

## SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7:30pm Venue: Sedgwick Village Hall

**Present:** Cllr B Holmes (Chairperson), Cllr R Gill, Cllr G Stoker, Cllr D Willacy, Cllr R Smith, District Cllr B Cooper, District Cllr R Bingham and Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk). No members of the public attended.

**100/19 Apologies:** It was resolved for apologies with reasons given, to be noted from PCSO Boaks

**101/19 Non-Attendance:** County Cllr B Gray, Cllr J Oscroft and District Cllr T Harvey

**102/19 Minutes:** It was resolved for the Chairperson to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 as a true record.

**103/19 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests:** None

**104/19 Public Participation:**

1. **Correspondence** regarding the increase in Dog Fouling in Sedgwick: The Council have contacted SLDC. Polly Straker (Locality Team Leader) who has provided PSPO posters to be displayed, outlining the fines issued to dog owners who allow their dogs to foul. SLDC Officers will be patrolling the area and help will be given to make the Millennium Field a dog-free zone by issuing a Public Space Protection Order. The Parish Council will also be involved with the campaign across the district.

**Police Report:** A new format report has been received which covers the wider area, the report will be displayed on the noticeboard and website.

**District Cllr Bingham:** reported the Police are recruiting 10 PSCOs in this area but are up to full establishment. The Police have requested a 8% rise in precept this year. CRASH (Casualty Reduction and Safety Highways Partnership) hope to adopt a safe drive-stay alive initiative aimed at young drivers.

**District Cllr Cooper:** Reported he would be up for re-election this May as would the New Police Commissioner.

**County Cllr B Gray:** Did not attend the meeting

**Village Hall Report:** Request for changes to the website to outline that their insurance covers the Defibrillator but the Parish Council agreed to fund replacement pads. Competed. Cllr Willacy reported the Village Hall central heating would be repaired this Friday.

**105/19 Planning: Planning Application**

#### **Application with a Decision**

SL/2019/0887 The Lodge, Sedgwick – two story side extension- Full Planning with Conditions

SL/2019/0888 The Lodge Sedgwick – two story side extension to west side of house- Listed Building Grant with Conditions.

**106/19 Highways/Footpaths**

1. The Highways report was reviewed. All faults have been reported and all outstanding faults are still being assessed.
2. Concerns raised by a visitor regarding the severity of recent hedgerow cutting on Cooper Hill and the debris left behind, have been reported to the land owner.
3. Council have questioned the change of bus route which now includes Cooper Hill which is not gritted. We have been informed that the change is necessary because the bus approaches the village from a different direction.
4. Council has informed Highways of the change in bus route and has requested the gritting route is amended to meet the service requirements.
5. Request for the Saturday service has been requested by the Council but its unlikely to be resumed.
6. As of 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020, the service is extended to 552 Arnside-Kendal including Morrisons on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 550 Milnthorpe- Morecambe on Tuesdays and 551 Arnside to Kirby Lonsdale on Thursdays. Timetables will be displayed when received.

7. Council instructed the Clerk to contact the contractors of the work to fell trees adjacent to the railway line on the Natland Road to raise the incorrect access restriction notice and report the damage to the wall and verge caused by the work.
8. The hit and run accident at the aqueduct on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 has been reported to the Police and Highways but a request for District Cllr Gray to give support has not been acknowledged.

#### **107/19 Canal**

1. Cllr Gill has carried out the monthly inspection of the canal and there was no damage after the storm. The repairs along the icehouse boundary have been completed and an invoice for £190.00 has been received. It was noted that a felling programme to cut back diseased Ash trees on land owned by the Sizergh Estate, adjacent to the road along the river to the Caravan Site has begun.
2. NLHF Steering Group meeting 29th January 2020; Cllr Smith reported poor attendance from the Canal & River Trust, but all the Parishes had sent attendees. There was no mention of the tow path trail. There is an Oral History event at the end of February; Cllr Willacy will be attending. There will be a light and sound event in Kendal, a heritage event at Hincaster, and a 10k run from Stainton Aqueduct to Hincaster Tunnel will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> April. The Parish will be contacted in the summer regarding a project to sow wildflower seed along the canal. Cllr Smith raised the safety of the Aqueduct steps and it was agreed it would be looked into and on the next agenda because no action had taken place since our last request. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April.
3. The Parish Council has received comments expressing concern about the general condition of the Aqueduct and damage caused by vehicle strikes. The Clerk reported that Carrie House – Project Officer- Canal & River Trust confirmed local Asset Inspector (Chris Huddleston) inspects it every two months, and reports that: "There are a few areas of impact damage to the soffit & arch masonry, however, I have no concerns that this damage impairs the structural integrity of the aqueduct in anyway. The Canal & River Trust undertake a principal inspection which is a detailed structural survey every 10 years. These surveys are compared with the previous couple of surveys & by this method we record any failings & plan any works required." Hopefully this eases any concerns about the integrity of the structure. Residents should report future strikes to the CRT customer service team on 0303 040 4040.

