

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Sedgwick Parish Council
held on Wednesday 14th April 2021 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 Smith, Cllr Stoker, Cllr B Tanham, Cllr A Holmes, Cllr W Burrow, Cllr Rathbone and Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk)

A minute's silence was held to mark the death of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh:

173/20 Apologies: It was resolved for apologies with reasons given, to be noted from District Cllr R Bingham

174/20 Non-Attendance: County Cllr B Gray

175/20 Minutes: It was resolved for the Chairperson to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2021 as a true record.

176/20 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.

177/20 Public Participation: None Received

178/20 The death of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh: Cllr Holmes reported that a notice had been added to the facebook page and website, in accordance with guidelines from CCC. It was noted the official community condolence online book to the Royal website : <https://www.royal.uk/>

179/20 Reports

Police Report: Council note the new police contacts following the retirement of PC Boaks. The Council are receiving regular Covid Police Updates and a monthly community newsletter

District Cllrs: Cllr Bingham sent a report; the sad death of the Duke of Edinburgh has disrupted public affairs, with few events being held because of the pandemic. The main debates last month are virtual , concerns raised about Kendal flood abatement scheme where there is opposition of the visual intrusion of the proposed glazed and stone flood barriers. Grange-over-Sands has received £1m grant from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, along with SLDC funding and of £5.2m of their own budget to refurbish the promenade and the Lido. Reference has been made to increase the charges on Kendal Carparking, as it was the first increase in eight years it has been agreed.

Parish Councillors discussed the pros and cons about these charges.

County Cllr B Gray: Cllr D Rathbone attended the meeting on County Cllr Gray's behalf and answered questions in item 12) Highways. He also reported the Council's Local Resilience Group would be stood down tomorrow. He told how disappointed he was that the status of several highways faults in the Parish had been recategorized as "no problem found" when previously work had been promised. He will continue to look into this. Cllr Smith felt the length of time some of the items had been listed was unacceptable, he wanted Cumbria Council to know Sedgwick existed. Cllr Stoker added that the Sedgwick sign by the river was missing been removed and no replacement erected, could this be looked into along with the missing road sign on back lane. Cllr Rathbone agreed to action all these points and reply to the Clerk of his findings. At this point the Council thanked him for his support and he left the meeting.

Village Hall Report: Information regarding elections received by the Clerk has been shared with the Village Hall Committee. There is still uncertainty about when the Village Hall will reopen.

180/20 Parish Elections May 2021: The Elections officer has received the relevant election papers which have been approved and accepted. SLDC reported the election will not be contested. Further paperwork to be completed when received shortly.

181/20 CALC Parish Council Training programme: The Training programme was received and approved, Cllr Tanham attended New/Aspiring Chairperson 8th April, Cllr Burrow is booked to attend Effective Councillor module 1 & 2 on 1st & 8th June and Cllr Tanham has booked Climate Science & Solution 101 training on 30th June.

182/20 Meetings Attended: Cllr Tanham reported attendance at 3 online meetings this month- see report

183/20 Grants Available: Orsted Community Benefit Funds, Ulverston youngsters welcome new-look play area with funding info, Focus on Funding Update CALC -16 March: received and noted

184/20 Planning: None received

Briefing Notes: Temporary Campsites/Car Parks are now allowed under permitted development rights

185/20 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 as the second wave continues in the area. **Correspondence:** SLDC New Cases drop by a quarter, Director of Public Health urges 'Get the vaccine when its offered' 18 March. SLDC News release 25th March – lock down restrictions set to ease, , Rapid Results Covid _19 Test Centres now open 31/3/21, Cumbria Covid Recovery Plan 1st April 2021, Remember the rule 1/3/21, Although the local resilience group has disbanded the Parish Council agreed to keep the Sedgwick group live.

186/20 Highways/Footpaths

- a) To receive the monthly highways report - Cllr A Holmes reported it was difficult to understand why the report was stating no problem found when these items had been agreed by highways to be completed. It was agreed that Cllr A Holmes would write to V Upton Highways department and ask why also copying Cllr D Rathbone.
- b) Safer Roads and Footpaths Initiative/funding – clarification of SPC involvement and update from Cllr Rathbone who confirmed Sedgwick was part of the initiative.
- c) Feasibility of Community Speed Watch Group- update from Cllr Tanham- PC Jackson will inspect Sedgwick Highways when Covid restrictions allow him.
- d) Cllr Rathbone confirmed that County Cllr Gray would request a feasibility study for Sedgwick's proposed 20mph speed limit and the Council will be receiving this information shortly.
- e) Cllr Rathbone would do his best to ensure that Sedgwick would receive 20 is plenty signage and will update the Parish Council
- f) Request for extra Litter Bins – Cllr Tanham has contacted SLDC Sion Thomas in requesting funding for a bin by the millennium field and by the River Kent. Update at the next meeting.
- g) Resident request for pedestrian "Ghost" lane on road between Crosscrake and Sedgwick- PC Jackson, chair of the CRASH Committee has replied to council enquiries and has advised that such a scheme would not be approved - the road is not wide enough to accommodate lanes for people walking in both directions and it is generally accepted that they give pedestrians a false sense of security which reduces safety. Council agreed not to pursue this request on the advice given and the Clerk would email the resident with this decision. It was agreed to approach Stainton Parish Council to explore a joint campaign to get a 30mph speed limit through Crosscrake and into Sedgwick.
- h) Ask Kevin Feedback 1st April 2021 received and noted.
- i) Request for replacement children play sign on Hill Close. It was agreed to purchase this sign for £16.99 and it was agreed Cllr Stoker & Burrow would erect it.

