

Minutes
of the
Seascale Parish Council Meeting
held on
Wednesday 3rd July 2019
In the Methodist School Room Seascale

Present:

Chair	Cllr David Halliday
Vice- Chair	Cllr Lizzie Mawson
Councillors	Cllr Eileen Eastwood Cllr Catherine Harvey – Chadwick Cllr Ken Mawson Cllr David Moore Cllr Julie Savage
Clerk	Jill Bush
Public	David Batten Penelope Cater Dave Gray Cristy Harris Tim Harris Lois Holman Tony Holman Vicky Jackson Rod Marsden Brenda Parsons Mark Porter Jenny Harrison Sheila Ritson Pippa Tyson Iris Williams

Meeting recorded for minuting purposes

ITEM

1. Apologies

Cllr David Ritson and CCC Paul Turner

2. Announcements from the Chair

- 2.1** The Chair was saddened by the news that Cllr Ritson had suffered a small stroke. The Chair and the rest of the Council wish him all the best for a speedy recovery
- 2.2** The cycle Coast2Coast event went off without a hitch. Many thanks to John McElroy excellent organisation
- 2.3** The Chair advised a change to the order on the agenda. Guest Speaker moved to item 6. Planning Applications moved to item 7 and to encompass Public Participation, during and after item 7.

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

None

4. Ratify Minutes of the previous meeting of 6th June 2019

Proposed Cllr Moore and seconded Cllr K Mawson

5. Matters Arising

(6.5) Sellafield have kindly offered as a 'one-off' to cut the overgrown hedges

(8.2) The cycle coast2coast meeting was held on the 29th May. Clerk has amended it to the correct month in the ratified minutes

6. Guest Speaker - Ms Jenny Richardson – The Samaritans

Ms Richardson gave a very informative presentation. The Whitehaven group opened in 1957. The Samaritans provide what is essentially a listening service. To listen not advise. By phone and now also have a text service. Have 20,000 volunteers. Receive approximately 30,000 calls a year and the average call lasts about 20 minutes and is used by those considering suicide or concern about another, the homeless and prisoners. There have been 6,750 emergency calls. The Samaritans also attend music festivals. The top concern is mental health problems. There is a countrywide deficiency in service provision. Mental health problems can be caused by numerous factors; family matters, isolation and loneliness. What can commence at what appears to be a straightforward call can evolve into something more complex.

Scotland's suicide rates are higher than England. NW England also has a high rate and Cumbria is higher than the National average. This can be caused by numerous factors, rural, financial problems, along with the problems mentioned above under mental health problems.

Ms Richardson asked for a poster to be put up in the village. The Parish Council agreed, and it is most likely to be placed on the Wishing Well notice board. Leaflets for general distribution will also be dropped off at the ice cream parlour.

The Parish Council thank Ms Richardson for attending and giving an informative insight into the work they do, the people they help and the problems these people experience.

7. Planning Applications

7.1 CH/4/19/2194/OF1 – The Parish council acknowledged receipt of numerous objections. Members of the public raised concerns about the visual impact, intrusion, in conflict with current development of the site and possible flood risk. The PC thanked the residents for their comments, but also advised it is not an application decision maker. Any objections ought to be sent to the Copeland Planning Department. The applicant also attended the meeting and gave an explanation, along with a variation to their application. They accepted the PC's advice to withdraw the application prior to the decision-making body and re-submit with the amendments. Thereby eliminating the duplicate cost should the application be refused.

7.2 CH/4/2196/OF1 No Objection

7.3 C H/4/2201/OF1 In principle no objection, but may possibly create a blind corner

8. Public Participation

8.1 Also see item 7.1

8.2 Ms Parsons asked how often Sellafield was intending to carry out the litter picks. The Council advised that Sellafield organise a litter pick every year.

8.3 Stated the clerk referred to the wrong path in the previous minutes.

8.4 Complained about the mole activity and asked if the 'secret mole exterminator' could be used again. Cllr L Mawson advised she would contact the secret mole exterminator.

8.5 Complained about the litter bin lids again. Cllr L Mawson advised the lids had been serviced recently. A member of the public also confirmed the lids had been greased.

8.6 Stated the bolts on foreshore table and seating were a safety hazard. Cllr L Mawson advised the area is inspected by Copeland every month and have not reported any issues.

8.7 Parking on the grass by the Boatyard.

- 8.8 Complained it wasn't me who called it a Beach Park, it was Cllr L Mawson. The Council did not understand why this was an issue and was it a social point of reference? Ms Parsons insisted it was "legal thing, but OK".
- 8.9 Complained about the vehicles using the carpark.
- 8.10 Asked why there were armed police and arrests made. The Council advised this would then be a police matter, not a matter for a Parish Council and one they would not be consulted on and out of the Councils control. Ms Parsons did not seem to accept this.
- 8.11 Advised she had been taking down all the old posters as they were tatty.
- 8.10 Mr Grey understood the adjacent land referred to in planning application 7.1 is under a covenant. When the property was bought whereby the Trustees of the land cannot be changed from a grassed area and this application appears to be encroaching on this area. The Council thanked him for this input and noted this was obviously a legal matter which would need to be considered.

