

Draft Minutes
of the
Seascale Parish Council Meeting
held on
Wednesday 1st February 2017
In the Methodist School Room Seascale

Present:

Chair	CLr Brian Goulding
Councillors	CLr Craig Ashton CLr Eileen Eastwood CLr David Halliday CLr Catherine Harvey – Chadwick CLr David Moore
Clark/ RFO	
Public	Mr Bran Harvey-Chadwick Ms Mandy Taylor Ms B Parsons
Police	Sgt Mitchell Franks

ITEM

1. Apologies

Jill Bush
CLr David Ritson

2. Announcements from the Chair

Meeting is being recorded. Members of the public were reminded that under our rules time would be restricted to 4 minutes.

3. Declarations of Interest by Councillors in respect of agenda items.

None

4. Minutes of the previous meeting of 4th January 2017

Clark apologises for two actions that she has been unable to complete but they are in hand.

12.1 Should read Seascale not Gosforth. – Noted

Mrs Ms B Parsons – was critical of the Minutes

CLr Craig Ashton proposed a true record of meeting seconded by CLr David Moore.

Ms B Parsons repeated her criticism regarding the minutes and was advised to wait for Public Participation.

5. Community Police

Sgt Franks gave an update of the last two months of incidents, and reported that there were eight incidents regarded of criminality or disorder, 2 vehicle damage, 2 shopliftings, 2 criminal damage to property, 1 A.S.B (minor) 1 incident of driving a vehicle on the beach.

With regards to crime in Copeland he was pleased to report that it was a healthy picture.

Traffic and speed control, Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative where active members of local communities join with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices. Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds. In cases where education is blatantly ignored and evidence of repeat or excessive offences is collated (even across county borders), enforcement and prosecution follow. It is reliant on volunteers and once the volunteers have had their training they work with the police.

It was agreed that the Council would advertise for volunteers and once established would inform the Police. *(Since the meeting Seascale has been registered with Speedwatch).*

Cllr David Moore raised a question regarding the movement of speeding traffic near to the school and if there had been any plans for road improvements. Sgt Franks informed the meeting that unfortunately unless there is a KSI (Killed or Serious Injured) it is not raised as a major issue. Sgt Franks stated that he was meeting with Highways and Sellafield Police to see what can be put in place. *(Cllr Goulding has approached the school)*

6. Public Participation:

6.1 Ms M Taylor (Shackles Off): "Bearing in mind that we can all do more, Shackles Off are looking to see what could be done around the recycling area on the sea front car park. With this in mind, they have been approached by a potential funder to carry out a community project and the young people of Shackles Off would like to adopt the area to keep it clean and would like to put a panel or wall along the back and try to make it more pleasing to the eye. Cllr More would look at any planning requirements and consultations with Copeland Council. It was agreed that Shackles Off would raise plans and return with them to the Council. There were no objections to the idea.

6.2 Ms B Parsons: "Is the car Park the official for Fell side"

Cllr Goulding: "No it is not"

Ms B Parsons: "Please stop referring to my daughter as household"

Cllr Goulding: "How would you like her to be referred as? As she has two names on her emails.

Ms B Parsons: "Please refer to her as Linda Parsons"

Cllr Goulding agreed should the Council send her any letters.

Ms B Parsons: "I had asked at the last meeting, that as many as 30 buses are coming into the car park each day and there were 10 before 7:30am and the Clark has written in the Minutes that there were 30 cars that's ridiculous. There are 30 bus movements a day. Also, you have written in there that I accused Cllr More of saying there were 130 bays I said 128 in fact there is a 110 so it's wrong. It was reported that you said the contractors were using their permits; there not nobody is using their permits."

Cllr Goulding: "I saw 3 permits on cars and have approached Morgan Sindall about it and was informed that the staffs have changed and they were being reissued passes"

Ms B Parsons: "I have complained that your report of September regarding the car park has been removed from the site not the agreement. I complained that the Report along with the Risk Assessment had been taken down. Please put a link to them, you have also had a letter from the ICO regarding how people, that's me, can have access to information. You have 28 days to reply. Will you be doing that soon?"

Cllr Goulding: "That is between me and the ICO.

Ms B Parsons: "It is between the Seascale Parish and the ICO"

Cllr Goulding: "The ICO has been contacted"

Ms B Parsons: "How much money has the contractors paid to the Council"?

Cllr Goulding: "Are you talking about Morgan Sindall"?