#### **108/19 Playground /Millennium Field**

1. Cllr Stoker has carried out the monthly check for February and reported all was in good order
2. It was agreed to acquire two replacement goals: 8x4 Forza football goal posts at a cost of £59.99 each
3. It has been reported that dogs (belonging to visitors not residents) have been taken onto the Millennium Field. See discussion under public participation (104/19 1)
4. The bid for a National Lottery Funding grant to fund the replacement of the picnic tables has been unsuccessful.

#### **109/19 Website:**

- Cllr Holmes reported the agenda, minutes and reports from the January's Council meeting had been added.
- Correspondence has been received from CALC about the absence of a financial variation report for 2018-19 on the website; production of this report is no longer required by the new audit regime but CALC are insisting it is produced to comply with pre-dating transparency legislation. It has been completed by the Clerk and has been added to the website.

#### **110/19 Finance**

1. Bank Balance as of 30th January 2020 Current a/c £8,573.88
2. Payments Approved: Broadband Village Hall - February £17.99, Treble3 Design Ltd – Website Renewal £187.20, P Airey repair to east stonewall on the Canal £190.00 and Difb signs B Holmes £20.91
3. The Accounts Report from meeting dated 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 was signed.
4. It was agreed to appoint George Blenkarn as the auditor for the 2019/20 Accounts
5. The Clerk has discussed with CALC, her understanding of the Small Parish Accounts Exemption regulations. One officer from CALC has advised that if the 2020-21 precept takes our bank balance over £25000 we would be subject to a costly audit. This contradicts previous advice which links the exemption limit to turnover. She has queried this and is awaiting clarification but expects that the end of year balance to be under both limits this year. However, in the future as we finance response to Ash die back, it may need to be factored into the budget.
- 6.

#### **111/19 Council Funding Projects**

- **Composite Picnic Tables:** three quotes were discussed, and it was agreed to order 2 composite picnic tables from the company Glasdon, model Pembridge, in black costing £1,496.25. The area under the benches will need to be flagged to enable the benches to be secured. Cllr Stoker agreed to arrange this at a cost of approximately £180 for materials and labour up to £200.

**112/19 Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020.**

Sgt Scott O'Neill has agreed to present information to residents and each Parish Cllr will speak about their role in 2019/20. The Clerk will contact and invite reports from all interested groups. Cllr Holmes will purchase refreshments. Cllr Gill to bring the Council projector and Cllr Willacy glasses for the beverages. The agenda and notice will be displayed in the newsletter and on the noticeboard.

**113/19 Newsletter:** Cllr Holmes discussed the draft newsletter, which was approved, and the Clerk will arrange to have it printed so that distribution will be before the Annual Parish Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020.**114/19 VE Day Celebrations 2020 - tree planting project.**

**Commemoration of Centenary:** request from Crosscrake WI to plant a tree on the Millennium Field. It was agreed the WI would be invited to plant their tree on the canal embankment to replace the dead VE 50 tree, where it would be more visible. The Council requested the WI discuss which species would be suitable for this position. Cllr Willacy agreed to remove the dead tree and prepare the ground for the replacement. No cost implication.

**115/19 Items for consideration for a future agenda**

- Highways Report
- Canal Report
- Millennium Field; update of repair to steppingstone/PSPO/Goal Posts/Picnic Tables
- APM arrangements and notice/Spring Newsletter
- Review Financial Standing Orders
- Data Protect Policy Changes
- Election in May

**115/19 Correspondence:**

- Sedgwick Cubs have requested to use the Millennium Field for a paint balling activity and occasional camp fire in a fire box. It was felt that both these activities fall outside the permitted use in the insurance policy and so permission was not granted. A request to install bird boxes along the canal was agreed at the person's own risk. They would be requested to avoid all ash trees as they may have to be removed.
- SLDC Customer Connect Update for Parish & Town Councils: received and further information requested.
- Support for Voluntary First Aid Team Vehicle Fund: It was agreed not to fund this project
- CVS E Bulletin January 2020: received and noted
- Cumbria Arts and Culture Network Newsletter: received and noted
- ICO January Newsletter: received and noted
- Customers Connect Update: received and noted
- JPAG Practitioners Guide Survey: received and noted
- Battle of Britain 80<sup>th</sup> Celebrations: received and noted
- NALC Spring Conference- London 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020: received and noted
- South Cumbria Police News: received and noted
- The Great British Spring Clean 2020 and Join British Spring Clean: received and noted
- SLDC District Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2020-21: received and noted
- Police Commissioner Launches Council Tax Consultation: received and noted
- News from Carnegie UK Trust; received and noted
- Council Tax Consultation – sent by Cumbria Neighbourhood Watch Association; Received and noted
- Working Together Services- South Lakeland District; received and noted
- South Lakeland Local Plan Review; received and noted
- Environment Agency Flood Action Week 2020; received and noted
- Recruitment of new CLNP Chair; received and noted
- ICO latest information; received and noted
- Climate Emergency Support Programme – CSE; received and noted

**116/19 Date of next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next Parish Meeting will be on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7 30 pm** and **APM Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020** both will be held in the Sedgwick Village Hall.

*The meeting closed at 9 20 pm*

Signed: ..... (Chairperson) Date: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020