

Minutes
of the
Seascale Parish Council Meeting
held on
Wednesday 7th June 2023
In the Methodist School Room Seascale

Present:

Chair Cllr Lizzie Mawson
Vice Chair Cllr David Moore
Councillors Cllr Bran Harvey-Chadwick
 Cllr Catherine Harvey-Chadwick
 Cllr John Graham
 Cllr Ken Mawson
 Cllr John Spokes
 Cllr Ian Tallentire
Clerk Jill Bush

Members of the Public

E Barker (Deep Time Presentation)
R Cripps
B Goulding (RBL)
B Parsons
B Raywood
A Sim
K Warmoth
L Winterborne

Meeting is recorded for minuting purposes

1. Apologies

None

2. Announcements from the Chair

None

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

Item 9.2 Cllr L Mawson

4. Ratify the previous meeting's Minutes

Proposed by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Graham

5. Matters arising

11.4 Continued complaints about the inadequate size of the Arch Hill mirror. Cllr Tallentire suggested this matter was put on the facebook page, with the highways link, so that other concerned residents may submit their concerns. Cllr L Mawson has advised she will do this. He also suggested that perhaps the Council could consider purchasing the correct size mirror. However, it is likely Highways would have to install it.

12.3 Cllr K Mawson advised the vase was presented to former Cllr Eileen Eastwood. She was so pleased she presented it to the other residents. It is a well-deserved appreciation for

the 40 years commitment she made to the community.

Summary of actions carried out –

- 2.0 Clerk confirmed a Letter of thanks sent to Mr Parsons for his invaluable contribution
- 6.0 Clerk confirmed a letter of support was sent to the Rifle Club
- 7.2 Clerk confirmed the response regarding the Infrastructure Levy consultation was completed
- 9.1 Cllr Moore confirmed the cricket club have been advised there will be no reimbursement next year as the full amount was funded by SPC this year
- 10.3 Clerk advised the total cost to date of the repair to the toilet block is just over £393.00, however there are likely to be additional invoices to be presented
- 12.1 Clerk contacted Tethera magazine, Gosforth and Drigg Parish Councils. The 2 Councils have agreed to continue with the parish magazine but is awaiting confirmation from the current editor. Clerk will contact again.

6. Cumberland regeneration programme presentation (this item was moved to the commencement of the meeting, due to the travel distance of the presenter)

Mr Barker gave a very informative presentation explaining how Cumberland want to encourage tourism by raising the profile of the Cumberland coast. To date it has helped refurbish the Eskdale Trail. It is also proposing using grade listed buildings to install artworks for a year by the internationally known artist Ryan Ganders. Cumberland asked the Council for its permission to install a piece of his artwork called Chronos Kairos, which is Greek for qualitative and quantitative time and is a sculptured clock to be installed on the Water Tower external wall. The planning application and all the work required will be funded by Cumberland, as will the dismantling and making good when the artwork is removed. The artwork proposed was shown to the Council and the members of the public who attended the meeting. The Council is supportive of raising the tourist profile of the village and unanimously agreed the proposal. Mr Barker was thanked for his presentation and time.

The full presentation titled 'Deep Time' will be put on the Parish website under Parish News here: <https://www.seascaleparish.com/>

7. Royal British Legion – Remembrance Parade

Mr Goulding who is the Vice Chair of the local RBL group firstly apologised the Chair was currently out of the country. He also clarified much of the information which had previously been sent is more relevant to large Councils and towns, not parish councils. The approach the local RBL group is that it would prefer to take it as a partnership between RBL, the Church and the Parish Council. They have a Parade Marshall and would like to be able to liaise with an SPC representative. There will be no need for costs such as road closures, as the time the parade is actually on the road is negligible, or insurance costs as the parade does not enter parish owned land. Cllr Moore explained the Council had expressed concern about the tone of the previous emails sent by a committee member and this evening's approach was preferable. Mr Goulding expressed his appreciation of the Councils understanding and offered an apology for the previous emails sent. Cllr Moore advised he was happy to be the SPC representative. Agreed by Council.

