outstanding issues
- Canal Report including Ash Die Back Report/ Grants available
- Millennium Field Report
- Tree Planting date to confirm – if possible (covid-19 restrictions)
- PCSO Report – if available
- Update Newsletter
- Darker Skies review
- Parish Council Precept and Council Tax base for 2021/22

**106/20 Correspondence:** All the documents have been circulated to the Councillors

- **Local Government Reforms in Cumbria Consultation:** received and noted
- **CALC update Re: Government Reorganization in Cumbria:** received and noted
- **SLDC Newsletter;** received and noted
- **CLNP Nature Recovery Talks;** Cllr B Tanham reported these consist of 6 lunchtime talks about ways that through planning that the Council can protect the biodiversity of our area.
- **North West Ambulance Service- Donation request;** refused as funding issues
- **Joint news Release- Councils agree economic strategy;** received and noted
- **News Release – Call to ‘ back the Bay’ as new Council bid agreed;** received and noted
- **Latest ICO News;** received and noted
- **Concurrent Incident and Flood Plan Briefing for Community Groups & Cumbria Voluntary Aid Group.** Received and noted

**107/20 Date of next remote Meeting**

It was confirmed that the next Remote Parish Meeting will be on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7 30 pm**

*The meeting closed at 9: 12 pm*

Signed: ..... (Chairperson) Date: 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021