9. Reports from the Councillors & Working Groups

- 9.1 Amenities meeting – clerk typo, this took place on 26 May not June. Walkabout attended by the Amenities Chair Cllr L Mawson and Cllrs Harvey-Chadwick and Savage. See Annex 1
- 9.2 F&GP – Meetings proposed for 20th August, 27 November, 29 January and in April prior to annual meetings – date to be confirmed

10. Report from CCC Paul Turner

- 10.1 Some of the grass cutting along Viking Way has been carried out and the rest is programmed in. Also chasing up ownership status and responsibility
- 10.2 Copeland Brough Council holds the contract to clear the weeds in the road. This work has been programmed in. He is also looking into the current contract.
- 10.3 The sign at the Co-op so parking can be enforced is being replaced as soon as possible. The suggestion of railings etc is a longer process but is being investigated, along with payment widths, access issues.
- 10.4 Advised neither the police nor CNC have any record of an incident affecting 2 pedestrians involved in a Collision with a car.
- 10.5 Attended the Copeland Disability Forum and mentioned drop kerbs. Advised they are available for advice on the placement etc, they also know what is required in approaching Highways.
- 10.6 I have not yet investigated the matter of the golf course stiles. However, the County Councils definitive footpath map will be very helpful for my enquiries.

11. Finance

- 11.1 RFO balance of the reconciled Cash Book Balance is £63,246.62. There are 3 outstanding payments totalling £465.00 and 2 outstanding payments totalling 325.64.
- 11.2 Payments submitted approved

12. To Consider matters pertaining to Parish Assets

- 12.1 Toilet Block – floor buffer/cleaning machine Cllr L Mawson to get quotes
- 12.2 Play Area – Damage to bucket – temporary repair – to be replaced
- 12.3 Library - The Council acknowledge the sterling work carried out by Cllr Ritson
 - Rota list complete
 - Middle range PC and a business grade printer have been purchased, along with print paper
 - The SPC is ready but pending final clarification on the telephone and maintenance contract contained within the SLA. Is likely to require a further meeting with CCC. The existing contracted cleaner will be replaced.

13 To consider matters relating to the Highways and Transport

Cllr K Mawson reported travellers using the trains will not be allowed on without a ticket. It is not clear

why they have reduced station staff, but will no doubt require additional inspectors on the train.

The current arrangement of a ticket machine only on one side is not feasible or practical. It takes no account of those who have difficulty walking or negotiating the station access slopes, should they wish to use the train on the other side of the track. Nor does it take account of the distance and time factor involved to get from one side of the track to the other side.

14 Correspondence

14.1 See 10 above

14.2 The lack of response from John McElroy's email requesting help with the cycle C2C registration was not due to the Council's lack of interest. The email was forwarded but, due to a server glitch did not arrive to all on time. It was resent and there was also some misunderstanding as to whether to respond if the Cllr was not available. Cllr L Mawson did clarify it was recognized it was unlikely whether many Cllrs could help with this. Notwithstanding, the Council all recognize and thank him for the magnificent effort John put into making this venture such a resounding success. Letter to be sent to that effect. Actioned

15 Urgent items raised by Councillors

15.1 Shackles Off ask to organise an event to celebrate VE Day next year (75 years). Agreed by Council

15.2 Many thanks to Mr Holman for his time and effort in removing some very nasty pieces of metal found in the Dell.

15.3 Honesty Box replacement required. Agreed by Council

15.4 Foreshore boat is looking splendid. Many thanks to all those involved for their splendid effort

15.5 Cllr Eastwood advised the foreshore boat is on the front cover of the Parish magazine. Trevor who publishes the magazine said it was the best cover the magazine has ever had.

16 Dates of forthcoming Meeting

**F&GP 21st August
Full Meeting Wednesday 4th September**

Annex 1

Amenities Committee Foreshore and Dell Walk Wednesday 26th June

Wishing Well Seat.

The seaward facing sign where the notice boards are is not attractive. The locks are badly corroded, and we can't open them.

It was suggested that this be replaced with tourist information signs about Seascale and its amenities. There are 2 sides, perhaps one produced by Shackles Off and one by the school?

Jetty

The Coastal Information box is no longer working. Can it be removed or repaired?

Benches

There is an empty space for a bench on the foreshore. Mandy Taylor has expressed a wish to place a memorial bench for her mother here.

Bins

Following a conversation with the gentlemen who empty the bins it was agreed that litter provision is sufficient and that all the bins are regularly used. The bin at the far end of the green by the ice cream shop is quite often over filled on busy weekends during summer. As this is a seasonal issue, we will monitor this, potential it could be replaced by a double bin.

Life Rings

The cases are really very shabby and the plastic badly perished. Could we request these are replaced?

Lamp Posts

The lampposts need painted. A local contractor and Copeland Open Spaces team have been asked in the past but they still haven't been done.

It was suggested that the Lakes College at Workington have some apprentices that do things like this to gain experience. The college has been contacted and they are looking into when they could come down, if the council was to provide the materials, they would do the labour and bring and equipment such as ladders/scaffolding free of charge.

Signage

Dogs

There is still an issue with dogs being off lead and also dogs on the play area. We need bigger and more prominent signage along the pathway. Something along the lines of "No dogs on the grass between here and the boat yard"

We also feel that by placing some benches and boulders alongside some signage between the castle and seating circle we could provide an informal boundary where people with dogs could sit away from but still in eyesight of the play area.

Toilets

There is an old sign on the disabled toilet saying a key can be obtained in beach stores (no longer trading) Could ALL businesses on the foreshore be asked to hold a key, provided by the council and a new sign purchased?

Sundial

The instruction sign for the sundial is damaged. Do we have anything on which it was originally based?

Phone Box

Could we twin the phone box with the library? It was mention that the library wouldn't take donations of books, but they could be taken here. Would the Library volunteers be able to do this?

The Dell

Badly overgrown and poorly maintained.

Trees need cutting back and one side has become completely overgrown.

Could the probation service that do the cricket field embankment be asked to help?

Benches need a good clean and the stepping-stones are overgrown and would benefit from being edged.