

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8 July 2015 in Sedgwick Village Hall at 7:30pm

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

35/15 Apologies

It was resolved for apologies with reasons given to be noted from Cllr Oscroft and Cllr G Willacy.

36/15 Minutes

It was resolved for the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2015 as a true record.

37/15 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests

Cllr D Willacy declared a personal interest in paragraph 46/15 b) Finance.

38/15 Public Participation

- PCSO M Hutchinson attended the meeting and presented a report. Over the past couple of months there have been a number of thefts from stables and outbuildings in the Kendal Rural Area. Especially with the evenings being lighter it is vital that outbuildings are kept locked and secured with any property put away out of sight. 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 advised that by the Autumn Cumbria County Council should have produced a 'No Cold Calling' Toolkit to enable Parish Councils and Communities to set up their own 'No Cold Calling' Zones.

39/15 Planning

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

40/15 Parish Newsletter/Parish Plan

- a) Cllr Holmes presented a draft proposal for a Summer Parish Newsletter and it was agreed the topics to be included would be : Chairman's Report; Sedgwick Village Hall; Electricity North West Priority Services Register; Police Links; Cold Calling; and Contact Details. It was agreed the Newsletter should be printed in colour and appreciation was conveyed to Cllr Gill and Cllr D Willacy who offered to provide photographs. Appreciation was also conveyed to Cllr Holmes for preparing the Newsletter which, when finalised, would be circulated for approval to the members of the Council before arrangements would be made by the Clerk for it to be printed for distribution.
- b) Cllr Holmes spoke of a presentation which had been made at the last meeting of the South Westmorland Local Area Partnership regarding Parish Plans. Parish Plans can help Councils understand the opinions of people who live in their community and enable them to plan and prioritise more effectively. The last Sedgwick Parish Plan dates back to 2004 and Cllr Holmes asked the members of the Council to give consideration as to whether it was felt a new Plan should be formulated. It was agreed that, in principle, it was a good idea to work towards a new Parish Plan as long as some enthusiastic volunteers would come forward to form a Working Group along with members of the Council. An initial meeting would be held in October in order to discuss how to begin the process.

41/15 Highways/Footpaths

- a) A complaint regarding the condition of the carriageway adjacent to Wharf Cottage was received and noted.
- b) Information regarding the Cumbria County Council Better Highways Teams was received and noted. Cllr D Willacy was given the action to arrange a meeting with the Area Steward for Sedgwick in order to discuss ongoing issues.

42/15 Playground /Millennium Field

- a) It was noted the annual inspection of the play area is scheduled to take place during August 2015.
- b) Cllr D Willacy reported he is still exploring prices for suitable bark to be added to the base of the slide. It has been established that the £6 bags which had been discussed at the last meeting of the Parish Council would not be of a suitable standard for a playground surface. So far one quotation from Playdale has been received.
- c) Cllr D Willacy reported that the grass has been cut on the Millennium Field/Playground since the last meeting. A request had been made to Continental Landscapes for it to be cut again, much shorter, after the cut in early June when it had been left too long for ball games to be played.

43/15 Canal

- a) The following Press Releases from the Lancaster Canal Trust were received and noted :

15/6/2015 - 1st Burton Brownies sign in as crew aboard the good ship Waterwitch
5pm Monday on 15 June saw two parties of Brownies, one with Mrs Jane Sims of Lancaster Canal Trust, who plied them with information and questions about nature, and the other group on the boat with Julian Sims who gave them a more nautical talk such as 'don't fall in'. At Old Hall Bridge landing stage they exchanged places and lifejackets and enjoying the evening sail took in all the lovely canal side views. Back at the Crooklands Stables landing stage they were asked questions about what they had learned, each correct answer earning a sticker, this included Brown Owl and the rest of the pack. Then they turned their attention on the crew asking them some very difficult questions such as when was gunpowder invented. One of the crew got three stickers.
Frank Sanderson, Public Relations Officer, Lancaster Canal Trust.
www.lancastercanaltrust.org.uk

- b) It was reported that no further progress has yet been made with the proposed updating of the Sedgwick Canal Management Plan. The Clerk was given an action to try and progress this.

44/15 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.

45/15 Administration

- a) Cllr Holmes reported the person who had registered an interest in the Parish Clerk vacancy had withdrawn due to the person feeling that it was not the right time to take on the position. However a second registration of interest had been received and it was resolved that a Working Group comprising of all members of the Parish Council would be formed to consider and interview the candidate.
- b) It was noted this would be the last meeting of the current Parish Clerk and appreciation and best wishes were conveyed to her.

46/15 Finance

- a) The bank balances as of 30 June 2015 were noted.
- b) Cllr D Willacy did not take part in the discussion regarding three quotations for a new Community Notice Board which were received and considered. It was resolved to award the contract to D H Willacy & Son Ltd. who had submitted the lowest quotation.
- c) It was resolved for the following payments to be approved :

Clerks Salary & Administration Costs (April – August)	£1,214.15
Sedgwick Village Hall – Meeting Room Hire	£ 165.00
CALC – Good Councillor Course	£ 29.50

47/15 Training / Meetings Attended / Correspondence/

- Cllr Gill reported he had attended a Good Councillor Course which had been held by Cumbria Association of Local Councils on 16 June 2015.
- Mrs K Wilkins – Back Lane Grass Cutting
- Any correspondence, notices and publications received since the last meeting and not included on the agenda was noted.

49/15 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Appointment of a new Parish Clerk
- Canal Management Plan
- Parish Plan
- 'No Cold Calling'

50/15 Date of next meeting

It was confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council for will be 9 September 2015 and will commence at 7.30pm in the Sedgwick Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8 55 pm

Signed : (Chairman)

Date : 9 September 2015