

**Minutes**  
of the  
Seascale Parish Council Meeting  
held on  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 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	S Aughty D J Gray L Holman T Holman J McElroy B Parsons

Meeting recorded for minuting purposes

**ITEM**

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Eileen Eastwood  
CCC Paul Turner

**2. Announcements from the Chair**

Following the complaints submitted by a member of the public to the Parish Council, the external auditor, the ICO and Copeland, the Parish Council have been advised of the following:

External Auditor – accounts signed off, no financial or procedure anomalies

ICO – Advised the Parish Council to send a section 14 (vexatious requests) and section 17.6.c (formal no response) notifications

Copeland – 2 named Councillors have been subject to an investigation, this has now been completed, the Councillors had been exonerated and the case closed

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

Cllr L Mawson & Cllr Savage

**4. Ratify Minutes of the previous meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Proposed Cllr K Mawson and seconded Cllr Moore

## **5. Matters Arising**

(12.3) Cllr K Mawson raised the issue is was the Rail Station shelter vandalised and Cllr Harvey Chadwick advised the camera remains unconnected.

(14.1) Cllr L Mawson will organise refreshments for the official Christmas light switch on, which will be on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **6. CCC Paul Turner**

Unable to attend

## **7. Public Participation**

**7.1** Ms Parsons expressed disappointment about the result of the Copeland investigation.

**7.2** Complained about the “shoddiness” of the minutes but commented this evenings minutes were better.

**7.3** Raised the issue of the complaint she made and did not accept the content of the letter received, as it was not on an ICO letterhead. The original letter was handed to the clerk.

**7.4** The clerk advised section 17.6.c had been implemented, the complaint was subject to an investigation and would not be discussed by the Council in an open meeting. Ms Parsons claimed this was not legal.

**7.5** Asked about the Morgan Sindall payment in June 2017. The Chair advised this would not be discussed again and the accounts for that year have been checked and signed off by the external auditor.

**7.6** Asked how much Sellafield payment for the use of the car park. The Council advised it was £15,000 p.a. The clerk advised a 6 monthly payment had been received and the second was due shortly.

**7.7** Ms Parsons announced her “dog has also been exonerated and although some had wanted it destroyed, it did not happen”.

The Chair advised other members of the public may also wish to speak and the agenda needs to move on.

**7.8** Flooding and insufficient parking concerns were raised about the planning application to demolish storage buildings and replace with 3 x 2 bed dwellings to the rear of 8 Railway Terrace (see 8.1 below)

## **8. Planning Applications**

**8.1** CH/4/19/2396/0F1 – The Council also expressed known flooding and parking concerns  
Objection submitted

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

**9.1** The recent F&GP working group met last week and discussed the 2020 precept budget, contrary to the allegations of financial mismanagement and accusations against Cllrs made by a member of the public. To date, there is an overspend of £591 or 2.66% of this budget. This is due to the contested election and the investigation cost incurred by a member of the public submitting numerous queries questioning the management of the Council to the external auditor. (see item 2 above)

**9.2** The costs of the library takeover by the Parish have been excluded from the 2019 precept. The subsidiary powers to local Councils set out in Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows this as exceptional expenditure. Funding received from LLWR and Sellafield enables

this expenditure. The library will be included in the 2020 precept.

**9.3** 3% precept increase was proposed and agreed by Council.

## **10. Finance**

**10.1** RFO balance of the reconciled Cash Book Balance for November is £66,951.08. There is one outstanding payment of £12.00 and one outstanding receipt of £7,500.00.

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

### **11.1 Library –**

- Following discussions with the library volunteers it has been agreed not to charge organisations using the library operating for the benefit of the community. There will be a charge for profit making organisations using the library.
- The library will be running a raffle during the Christmas lights switch on.
- It will also be running a Christmas quiz
- The library volunteers are actively pursuing charitable status
- Letter box in the library for letters to Father Christmas
- An application for £900.00 for 3 computers in the library for public use has been submitted through the Library link – lottery fund. This is literally the ‘luck of the draw’ will take place at the end of January.
- There are parking issues in the library car park. The Council is concerned about this abuse of a local amenity and hope polite notices will be placed on windscreens

### **11.2 Play Area –**

- Foreshore - broken bucket on wooden crane unit, terram coming through gravel, ground wearing on concrete tunnel and rubble showing through. The bucket will be replaced, the gravel issue has been resolved and the concrete tunnel will be repaired
- Coniston Avenue – the bush area is overgrown and needs clearing; a new fence is required and replacement play area for smaller children who live close by. Cllr L Mawson advised special equipment is not required, as not on the seafront special equipment and suggested getting a quote from a local supplier. Agreed by Council.

**11.3 Toilet Block –** A cheque has been raised for the floor polisher

**11.4 Sports Hall –** The Council has agreed to pay £1,000.00 toward the cost of the replacement heaters. The Sports Hall will pay the balance and cost of installation.

**11.5 BMX track –** Despite outstanding repair work, it is well used. Unfortunately, dog walkers use it too.

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

**12.1** The Parish Council question why Seascale is one of the few villages which does not have a 20-mph speed limit, flashing speed signs or any speed bumps. There are also inadequate white lines from Moffats Corner. Clerk to request a copy of the detailed plan of programmes of work for Seascale. Clerk to action. Actioned

**12.2** Rail maintenance work has been moved into Monday with no prior warning. Whilst a replacement bus service is laid on, it does not always stop at designated points. Clerk to contact CRUG to request the contact details of relevant person clerk to action. Actioned

**12.3** Cllr L Mawson reported the rail station camera has been damaged again.

**12.4** Cllr K Mawson noticed New Mill has a light up speed sign. Cllr Turner reported there has been a speed problem and why this is being monitored.

**12.5** Cllr L Mawson to email Cllr Turner to request a highways speed assessment by the school.

**12.6** Cllr Turner asked what the response been to Speedwatch. Cllr K Mawson reported there has

a mixed response, whilst people are keen on the idea, very few are able/interested in participating in the process.

### **13 Correspondence**

**13.1** Details of the Copeland Local Plan 2017 – 2035 consultation is in process and if anyone is interested a hard copy is available to read in the library, but not removed. A soft copy is available on the website. <http://www.seascaleparish.com/>

### **14 Urgent items raised by Councillors**

**14.1** Large shark washed up at St Bees.

**14.2** Following on from the Parish plan consultation recently carried out, it is possible LLWR could conduct a survey with a demographic profile on behalf of SPC.

**14.3** As the first Wednesday of January is the 1<sup>st</sup> and a Bank Holiday, the next Full Council meeting will be the following week.

### **15 Dates of forthcoming Meeting**

**Full Meeting Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020**