MS B Parsons: "Yes"

Cllr Goulding: "It was in the annual accounts, £24000"

MS B Parsons: "Will the Council be seeking any legal advice to sort out this matter"?

Cllr Goulding: "I have taken legal advice"

Ms B Parsons: "Are you going to make it public?"

Cllr Goulding: "No, as you would not want me to divulge what I have taken legal advice on. You have had your 4 minutes, we will move on"

7 Report from Committees and Councillors

7.1 Report of Survey carried out on the 19th January 2017

Person's carrying out survey: **Cllr Brian Goulding and Cllr David Ritson**

05:15 am Commencement of Survey

Residents/contractors (roomers) 24 vehicles parked in the car park

5:55 am. First mini bus xxxxxx FTT to arrive, a bus hired by Engenda to transport Morgan Sindall personnel (confirmed with driver). The driver stated that they worked on a rota system every 30 minutes. The mini bus parked in a blue bay and collected 4 personnel.

A Letter was handed to the driver to inform all personnel as to the possible future and the need to display their permits. Later informed by the driver that he had spoken to his manager who said they were reluctant to hand out the passes as owners were afraid that their vehicles could be broken into to obtain these passes.

6:00 am Mini bus xxxxFTP again a bus hired by Engenda to transport Morgan Sindall personnel. Spoke with the driver and handed a letter to him requesting him to tell whoever, our possible intentions in the future.

6:30 am First bus returns

6:30 am Morgan Sindall marked bus arrives No collections

7:00am Morgan Sindall marked bus arrives, spoke with driver handed a letter handed to the driver to inform all personnel as to the possible future and the need to display their permits. Asked by personnel on the bus if I was aware of a female who verbally abuses them on a regular basis and on one occasion damaged their wing mirror. Asked if they had reported the matter to the Police answer was no. Advised that in future to record the matter and report it. Further enquires to be made.

7:30 am Morgan Sindall marked bus arrives does not stop no one to collect.

During our stay until,

08:15 am Several vehicles stopped and persons went to shop returning to vehicles and leaving.

Several vehicles left and drivers went with others in vehicles.

One driver who parks his car and cycles to Sellafield was approached and requested we send letter to him and supplied email address he will publish on notice board. (Done)

We did not see or hear any loud disturbance or in fact any disruption during our visit, the loudest noise was from the diesel train when it stopped at Seascale at about 7:00am.

We should emphasize none of the drivers knew we were watching them park, that the mini-busses came quietly and slowly and parked on the bays allotted to them and sat waiting. There was no evidence of misbehaviour by the busses, drivers, or passengers. Everyone behaved impeccably. When we approached the people, they were polite and understanding.

We should also emphasise that when the early morning Morgan Sindall workers left, the car park was still mainly empty, so it is not them filling the car park spaces. In fact, most of the bays marked on blue were empty. So, their allocation is underused.

Conclusion:

We found no evidence on our visit to substantiate the allegations made as to bad behaviour of Morgan Sindall personnel or in fact any visitors to the car park were acting in a way as to cause a disturbance or drive in a dangerous manner.

The transport system organised by Morgan Sindall/Engenda as far as we saw operated within reasonable bounds and safely. We saw no behaviour that would have amounted to disturbance. We did remark at the time that the car park was is being used by workers on their way to work either to call at the corner shop or to park their vehicles to take the train or join car sharing schemes and on two occasions to use toe recycle bins.

It would appear, **some of them are local** and may even be residences of Seascale.

As the Parish Council/ Residence allows the Car Park to be used by anyone for free, one cannot be surprised that people will take advantage of the facility and run car sharing schemes, as for Morgan Sindall, they donate £24,000 per year to Seascale, which is more than some who use the car park.

As for the precept that is always mentioned, it is I believe £4 per year per household, I know of no parking area where you have the ability to park 365 days a year 24 hours a day for £4 and with an approximate 900 household in Seascale, the annual income amounts to £3,600 to assist in the maintenance of a free car park.

If when the donations from Morgan Sindall come to an end, we will need to reconsider the situation, but for now my recommendation is that we support Morgan Sindall and encourage them to contact the police if harassment continues.

We see no objection to them using the allocated spaces. They are NOT abusing the system, but we must continue to insist that employees use the permits they should have been issued. It would appear, several workers who are using the area to park and share each other's cars these are not associated with Morgan Sindall and park in white bays.

Brian Goulding
Chairman Seascale Parish Council

David Ritson
Councillor Seascale Parish Council

LETTER HANDED OUT:



SEASCALE PARISH COUNCIL

Seascale Parish Council are carrying out this survey to establish the use of their Beach Front Car Park, mainly due to companies and individuals using the car park as a base to park their cars during the working day and thus primarily turning the residential car park into a works car park.

