

Minutes
of the **Annual Parish Meeting** of
Seascale Parish Council
held on
Wednesday 10th May 2017 following the Annual Parish Meeting
in the Methodist School Room, Seascale

Present:

Chair	Cllr Brian Goulding
Councillors	Cllr Craig Ashton Cllr Eileen Eastwood Cllr David Halliday Cllr Catherine Harvey – Chadwick Cllr Elizabeth Mawson Cllr Ken Mawson Cllr David Moore Cllr Ritson
Clark/ RFO	Ms Jill Bush
Public	Ms B Parsons

Meeting recorded for minuting purposes

ITEM

1. Apologies

None

2. Announcements from the Chair

3. Ratify 2016 APM Minutes

Cllr Moore proposed a true record of meeting seconded by Cllr Ritson.

4. Annual Reports

4.1 Chairs' Report

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every one of my fellow councillors for their support during a very busy and sometimes trying year.

I would especially like to thank three of our members each having given service to this community with a combined total of 107 years and their advice over the last year has been of great help.

In June, we received over 400 young farmers visit the village refreshments and tables were supplied by Richard Mawson who though his assistance allowed the Bank Holiday to pass without incident.

The Car Park featured prominently in the year's business and has taken up a considerable time however, the benefits have outweighed the negative concerns expressed by a few parishioners. We have received a total of over £965.00 from donations in the collection box and £12,000 from Morgan Sindall, which has allowed us to carry out improvements in and around the village, to list a few:

The Lights along the front (work is ongoing) Toilets painted and remain open and free (as expressed by a visitor) It's nice to see free use of toilets and car park I don't know of any other, most you have to pay for one or the other or both. The sports hall has had its electric wiring replaced and the cricket pitch has had new fencing and Christmas lights. We will be looking in the future to further improve facilities in the village; we are lucky and at the same time cursed, with a large number of assets which need maintenance.

In June, we also had NuGen come to the village to inform us on the new power station to be built at Moorside; this will increase the number of contractors and workers in the area and will affect our infrastructure, the council is aware of this and will be working with the local authorities on this.

We lost one of our hard-working David Morgan (Dai to his friends) David over the years had done a tremendous service for Seascale village. (Taken from editorial) "Many years ago when raising funds to make the old shunting shed into a sports hall and build a bowling green David helped to raise funds. We didn't know he was a good folk singer until he did a concert at The Wansfell. He was a man of many talents; he helped with nearly all the organisations that needed help. He didn't just take walks along the beach and footpaths – he never walked past rubbish. We were the envy of other Beaches and villages. David was our village treasure. He flew the flags on the appropriate dates. I know we will never replace him but we will be organising beach cleans in his memory. We already have a volunteer to fly the flags, Catharine. David always kept an eye on the recycling bins and waste bins and reported back to the Parish Council if they were full, now 'Shackles Off'. We owe him so much. We could enjoy our clean beach and village all year round because of David." People in the village have stepped up to the mark and are helping.

In September, not only did you get a new Chairman but also a new clerk to the Council who straight away had to deal with enquiries from the Information Commissioners Office and numerous complaints concerning the car park, this has taken up time and money that could have been spent on other matters.

Seascale cricket club had a successful cricket season in 2016 and we wish them all the success for the coming season.

Christmas came and went Christmas lights looked superb and was well worth the investment, thanks again to the members of the Parish Council who organised and helped out.

In celebration of the 250th anniversary of John Dalton's birth, a new walk has been devised in West Cumbria from Cockermouth to Seascale. The walk is 45km long and can be completed over two days, or in five shorter sections using existing footpaths, and in January 2017 the John Dalton Plaque was erected on the wishing well to mark the finish of the walk.

March 2017, the Parish meeting was attended by the largest number of members of the public, 26 in total to discuss the car park situation as a result the decision was that it was to remain the same.

Over the past year. a group of young ladies from Seascale put their heads together and led by

Elizabeth Mawson decided that they wanted a new Beachfront play park and after a considerable effort by some they have managed to raise £130,000 and work will start in September.

Other projects over the next year will be the completion of the Viking Way, a Cycle Track from Seascale to Gosforth, which has been in the making for the past 20 years. Work will start on the new school build and we believe that will commence in September too. SPC will be taking over the running of the Library.

I look forward with interest to the developments and challenges that the next few years will bring, and happy that the Council is moving in the right direction. I am satisfied we are doing what we can to improve the life of Parishioners, although there is always more we can do.

Cllr Eastwood thanked the chair for such a positive report for the last 12 months and that he and all the other Cllrs had very well. Especially with all the aggravation and we all appreciate what has happened and hope it improves in the future.

4.2 Report from the Finance & General Purpose Group

The year has felt sometimes felt like one step back and two steps forward. The previous Audit didn't go as well as we might have liked. However, if we put this in context, this has been a much better experience. With the change-over we have had to go back to basics and re-evaluate some of our processes. The first year of taking on a set of accounts from someone else is always a learning experience and it was to the clerk's credit that it has been used as an opportunity to improve. We now have much clearer and robust system for calculating the Precept and the PC will see the benefit of that next year. All our financial records are completely in hand and are looking to complete the full internet banking process in the coming year. Taking into account an outstanding grass cutting invoice, there is a nett increase. This is a clear indication we have used the MS money prudently and have not used the money to subsidise the precept. We have a robust monitoring control system in place and the discussions we have in the finance group are to ensure we manage the Parish finances effectively. Credit was given to the clerk and endorsed by the PC in enabling them to achieve this.

We are slightly behind in our Audit, but we have it complete and ready to go to the internal auditor, so nonetheless we are on track and will meet the deadline set by the external auditor and will fulfil our statutory obligations. The new processes came into place in April and that will be part of the external audit. All the requirements of the working group have been met. The accounts will be available to the Cllrs and the public in the usual way.

The Chair of the F&PG would like it on record the appreciation of the working group for the support and guidance that our external examiner Mr Graham Worsnop has given.

4.3 Report from the Planning Committee

There have been no extraordinary meetings. All planning has been dealt through the PC meetings.

4.4 The Parish Council Website Report

The Chair took it over from the previous clerk not knowing anything about it and thanked Cllr Ashton for his assistance. The website will not just contain information of the meetings etc but also recreational and interesting information, such as walks, photographs and local news. The statistics from the website show since May last year to date the site has been visited over 54,199 times. The total numbers of visits since the site has been up it has had over 300,00 visits.

4.5 Report from the Pavilion Committee

It has been another smooth year; the new equipment is very good and the expenses are covered by the cricket and bowling club. Two new members to the bowling club and one them is very proficient and is 94.

4.6 Report from the Sports Hall Committee

At their AGM the Committee reported they were very pleased with the support they received from the PC.

4.7 Report from the Parish Magazine

Cllr Eastwood is the editor of the Seascale element of the magazine. A meeting is to be arranged with the publisher and along with other Cllrs' make a request for a financial statement from TRPublishing to explain the cost build-up.

4.8 Report from the Amenities Committee

The Committee is still waiting for the estimate on repairs from Copeland BC. Cllr Moore believes now their restructuring is almost complete perhaps a statement could be sent out to all Parishes. This information could be put in the Parish magazine and in the library.

5. Public Participation

Ms B Parsons read out numerous comments and confirmed she did not have a question.

The APM was declared closed

6. Dates of forthcoming Meeting

Annual Parish Meeting is likely to take place at 7pm on **Wednesday 8th May 2018**
in the Methodist School Room, Seascale