It was clarified although the war memorial is on Church land it is the Parish Councils responsibility to clean it.

8. To consider any planning issues

- 8.1** 4/23/2148/0F1 – All the previous reasons that were grounds to submit an objection have not been addressed. Further additional grounds have surfaced. SPC will submit an objection. In the event this reaches planning stage a request will be submitted to have this called into planning

committee

9. Reports from Councillors and Working Groups

9.1 Community Partnership Meeting – Cllr Moore provided the following report

The meeting took place on 25th April 2023 in Bolton, along with the three other Partnership Chairs. This was to celebrate NWS first year of being formed. 350 guests attended from a broad mix of stakeholders. It was acknowledged each Community Partnership is very different, therefore lining up the right people at the right time to each Partnership is key, especially what an exit strategy may look like for the different areas. The Chairs made it clear they need developer timelines and guidance to continue to work through the Working with Communities policy. The Community Engagement Manager informed the members that she had an offer from NWS's Senior Policy Advisor who is happy to help the members, by workshop, meetings, one to ones or by attending events in the community.

Seismic Data and Site Characterisation Update

NWS Site Characterisation Sponsor delivered a presentation and explained what Seismic 3D data is about and how sound travels differently through air, water, and rocks. He explained that the data gathered by the 'Bly' ship, for 3 weeks last August, covered an area of 250 sq km. He explained the complexity of Processing and analysing the data which explained the long timeline but said that Copeland's 3D data processing is 80% finished and they are hoping for final 'clean' data at the end of May which will then be looked at by Geologists, Safety experts and Engineers. Interpretation is planned to be completed in September.

Recruitment of Chair

Community Engagement Co-ordinator brought to the attention of the members, how the recruitment of chair is set out in the Community Partnership Agreement. The role of the Chair will run for two years from the end of July 2023. Nomination only put forward one person, Andy Pratt (our current interim chair). All members voted for Andy Pratt as Chair and Andy Pratt accepted the position.

Communications Update

The Communications Lead recapped activity which had taken place since the previous Community Partnership meeting and following the end of the pre-election period. This included a press release advertising a new weekly community drop-in being held on Wednesdays in Seascale, plus website articles on the official opening of Gosforth community outdoor gym and feedback from safety and technical events. Work has been ongoing finalising the next printed newsletter to homes which will go out week commencing June 12, followed by an e-newsletter to digital subscribers.

Community Investment Funding Update

- Community Investment panel has approved 11 awards in year 2 so far.
- One application for £500 has since been withdrawn (FR1360)
- Total spend for year 2 so far is £519,031.04

Engagement Update

Community Engagement Co-ordinator gave an update on engagement since last meeting: -

- Attended 4 coffee mornings
- Continued the social impact project with Shackles Off youth group presentation. It was an inspired presentation which offered some positive options
- We also started our weekly residency in Seascale on Wednesday in the Vicarage, we had 8 visitors.

Date of next meeting

Monday 26th June 2023 3pm – 5pm Calderbridge & Ponsonby Village Hall – public welcome

9.2 Foreshore Stall

A request has been submitted to have a stall on the foreshore. The Council has considered this request and needed to take into account the following. There have been previous requests for ice cream and fish and chip vans. These have been declined for the following reasons. The local trades already provide these services, and they also have to pay business tax and the other associated overhead costs. To allow a stall to undercut, because they don't have the same overheads is depriving local businesses of its trade. For the same reasons, the Parish Council decline to agree this request. It does however advise the enquirer to contact the various Town Councils to apply for a stall pitch. There are pitches in Whitehaven, Cleator Moor and Egremont. It also understands there is a facility to assist the market entrepreneur and Cumberland Council may be able to assist in this.

