

Minutes
of the
Seascale Parish Council Meeting
held on

Wednesday 6th October 2021
In the Methodist School Room Seascale

Present:

Chair	Cllr David Halliday
Vice Chair	Cllr Lizzie Mawson
Councillors	Cllr John Graham
	Cllr David Moore
	Cllr John Spokes
Clerk	Jill Bush
Public	Brenda Parsons
CC Cllr	Paul Turner

1. Apologies

Cllr Eileen Eastwood
Cllr Catherine Harvey-Chadwick
Cllr Ken Mawson

CALC representative Andy Pratt

2. Announcements from the Chair

- Commiserations to be sent to Cllr Eastwood, who slipped and fell, breaking her hip. Clerk to action. Actioned
Cllr Moore suggested Council apply a medical dispensation until May next year. Agreed by Council
- The Chair welcomed John Spokes, the latest member to join the Council
- Several comments have been received regarding the constant interruptions made during the last meeting. It would be a benefit to everyone at the meeting, if members of the public confined their comments to item 13

3. Declarations of interest by councillors in respect to agenda items

None

4. Ratify the previous meeting's Minutes

Proposed by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Lizzie Mawson

5. Matters arising

None

6. To consider any planning issues

- 6.1** 4/21/2415/0H1 - Sellafield site - Installation of 10 diesel storage tanks in two site locations
No Objection.
- 6.2** 4/21/2430/0F1- Drummore, Drigg Road – amendment to original, to reduce the overall height in line with neighbouring properties – No Objection

7. Reports from Councillors and Working Groups

- 7.1** Although a F&GP meeting wasn't planned, however 4 issues arose, that needed to be discussed.
- The Valuation Office Agency has sent a request for information about the car park. SPC is the only parish council in the North, West and South Cumbria to receive this. A draft response has been prepared and approved by Council
 - Cllrs are meeting with a representative from the Copeland Local Plan team on the 11th to question and discuss if the 3 developments proposed are deliverable
 - The name of the second bank account to be amended. This is to demonstrate a clear separation between the annual Precept and funds received from LLWR and Sellafield to be saved for large and/or long term projects. Proposed by Cllr Halliday and seconded by Cllr Graham
 - The Library Committee are considering a flexible charge for room hire, whereby commercial using the facility will be charged the standard rate, but smaller groups with no commercial interests, i.e. a chess club, would be charged a lower rate. The Council agreed with the Committee's proposal.
- 7.2** The Chair along with Cllr Moore attended a Geological Waste Disposal meeting with LLWR and invited Cllr Moore to report the detail. Prior to handover to Cllr Moore, the Chair was able to report there were opportunities for the library, by implementing the social/economic benefits available, upgrades such as solar panels could be considered. It is hoped perhaps an architect graduate could be made available to provide advice and potential costs on how to utilize the library space effectively to achieve the full library refurbishment, incorporating the community hub and room hire space. Whilst there are toilet and kitchen facilities, they are rather cramped. However, there is space behind the library area, where the boiler is housed and since the removal of the original boiler to a far more compact one, this additional space could be utilized.
- 7.3** Cllr Moore advised his report will also include a CALC report from Andy Pratt who was unable to attend the meeting this evening. This was to brief SPC (before the next Council meeting) of a meeting organised by CALC taking place in the Methodist Hall at 6.30pm on 2 November. This is to consider the opportunity of achieving direct representation through a community partnership (this will mean in a representative from Copeland and from each of the Parish Councils, which will include Drigg, Seascale, Gosforth and other local parishes. The parishes in the National Park will be represented by the Trust) with the Radioactive Waste Management (RWM) Group. There will be 4 meetings a year with LLWR.

The capping will be transported in by Rail

A further CALC update – as there will be elections for the new authorities next year, a request has been submitted to facilitate the Parish Council elections at the same time, rather than the following year, as this will ensure funding for the parish elections, the current cost is between £800 - £1000.