187/20 Playground /Millennium Field

- a) Monthly Safety Report- by Cllr Stoker was received in which he highlighted that two of the stepping stones had deteriorated to the extent they would need replacing. He would take photos of so the company who we purchased them from can replace them. The grass cuttings have been removed so Cllr Tanham and Cllr Stoker will compost the future grass cuttings. Cllr Stoker had arranged repairs to the bin which was now back in use.
- b) Repair to Slide – Completed and looking good.
- c) Football Posts – Cllr Stoker reported he & Cllr Burrow have erected them. The Parish Council would like to thank them for their hard work.
- d) The adult gym equipment was re-opened on 29th March 2021 and safety signage was updated. The risk assessment has been updated and circulated.

188/20 Canal Wildlife Area Report

- a) Monthly report - Cllr B Holmes reported that there are no safety concerns. The path has dried out and is sound. The spring bulbs are in even better condition than ever due to the more open canopy following different phases of felling. The trunks of felled trees are still on the ground and need to be removed as soon as ground conditions allow. The clerk will ask the contractor for an update on the removal of the timber. The LCT have removed brambles from the aqueduct.
- b) Monitoring of use of the Canal Path. The canal area has been incredibly busy during the later stages of lockdown#3. There is increased dog fouling and parking issues have persisted as visitors use Back Lane to park to access the Canal. It has been difficult for the school bus to pass parked cars. There is further

evidence that cyclists are continuing to use the footpath with tyres churning the muddy area on top of the aqueduct.

c) LCRP issues

- i) Repair to the Towpath over the aqueduct - correspondence with Carrie House/Richard Franks - unfortunately, the access via Canal Cottage has been deemed to be insufficient to enable a wheelbarrow to transport the gravel required to repair the path on the aqueduct so is now beyond the brief of the LCRP and will not be done as planned. The issue has been passed to the CRT. In the meantime, the path is deteriorating. This will be reported at the next NHLF meeting. Plans continue to install the new signage on the aqueduct.
- ii) Aqueduct Champion & Website Information: Carrie thanked Council for the information on the website and was pleased to hear that Cllr Tanham will champion the aqueduct when she finishes. Hopefully, they can have a chat nearer the time.
- iii) Response to LCRP Footpath Proposals: correspondence received regarding new proposal stand at against 28 and for 6

189/20 Website: Cllr Holmes reported that the website has been updated with lockdown easing guidelines, Millennium Field information and the Co-option Policy.

190/20 Finance

- a) The bank statement received Bank Balance as of 30 March 2021 Current £3,723.63
- b) Payments Approved: Norton annual subscription £64.99 and CALC annual subscription £144.77 and CALC training £20.00
- c) Accounts reported on 13th January/10th March 2021, which cleared the bank account have been approved and agreed. These were signed by the Clerk on behalf of Cllr Smith.
- d) The Draft Annual Year End Accounts and AGAR report 20/21 is ready for the Audit to inspect and approve for the PC.
- e) Council will review and agree the Financial Risk + Risk Assessments and Asset Register for 2020/21 at the next meeting

191/20 Remote Annual Parish Meeting: the meeting was well attended and provided a successful platform for resident discussion.

- i) Resident feedback regarding canal cycle path proposal included a positive response regarding use of Riverside by cyclists
- ii) There is concern amongst local cyclists about the relationship between Cyclists and Residents of Sedgwick. The suggestion to liaise with Kendal Cycle Club to explore their suggestions to improve the situation was agreed.
- iii) Future reporting of incidents involving cyclists - comments were made by cyclists that council meetings only reported negatively about cyclists. It was discussed and agreed that it was correct to note incidents that residents raise, even when they were negative. Under the canal item in future agendas monitoring will include all aspects of canal use, not just use by cyclists, to give a broader view.
- iv) B4RN - the offer of co-ordinating the scheme by a willing local champion was welcomed and council agreed to offer support through use of website page/newsletter/meeting time
- v) It was noted that managing requests for access to the meeting via email links was made difficult as residents left it until the last minute to contact the clerk - it was agreed to request residents to ask for the links at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

193/20 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Update on Covid-19
- Highways Report with progress of outstanding issues
- Canal Wildlife Area Report
- Millennium Field Report
- Update Emergency Plan – Cllr Stoker & Cllr Burrow to review
- Standing Orders review
- Resumption of face-to-face meetings
- PSPO 2021- Consultation Process
- Local Government reorganisation
- Gazebo – it was agreed to find the costs for SPC to use in July's outdoor meeting in the millennium field and other activities in the future.

194/20 Correspondence: All the documents have been circulated to the Councillors.

- **Briefing confirms Bay bid backing:** received and noted.
- **NALC Policy – EPC2-21 – Model Design Code- NALC consultation briefing:** received and noted.
- **SLDC approved budget and sets Council Tax;** received and noted.
- **News Release- Government to consult on Bay Unitary Bid;** received and noted.

- **CALC Local Government reorganisation consultation 22/02/21**; received and noted.
- **Neighbourhood Alert Census Day 21st March 2021** received and noted
- **Greening Campaign South Lakeland – Meeting Summary**: received and noted
- **SLDC News Release: Morecombe Bay Leaders urge the Chancellor to back plans for Eden North**
- **CALC- Roots of Remembrance**: received and noted
- **NALC- Legal Update – February 2021**: received and noted
- **Carbon Calculator for Parishes**; received and noted
- **The Clerk to find out if the precept has business rates included and report back.**

195/20 Date of next remote Meeting

It was confirmed that the next Remote Parish Meeting will be on **Wednesday 5 May 2021 7 30 pm**
The meeting closed at 9: 39 pm

Signed:..... (Chairperson) Date: 14th April 2021