10. Finance

10.1 The reconciled Cash Book Balance for May is £100,000.65. There were a lot of payments made in May and there will be more substantial ones in June

The May payments and receipts are listed below:

Date	Creditor	Credit	Debit (gross)	VAT	Comments
05/05/2023	RWM Community grant	37332.00			Bowling Green refurbishment funding
05/05/2023	Sellafield - DVA	7500.00			03/10/2022 - 02/04/2023
09/05/2023	Catherine Harvey-Chadwick		70.00		Foreshore litter bins April
09/05/2023	Lise Winterborne		45.00		Foreshore litter bins April
09/05/2023	Npower		699.47		Final payment
09/05/2023	Waterplus		72.30	0.30	Library water x 4 charges - Apr
09/05/2023	London Hearts		2406.00		Defibrillators & cabinets
09/05/2023	Henry Armer		10555.20	1759.20	Bowling club rotary roller/mower
09/05/2023	Lakes Financial Results		100.00		Internal audit
09/05/2023	J W Bush		16.74		Stationery
10/05/2023	WF Cascade		68.26	11.38	Litter bin bags
10/05/2023	O'Connor Fencing	0.40	0.40		Underpayment cleared (see March)
10/05/2023	Octopus Energy		50.09	2.39	Toilet block electric - April
10/05/2023	Octopus Energy		13.14	0.63	Library electric March
24/05/2023	Zurich		3621.41		Annual insurance subscription
24/05/2023	Cllr Tallentire		45.25		Toilet block paint - arson repair
24/05/2023	Cllr L Mawson		138.45	23.08	Flagpole rope and associated equipment
24/05/2023	Cllr D Moore		204.00	34.00	Tarmac for carp park repair
24/05/2023	Lise Winterborne		9.60	1.60	Mortis keys
24/05/2023	Pelleymounters		47.87	7.98	Toilet block equipment - arson repair
24/05/2023	Waterplus		73.86	0.76	Library water x 4 charges - May
26/05/2023	EE Ltd		22.50		DAV monthly SIM maintenance

10.2 June payments to date

Date	Creditor	Credit	Debit (gross)	VAT	Comments
05/06/2023	Waterplus		7.49		Library water x 4 charges - May
05/06/2023	Waterplus (credit)		76.37		Toilet block water & wastewater - Apri-May
05/06/2023	DAV		1017.60	169.60	CCTV replacement & upgrade
05/06/2023	Catherine Harvey-Chadwick		70.00		Foreshore litter bins May
05/06/2023	Lise Winterborne		45.00		Foreshore litter bins May

10.3 Clerk advised the library electric bill for last month was over £1,400 and was it possible the meter was linked to another premises. However this may be an estimated bill, even though this is a smart meter and she will check the detail of the bill. Cllr Graham will pass the concerns onto the library committee.

11. To consider matters pertaining to Parish Assets

- 11.1 Library** – Nothing to report, pending sight of the proposed refurbishment prior to submitting the bid for the grant.
- 11.2 Play areas** – Nothing to report. The honesty box has been repaired and the door position relocated from the foreshore. £1,605.63 was collected, along with 2 notes. One was a letter of thanks, the other explaining no money was left due the harassment from a South Parade resident.
- 11.3 Toilet block** – Pending the gents toilets floor repair, this invoice along with the replacement toilet dispensers and any final costs.
Sadly, the ladies toilets has also been subject to criminal damage, with the 2 soap dispensers being vandalised and need to be replaced.
The defibrillators require sea weather-proof boxes and enquiries will be made about (annual and inhouse monthly) servicing the defibrillators.
- 11.4 BMX track** – nothing to report - GDF funding is still available. Still no confirmation from the contractor, if no further action continues, SPC is considering bringing in a new contractor to replace the poor quality of the track.
- 11.5 CCTV** – Cllr Spokes reported there is a full suite of cameras
- 11.6 Sports Hall** – is still looking for Trustees, the bank balance is positive , but income has dropped, problem escalated by high energy costs. Still waiting for the Christmas lighting costs reimbursement. A new Sports Hall sign is needed. SPC will pay for this.

