

**Minutes**  
of the meeting of  
**Seascale Parish Council**  
held on  
**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 7pm**  
in the Methodist School Room, Seascale

<b>Present</b>	Chair	Cllr David Moore
	Councillors	Cllr Brian Goulding Cllr Andrew Williams Cllr David Halliday
	Clerk/RFO	Mr Ian Turner
	Public	Mrs Brenda Parsons Mr David Niven

**Item**

**1 Apologies**

Cllr Ashton, Cllr Ritson, Cllr Mawson

**2 Announcements from the Chair**

**2.1** The Chair announced that the Clerk had received a call for evidence from the government regarding the proposed new 'Geological Disposal Facility' to be sited in Cumbria. He suggested that the Parish follow the response outlined by Copeland Borough Council (CBC). After scrutiny of CBC's document this was **adopted** by unanimous decision. The Clerk **agreed** to submit this on behalf of the Parish.

**2.2** The Chair announced to the meeting that Cumbria County Council (CCC) had decided that the library could no longer be funded as it had been. CCC proposed closure or a change of ownership before the end of 2016 at the latest. Several ideas were suggested, and the Chair asked the Clerk to add this item to the next agenda. The Clerk **agreed** to do this.

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

None

**4 Minutes of the previous meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015**

The minutes of the last meeting were **proposed** as fair and accurate by unanimous decision.

**4.1 Actions arising from that meeting**

**4.1a** The Clerk informed the meeting that the local PCSO had provided the latest crime figures for the area. After scrutiny Cllr Goulding felt that there was not enough detail, and suggested that the PCSO be asked to attend the meeting. The Chair asked the Clerk to attempt this, and the Clerk **agreed** to try.

**4.1b** The Chair asked the Clerk to contact CCC Highways Department about ongoing problems concerning the building work around 'The Links'. The Clerk **agreed** to do this.

**5 Public participation**

**5.1** The Chair welcomed Mrs Parsons to the meeting. She asked the Clerk whether the website was 'censored'. The Clerk replied that it was moderated as all responsible websites were, and that no comments to date had been excised for any reason excepting obvious spam.

- 5.2 Mrs Parsons then asked why the Parish Council was not supporting the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) in their campaign to make pavements safer. She said that she had asked the Clerk the same thing in an email some time ago. The Clerk acknowledged that he had received an email on the subject, but he had not received a formal request that it be made an agenda item, merely that the Parish Council endorse the campaign. The Chair said that it seemed like a worthy thing to endorse. He asked if Mrs Parsons would like the matter added to the next agenda. Mrs Parsons said that she would, and the Clerk **agreed** to do this.
- 5.3 Mrs Parsons then began to read a statement accusing the Chair of 'hypocrisy' and alleging improper conduct and abuse of office regarding the deal done by the Parish Council with Morgan Sindall over use of the seafront car park. The Clerk informed Mrs Parsons that this was not a proper forum for these kinds of accusation, and that she was not permitted to continue in this vein. He told her that if she had evidence of such calumnies, then she should report them to CBC, in the proper manner. Mrs Parsons continued to accuse the council of secrecy and conspiracy. Cllr Williams expressed his outrage at this accusation, and repeated that all decisions regarding this matter were made with him present in this open forum of the Parish Council, and that this was a matter of public record. Mrs Parsons went on to express the view that she felt that the Parish Council was unreceptive to her genuine concerns, and threatened the Council that we would be hearing soon from a third party that she did not identify, nor did she make clear what that would entail. Mrs Parsons left the meeting. The Chair expressed his dismay at this contribution by Mrs Parsons.
- 5.4 The Chair welcomed Mr Niven to the meeting. Mr Niven gave a personal anecdote pertaining to a near accident he had witnessed in the exit to the car park opposite the McColls store. He put this down to inadequate traffic-flow control measures on the car park itself. He asked the Chair why ground arrows and clear signs had not been made indicating the exit and entry to the car park. The Chair replied that while Morgan Sindall were happy to mark existing lines and redraw spaces in the car park, they felt that they were not permitted to construct new official road markings. However, this was not the view of the Council per se. Cllr Goulding said that the Parish had not installed extra signs at the request of Mrs Parsons. The matter was left unresolved, but Mr Niven's comments were accepted by the Chair as helpful and of legitimate concern.
- 5.5 Mr Niven recounted an issue regarding the EoN automatic meter that he had recently installed in his home. He said that it had failed to function due to an inadequate mobile signal. It transpires that EoN have an exclusive contract with O2, and that therefore Mr Niven's efforts were in vain. Cllr Williams commiserated with Mr Niven, as he had found out the same thing. Mr Niven asked that the Council send a note to O2 bemoaning their poor coverage of the area and asking what they propose to do about it. The Council thought this a good idea, and the Clerk **agreed** to contact O2.
- 5.6 Mr Niven informed the meeting that he had become concerned at the number of vehicles parked along 'The Banks'. He believed that they would present an obstacle to the emergency services. The Chair agreed and instructed the Clerk to contact the Cumbria Nuclear Constabulary to address this problem, as access on this particular street was part of their evacuation plan. The Clerk **agreed** to do this.
- 5.7 Mr Niven asked the Clerk whether the asset register for the Parish Council was available. The Clerk said an up-to-date register was located on the website. The Chair thanked Mr Niven who left the meeting.

## **6 Reports from Committees and Councillors**

**6.1** The meeting received a report from the Planning Committee Chair on the decision made regarding the development on Croft Head Road. The meeting had recommended rejection of the application.

**6.2** The meeting received a report from the Finance and General Purposes Committee Chair. He requested that the Council make a decision on an amount to contribute to the 'Seascale Community Beach Park Project Association'. The Chair instructed the Clerk to add this the agenda for the next meeting. The Clerk **agreed** to do this.

## **7 Finance**

**7.1** The RFO requested that the audit be ratified for further process. After scrutinising the figures, the accounts were **approved** by unanimous decision.

**7.2** The Council approved the Clerk's requests for payments. (Attached/available on request)

## **8 To consider quotes and repairs in the Parish**

The Clerk informed the meeting of quotes he had had regarding aggregate for the BMX track. The Council asked that he complete the task working alongside CBC Parks department in resolving the matter. The Clerk **agreed** to do this.

## **9 To consider any planning issues**

**9.1** The Council considered application 4/15/2345, the erection of a wind turbine on land belonging to the Bailey Ground Farm. In line with the Parish Council's own policy, this application was recommended for rejection on the grounds that insufficient public scrutiny had been allowed by developers, that there had been no significant alteration for similar plans rejected on a previous occasion, and there was no community benefit to the scheme as proposed.

## **10 To receive a report on Parish Assets**

**10.1** The Clerk reported that his attempt to change electricity suppliers had been thwarted on the issue of installing a separate meter for the Sports Pavilion. He was continuing to pursue the matter.

## **11 Correspondence**

No significant correspondence had arrived not already discussed in the meeting.

## **12 Urgent items raised by councillors**

**12.1** The Chair reported some negative feedback from residents of 'The Links' regarding the conduct of Persimmon.

**12.2** The Chair asked that the Finance and General Purposes Committee consider granting a budget to J&I Garner to maintain the condition of the seafront lights and the Christmas lights.

## **13 Dates of forthcoming meetings**

The next date of this meeting is scheduled for 7pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015.