

**Minutes**  
of the  
Seascale Parish Council Meeting  
held on  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
In the Methodist School Room Seascale

**Present:**

Chair	Cllr David Halliday
Vice- Chair	Cllr Lizzie Mawson
Councillors	Cllr Catherine Harvey – Chadwick Cllr Ken Mawson Cllr David Moore Cllr David Ritson Cllr Julie Savage
Clerk	Jill Bush
Public	Mr Dave Gray Mr Tim Harris Ms Brenda Parsons Mrs Shirley Walmsley

Meeting recorded for minuting purposes

**ITEM**

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Eileen Eastwood and CCC Paul Turner

**2. Announcements from the Chair**

**2.1** The Chair announced the agenda will progress as published. Under public participation, which will also include any questions on planning applications, each member of the public will have 4 minutes to ask questions. (This is to ensure the rest of the meeting can be conducted within the timeframe set out in the Standing Orders)

**3. Declarations of Interest by Councillors in respect of Agenda items**

None

**4. Ratify Minutes of the previous meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019**

Proposed Cllr Moore and seconded Cllr L Mawson

**5. Matters Arising**

(15.2) thanks to Mr Holman, minutes amended accordingly

**6. CCC Paul Turner**

**6.1** The Chair advised he is liaising with the Cllr Turner regarding the official opening date of the library

**6.2** Viking Way maintenance update, grass cutting carried out

**6.3** Concerns raised over the state of the road from the school down to Hallsenna Road

**6.4** The risk of no pavement under the railway bridge, the narrowness of the road and the speed some vehicles drive at. This is the only pedestrian access from the foreshore through to the Co-op since a bridge was taken down. The Parish council are concerned Highways will do nothing until someone has been hit by a vehicle. (see 7.2 below) Concerned raised in 6.3 & 6.4 to be forwarded to Cllr Turner, Actioned

## **7. Public Participation**

- 7.1** Mrs Walmsley raised a concern about a footpath between two properties on The Banks, which has been blocked off and had planning permission been submitted? The Council advised it was not sure if this was an official right of way and was waiting a formal response to the requested guidance from CCC.
- 7.2** Mrs Walmsley also expressed concern about the only access for pedestrians to get across the rail tracks was to walk under the railway bridge. There is no pavement, the road narrows under the bridge and the speed of traffic using this part of the road is too great, with the real risk of an accident. The Council advised they have raised this matter with highways before and sadly until there is an accident CCC are unlikely to do anything about this. CCC Paul Turner will be asked to raise this matter again. (see 6.4 above)
- 7.3** Ms Parsons asked why the Amenities meetings were not advertised, why it is now working group and why is it not meeting anymore? The Council advised it has been a working group for a number of years and the Cllrs tend to meet on a more adhoc basis as issues arise. An Amenities report was supplied in the July minutes.
- 7.4** Ms Parsons asked why safety was not discussed regarding the foreshore play area. The Council advised Copeland are contracted to carry out monthly inspections of all the play areas and carry out any repairs, except where the equipment still under guarantee.
- 7.5** Ms Parsons asked why the lampposts have still not been painted? The council advised a contractor was asked to carry out this work and is disappointed it has still not been carried out. Enquiries have been made to arrange this to be carried out by another if the contractor cannot give a definite start date.
- 7.6** Ms Parson asked why only posters about the foreshore play area were put up and not others. She repeated her previous complaints about the seating and fencing on the foreshore play area and her negative opinion of some of the Councillors. The Council advised the allotted time had been exceeded and the meeting needed to move on.
- 7.7** Mr Harris understood that after he had left the last Council meeting a member of the public had called him a volatile person. The Council advised this was not the correct forum. Mr Harris stated that as this was said in a public forum, he had the right to dispute the claim in public. The Council note his preference, it also advises no personal comment was recorded in the July minutes.

## **8. Reports from Councillors and Working Groups**

- 8.1** Library (also see item 11.1 below) – It was agreed the transfer and set-up costs be designated exceptional item for the current year.
- Opened on Monday 12th August. Handover occurred the Friday before, but we did not receive definite confirmation that it was going ahead until Thursday 8th at 5.45pm, so rather a rush. Subsequently, with the transfer to SPC occurring so quickly, it allowed no time to organise an official opening
  - It was agreed there should be a CCC handover official opening. There will be an SPC official opening on completion of the library refurbishment
  - There were obviously some initial teething problems, however the feedback has in the main been very positive
  - There are 25 volunteers, however, with the transfer occurring in the middle of the school summer holiday this upset the initial volunteer rota
  - It was agreed there should be a T C & B petty cash tin. The Finance Policy allows for petty cash
  - The Post Office has been very helpful in agreeing to be 'key holder'. The GP surgery unfortunately have been unable to help, so grateful thanks to the Post Office for their help
  - To date, £511.93 of the £1000.00 Library equipment budget has been spent. Other equipment required are a vacuum cleaner and a fridge, both will require PAT testing. Cllr Halliday will make enquiries. Update: a local resident with the necessary equipment and has very kindly offered to carry out PAT testing FOC
  - Due to the cost involved, it was agreed it is unlikely to advertise a formal print service, but volunteers could help those who don't have this facility at home
  - Cllr Halliday is going make enquiries about the availability of grants

- The energy supplier is Npower and will effectively be a 'handover' from CCC
- A contract for confidential waste has been agreed at approx. £10.00 p.c.m
- Sanitary bin contract will not be sought
- Age UK want to run computer classes, which has been agreed, provided people provide their own laptops
- The CCC library service will remain until the beginning of September
- To maintain records a through flow spreadsheet will be created

Cllr Moore on behalf of all, thanked Cllr Halliday for all the time and effort he has put into the negotiation and organisation in the transfer of the library.