- 7.4** Cllrs Moore and L Mawson reported they had emptied the car park honesty box, which when counted was £1291.00, along with an assortment of duff metal/rust, there was also a

complimentary note containing a donation, which Cllr Mawson read out. It took over an hour (with the aid of ice cream parlour staff) to count all the coins. They were also £5 and £10 notes. Because of the sheer weight of the coinage, it was decided that Cllr Moore would deposit it in the Post Office, who weighed every bag, some more than once, but on completion the totals tallied. The clerk was asked to send the bank details to Cllr Moore so a credit transfer could be made. Actioned. The Council thanked the Cllrs for their efforts. The note from the honesty box is below:

4/5 August.

To Whom It May Concern,

We just wanted to say Thank you for the amazing car park in your beautiful town. We dropped ^{* in our little motor home} our little motor home in the night, have met some delightful people, stayed up in the shop over the road ~ and did a litter pick (not that there was much to find ~ your beach is obviously very well cared for).

So thank you for the fond memories we will take of Seascale.

All best wishes,
Sol and June

8. Finance Report

- 8.1 The LLWR funding of £15,450.00 was received on 30th. RFO balance of the reconciled Cash Book Balance for July is £97,799.96. No outstanding receipts or payments.
- 8.2 Two payments have been made to Waterplus, one for the toilet block and one for the library. These were made prior to the meeting because Waterplus only allow 14 days from the date of the bill to pay, if this is exceeded there is a £40.00 late payment charge. Despite numerous requests to have the bills sent by email, they continue to send them by Royal Mail taking up to 8 days to arrive. They have also created 2 accounts for a public convenience and also a pub and car park on South Parade and keep sending bills for these non-existing premises despite being told on numerous occasions for the last few years these premises do not exist. They have even used Debt Collection Agencies to harass and threaten. Formal complaints have been submitted.

8.3 Excluding the Waterplus payments above there are only 5 payments to be made, one of these payments covers four invoices received from Copeland.

PATA	23.85		Payroll Service (x 6 mths)
Copeland BC	348.00		BMX litter bin emptying x 2 p.w.
J Bush - Post Office	19.76		Recorded delivery x 3 & book 2nd class stamps
Npower	21.64		Library Electric supply - August
Catherine Harvey-Chadwick	150.00		Foreshore litter bins - September
Copeland BC	2270.63	378.44	Open space contract Oct - Dec incl & play area inspections
Copeland BC	31.85		Library trade waste Oct - Dec incl
Copeland BC	756.00		Trade waste foreshore collection Oct - Dec incl

9. To consider matters pertaining to Parish Assets

9.1 Library

The Chair reported the there was a Trustees meeting last week and Volunteers meeting today.

Whilst the library is being used, the footfall is still down from what it was prior to lockdowns. It is likely there may still be some reticence, but it was felt a publicity drive would be helpful to advertise the recommencement of the coffee mornings, which had proved very popular and particularly enjoyed by the elderly, providing them with a local safe space to meet other people and socialise.

The first coffee morning will be on Wednesday 27 October at 10.00am.

9.2 CCTV – updated policy

A CoE template was used, as it met all the current legislation requirements and modified to suit SPC needs, such as removing the elements relating to congregations etc. The draft was circulated to Council for consideration and approval. Proposed by Cllr Halliday and seconded by Cllr Moore.

Cllr Graham asked if Julie Savage was still overseeing the CCTV management, this was confirmed by Council. However, it is recognized perhaps there should also be a supply back-up in the event Julie was not available, perhaps on holiday.

9.3 Play Areas

Cllr L Mawson reported Copeland were also carrying out play area inspections in the Workington area. This has meant that independent RoSPA inspectors have been brought in. It was an independent inspector carried out the Seascale play area inspections. He arrived at the foreshore play area in hi-vis jacket and measuring equipment. All the equipment was vigorously inspected and measured. On completion he reported he was satisfied with the standard and quality and one of the best he had inspected.

9.4 Toilet Block

Nothing to report

9.5 Christmas Lights

Cllr Moore reported he has spoken to the electrician who puts up and takes down the lights and arranged basically the same display as last year. Cllr Harvey-Chadwick has previously expressed an interest to have some rope lights on the foreshore, on the toilet block and possibly the Castle and boat, depending on power supply availability.