12. To consider matters relating to highways and transport

- 12.1** Cllr K Mawson reported the grass verges along the A595 have been cut, but not along the Viking Way. It is not clear if this will be carried out by Highways and if there is an agreed contract, as they have done this in the past, but SPC has also asked the Haverigg Team to do this.
- 12.2** Cllr K Mawson reported drivers are getting parking tickets when parked in the layby by the cricket field. SPC advise this is a disc zone and a disc should be displayed in the car. The parking notice will be replaced to exclude Saturday parking restrictions.

13. Urgent items raised by Councillors

- 13.1** The alarm in the bank has been sounding consistently for at least a couple of weeks. The police are not aware of who owns it. There has been interest in the building, however there is an asbestos issue and no parking facility. Environmental Health to be contacted. Clerk to action
- 13.2** It was reported the bin lorry couldn't empty the litter bins. It is understood there has been a staff shortage and a new driver was given a list, not aware that these are emptied by the Parish Council.
- 13.3** The footpath up the steps is very overgrown, this is the responsibility of Cumbria Council highways and by-ways department
- 13.4** Cllr Moore there has recently been a spate of frivolous FOI requests made on a public forum website for information that is already available on the Parish Councils website. The Charity that manages this website also encourages a request is also submitted for an internal review, after the FOI request has been answered. These have been requested and 2 internal reviews have been conducted and requestors notified. The scope of these requests takes up a substantial amount of the Clerks time. There is a time and cost limit on each request, and this has been met. The Clerk is not required to answer the same or similar questions raised by the same requestors. The cost of these frivolous requests is borne by the taxpayer.
- Update:** One of the requesters wants another internal review and has also made spurious allegations on this public forum website. The Freedom of Information Act is quite clear an internal review can be requested, and this has already been actioned. It also specifies the time and cost limit on each FOI request, and this has also been reached.

14. Correspondence

Egremont Town Council has sent out a meeting invitation to Parish Councils. This has been acknowledged and when the details are sent, it will be circulated to the Cllrs. At least two Seascale representatives will attend.

15. Members of the public questions submitted to Council

- 15.1** L Winterborne asked why the matter of the flower beds was not on the agenda. The Chair apologised for the oversight and make enquiries about the availability of the hall and will arrange a meeting for the following Wednesday at the same time.
- 15.2** B Parsons commenced to raise variations of the same questions recently submitted to the Council and was advised by the clerk, these questions have already been answered and further advised the Council is under no legal obligation to respond to repeated questions.
- 15.3** B Parsons asked given the Council has over £100,000 in its account how much was spent on repainting the car park? The Council advised whilst there had been no monetary cost, there had been substantial input of Cllrs time.
- 15.4** B Parsons complained the footpath was worn, there were no facilities on the foreshore play area for the elderly and the uneven ground made it inaccessible for wheelchair users. The Chair advised she submit her suggestions at the next meeting for consideration, as the 3-minute allocation had been met and that there was still another meeting after this.

The Chair declared the meeting closed

16. Dates of forthcoming meetings

Full Council Meeting Wednesday 5th July

Summary of Actions

- 5 (11.4) - The Chair to provide Highways contact details regarding the inadequate size of the mirror at Arch Hill on the facebook
- Clerk to add this to the July meeting agenda
- 5 (12.1) Clerk to contact Tethera editor for confirmation
- 8.1 Clerk to send objection
- 9.2 Clerk to contact stall enquirer of Council decision
- 10.3 Clerk to provide iupdate on library electric usage
- 11.3 Cllr Spokes to provide update on defibrillator status
- 11.6 Clerk to organise Christmas lights reimbursement payment
- 13.1 Clerk to contact Environmental Health regarding continuous alarm
- 14.0 Clerk to advise of Egremont Town Hall proposed meeting dates
- 15.1 Meeting outcome added to July meeting agenda