## 9. Planning Applications

**9.1 CH/4/19/2194/0F1** – The Parish Council acknowledged receipt of numerous objections and has since received more. Cllr Moore explained to the rest of the Council the issues raised and advised the public, it is not a decision maker, it can only submit and forward on objections they have received. The Council unanimously agreed to submit an objection on 3 counts: the colouring of the mobile home. That acceptance of a mobile home on a residential development would then create a planning precedent, with no account taken of blending in with the existing development. There is a flooding risk. If the application is approved, the Parish Council request a 5-year renewal condition.

**9.2 CCC 4/18/9009** – These are retrospective amendments to conditions 2 and 13 relating to the new school development and this work has already been carried out. The Parish Council objected to the original planning application and submitting amendments at the time. None of the suggestions submitted were excessive and were based on actual knowledge and first-hand experience of the location and the problems this unamended planning application would create. Sadly, the CCC planning department did not consider any of these. Therefore, it is with interest the Parish Council note these retrospective amendments mirror what it had previously suggested.

**9.3 Condition 2:** refers to the Main Hall. Whilst a larger Hall is more practical it is not clear why it has also been made taller by several feet, as this is supposed to be a single storey building. The school is set on elevated ground compared to the surrounding residential properties and the visual impact of those living in close proximity is quite over-powering, especially for those in bungalows. Why was the Hall not re-positioned, or even located on a different part of the site?

**Condition 13:** refers to the travel plan. Since the development commenced there has been contractors parking along Croft Head Road and Coniston Avenue resulting in people not being to access their own homes and on occasions not being able to get out. Parking across driveways. Bin wagons unable to collect bins for emptying. Delivery vehicles outside the school arriving all times of the day adding to the road blocking. There have been a number of near misses. There are no road signs. Now with the commencement of the new school term, the problem is exacerbated, as the teacher have nowhere to park as the contractors are using the car park. The likely removal of the footpath the children use to get to school. Parents dropping their children off is now fraught with risk.

Why did the consultation not allow comments from the residents? Why did the decision-making body not allow any input from those who know the area? There has been a distinct lack of consideration for the local residents in the planning of this development. The Parish Council advised amendments to both conditions and that the original proposal wouldn't work and was ignored. The need for another road access was predictable. The whole process has been an abject failure. The damage to reputation has been done. However, CCC can also rightly claim it was solely their decision. The Parish Council would like to believe that the CCC has learnt when a project of this type is submitted, they consider the local residents and the end-users and hopefully apply more logic and less arrogance.

The Parish Council assumes now the old school rubble is to be removed there is a viable asbestos plan in place, but has reservations given the debacle to date.

## 10. Finance

- 10.1** RFO balance of the reconciled Cash Book Balance for July is £64,930.48. There are no outstanding payments or receipts
- 10.2** RFO balance of the reconciled Cash Book Balance for August is £64,571.09. There are 2 outstanding payments totalling £1,867.43 and no outstanding receipts.
- 10.3** The Parish Council has received 2 quotes. £1,150 for replacement doors and locks for the sports Hall and £513.30 for a floor buffing machine for the toilet block and can also be used for the Sports Hall as well.

**11. To Consider matters pertaining to Parish Assets**

**11.1 Library – The Parish Council take this opportunity to publicly thank**

- **the 25 volunteers for their above and beyond involvement, especially taking on extra shifts at short notice**
- **The Library Service for their help and support**
- **The Pharmacy has kindly agreed to hold keys for the library**

(also see item 8.1 above)

**11.2 Play Area –**

- Replacement bucket and shute
- Playground inspections occur each month
- Maintenance involved adjustment to a couple of nuts and bolts

**11.3 Toilet Block – Floor buffing machine quote has been agreed**

**11.4 Sports Hall – The external door(s) and locks quote has been agreed**

**12 To consider matters relating to the Highways and Transport**

The Railway Arch was closed on 1<sup>st</sup> September. The notice stated it would be closed 8.00 – 4.00pm. It was only actually closed for about 5 minutes

**13 Correspondence**

None

**14 Urgent items raised by Councillors**

**14.1** Code of Conduct. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to implement the Vexatious Policy on a member of the Parish who continually submits complaints, which are classed as vexatious under Section 14(1) FOI Act.

**14.2** The contractor has still not carried out the pothole repairs in the carpark

**14.3** A giant buoy that has washed up onto the beach belongs to LLWR. It was removed from its anchorage as it did not meet standards. LLWR will arrange its removal.

**14.4** A member of the public was bitten by a dog. The injury required hospital treatment.

**15 Dates of forthcoming Meeting**

**Full Meeting Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**