9.6 BMX track

Dawn Dennett has been very busy researching the best refurbishment options, she visited the track in Windermere and believes, although for expensive, the Seascale track should also be completely tarmacked. Cllr Halliday is helping her with the forms, but at present elements are on hold pending further information, as 3 quotes are required for the funding applications. It is getting a third quote that is the problem. Dawn has had to make enquires

outside Cumbria, 100 miles or more away and some of these contractors want travel costs to visit the site and provide a quote. She is of the opinion it is worth spending the £70 getting someone in to provide the final quote. Dawn has also been busy organising coffee mornings and raffles etc, with the donations being added to the funding total. The funding will be deposited into the reserve account and a separate spreadsheet will be created to keep track of the funding total.

10. To consider matters relating to Highways and Transport

10.1 CC Cllr Paul Turner reported the Mobility Scooter Awareness event held on the car park was very well received and it is likely he will be approaching the Parish Council for permission to use the car park again.

10.2 Request has been submitted to pay for and install a remembrance bench by the layby along the Viking Way. The location appears to be on the border between Gosforth and Seascale and well set back not to be a highways issue. Gosforth have expressed no objection to this. Seascale Parish Council also has no objection.

10.3 Further to an email sent CC Cllr Turner asked if there was any objection to 52 large and reusable poppies to be put on the lampposts from the 28 October for 3 weeks. The Parish Council asked if a couple more could be put on the foreshore lamps, which it will be happy to pay for. The traditional wreaths will also be available. Cllr Turner asked for donations, which go to supporting veterans with mental health problems. The Parish Council agree to give a donation of £50.00.

10.4 Whilst speeding is an ongoing concern, speed bumps are not likely to be installed. This is because where they have been installed, the residents living close by have submitted complaints about the traffic noise caused by these. These are also a hazard to vehicles. A speed camera-van will be monitoring traffic speed. The Sellafield police will be making more checks.

There are growing concerns over the number of vehicles parking in the surrounding villages. Sellafield need to organise adequate parking for their staff and not offload their parking issues onto the villages.

11. Urgent items raised by Councillors

None

12. Correspondence

A letter from the Great North Air Ambulance Service has been received. The Parish Council have given a donation following a presentation given by them. Whilst the Parish Council applaud the service they provide, they are not in the position to give more than one donation, as it also relies on receiving donations. Letter to them explaining the situation. Clerk to action. Actioned

13. Members of the public questions submitted to Council

Brenda Parsons noted the frustration the Clerk experienced with Waterplus and asked if she now understood how she felt. The clerk advised there was no comparison. Waterplus was demanding £1,000's for non-existent premises.

Brenda Parsons repeated the same or variants of the same complaints she has previously made

- Trade and recycling skips by the car park is a mess with rubbish blowing onto the foreshore.
- The litter bin outside the shop near to where she lives was always full and because the rubbish was used food containers, she claimed it would cause a rat infestation. There

was unacceptable amount of rubbish blowing around South Parade, on the foreshore and other streets close by. The whole area was an eyesore and the residents on South Parade agreed with her. However, she acknowledged further along South Parade by the ice cream parlour it was tidy and there were only picnic tables on the front, whereas where she lives, there are only waste skips and overflowing rubbish.

- Criticized the decision to manage the litter bin emptying 'in-house'
- Criticized the state of the foreshore play area
- Claimed there had been human excrement in the car park
- Asked if a Cllr would meet her and walk around the areas she has complained about

SPC response:

- She was advised these are questions previously raised and answered before, the fact that she didn't like the answer didn't constitute her questions were ignored. Brenda Parsons did not accept this and asked why SPC did nothing? She was advised any waste resulting from overfull trade and recycling receptacles was the responsibility of Copeland BC. The litter bins along the foreshore are emptied regularly during the week
- Contrary to Brenda Parsons claims, SPC has received numerous comments stating the new litter bin management is far better than before.
- Regarding the foreshore looking an eyesore and a mess, she was referred the note left in the honesty box by a visitor to the area, which was read out earlier.
- She was also referred to the report by an independent RoSPA inspector regarding the foreshore play area. To which she claimed she hadn't mentioned this play area
- There are several Cllrs and residents who take their daily walk through the car park and onto the foreshore they have seen no evidence of what she is claiming.
- SPC declined her offer to meet her.

Brenda Parson was advised Sections 14 and 17.6.c applied to repeat questions, she had exceeded the allotted 4 minutes and the Chair declared the meeting closed.

14. Date of forthcoming meetings

Full Council 3rd November 2021