Only one company have been authorised by the Council to use 45 blue spaces for their employees and have been issued with parking permits which must be displayed.

As a result of misuse of the car park, the Council are considering over the next two (2) months of bringing in a 4-hour parking/stay limit, any vehicle that is not displaying an authorised permit/time card or over stay will be penalised, i.e. fined/clamped.

This will be monitored by a private company collect the fines and deal with clamping.

It is with regret that the Council may have to take this action, but due to complaints and the abuse of the car park the Council have been left with no option.

Brian Goulding

Chairman Seascale Parish Council

Comments from:

Cllr Moore: "Did you issue letters to people who were car sharing?"

Cllr Goulding: "Yes, if we decide to go with that, route users and local residences will be informed by letter and advertising as to what is happening".

Ms B Parsons: "Where will residence stand now the season is coming, what about people who want to go to the beach"?

Cllr Goulding: "It will be a 4-hour stay"

Ms B Parsons: "How will they know they won't have had a letter"?

Cllr Goulding: "It will be signposted"

Ms B Parsons: "How that will correlate with the sign that's there"?

Cllr Goulding: "All signs will be reviewed before we go that route and I need to talk to the Company and I request permission from the Council to approach the Company to discuss how this can be achieved".

Ms B Parsons: "I don't agree with your report. People like Mandy would have nowhere else to park"?

Cllr Goulding: "Part of the scheme would be the issuing of permits to local residences and businesses, but not everyone in Seascale".

Cllr Ashton: "Thank you for your report and we have no objection to you approaching the company".

8 To receive a report from the Finance and General Purposes Working Group

Cllr Halliday: reported that the group met on the 18th January 2017 when we looked at the budget, and the precept for next year we as so many others are affected by inflation ours mainly by general maintenance, and bin collections by Copeland and the possibility that we the Council may be taking over the running of the library from Copeland next year. Taking all this into account, a question was raised as to why we need to raise the precept when we are receiving money from Morgan Sindall. To clarify that the difference between Revenue and Capital raised, we are not allowed by law to use capital raised to subsidise the precept. In other words, we cannot use money that may not be there next year to support our budget. That is not an option so therefore taking that into account the recommendation from the working group is that we go with an increase of 2% precept which is in line with inflation.

Revenue is used for the day to day running of the parish and capital money can be used for one off projects.

Recommendation seconded by Cllr Eastwood.

9 Finance:

9.1 RFO balance read out reconciled Cash Book Balance of £39,199.81

9.2 Payments requests passed to Cllr Halliday as Clerk off sick.

9.3 Request from the Cricket club regarding fencing which the Council had agreed on supplying last year but was asked to wait to see if the contractors came back on it. This has not happened and therefore committee has agreed to supply the green plastic coating, this can be financed from capital money to the value of £600.

9.4 Discussion concerning BACS payments which will be looked at by the finance group.

10 To consider matters pertaining to Parish Assets

10.1 Play area Sea front Play park refurbishment

To date they have raised £110,000 with a possibility of further funding and are looking at a start date for September 2017. However, we as a Council need to look at it in the meantime as some of the equipment requires attention and money spent on it.

10.2 Asset transfer of the Library

We have received copies of business plans and meetings will be held soon. In the meantime, the Chair has been approached with regards the use of the library on a regular basis but has had to inform them that it not currently available, but they would be interested when the time comes.

11 Correspondence

From Seascale School regarding Help with Animal Lego Allies Project (Bees) Chairman to attend at the school and offer support.

Request from St Marys Church Gosforth requesting a donation. – agreed as per last year.

LLWR change top management.

Letter received from a parishioner, concerned over the amount of dog fouling in the Seascale area, it was agreed that a letter be sent to enforcement requesting action.

Comment from Ms B Parsons “People do pick up but then chuck the bags” requested a bin near to the cycle track/ play area. **Clerk to contact Copeland** waste and see about arranging a bin to be moved to that location.

There will be a Litter Pick before Easter and Cllr Catherine Harvey – Chadwick has agreed to coordinate the information regarding equipment required and report back.

12 Urgent items raised by Councillors

Request to be sent to Highways for a give way or priority sign on the approach to the bridge at Arch hill.

Manhole cover broken loose, location junction of Albert Street and Drigg Road. **Clerk to contact Highways.**

Next meeting 1st March 2017