

**Minutes**  
of the  
Seascale Parish Council Meeting  
held on  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
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 who signed in:**

A Blackburn  
B Dawson  
G Boyce  
M Boyce  
D Bream  
J Gale  
J Goode  
C Farries  
L Farries  
M Farries  
N Fleet  
J Halliwell  
M Harvey-Chadwick  
J Howard  
B Parsons - attended but declined to sign in  
G Pyne-Lingham  
S Todd  
K Warmott  
L Winterbourne

The clerk apologies for any misspelt names

Meeting is recorded for minuting purposes

**1. Apologies**

None

**2. Announcements from the Chair**

The Chair was very pleased to see so many people attending and welcomed all to the meeting

### 3. Declarations of interest by Councillors in respect to agenda item 6.1

Cllr C Harvey-Chadwick  
Cllr K Mawson  
Cllr L Mawson

### 4. Ratify the previous meeting's Minutes

Proposed by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Graham

### 5. Summary of Actions

- 6.1 Planning department to be notified of Council comments – actioned
- 7.2 Cllrs L Mawson and Moore meeting with Cumberland Council on the 15<sup>th</sup> or the 17<sup>th</sup> February
- 8.3 See 8.3 below
- 9.6 See 12.2 below  
Cllr Tallentire sourced a suitable fire-proof safe, which will be delivered on 9<sup>th</sup> February
- 11.2 See 9.6 below

#### Matters Arising

None

### 6. To consider any planning issues

#### 6.1 4/23/2174/0F1 – South Parade change of use of premises and vent extractor

B Parsons was asked not to interrupt the Cllr as he was explaining the planning amendment. Raised objections to issues not related to the two amendments on the table and said she would be taking this up with the planning department. Another member of the public asked a further question and was advised the full details of the planning application can be found on the Cumberland Council website under the Planning section. Several members of the public expressed support for the application and for specifically for Cllr L Mawson who was providing the village with this additional amenity. The Council quorum raised no objections. Clerk to submit No Objection and support for the application.

### 7. Reports from Councillors and working groups

#### 7.1 Cumberland regeneration programme presentation – No meeting to date, however, Cllr Moore was able to report the aerial surveys on migrating birds will continue monthly and the details of these will be available at a regeneration programme meeting and reported at the following Parish Council meeting.

### 8. Finance

#### 8.1 The reconciled Cash Book Balance for January is £104,046.37

Date	Creditor	Credit	Debit (gross)	VAT Comments
05/01/2024	Catherine Harvey-Chadwick		50.00	Foreshore litter bins December
05/01/2024	Waterplus		81.35	0.76 Library water x 4 charges - Nov-Dec
05/01/2024	Waterplus		140.75	Toilet block water & wastewater - Nov-Dec
12/01/2024	Octopus Energy		29.79	1.42 Toilet block electric - December
12/01/2024	Octopus Energy		737.83	122.97 Library electric - December
12/01/2024	Cumberland Council		8598.90	1433.14 Open spaces & play area inspections 23/24
12/01/2024	Pelleymounters		69.98	11.66 XmasTree Lighting
12/01/2024	WF Supplies		68.26	11.38 Bin Bags
24/01/2024	T&C Biggins		300.00	Erecting & taking down Xmas lights
24/01/2024	Cumberland Council		884.00	147.33 Waste collection charges Jan - Mar incl
24/01/2024	Jill Bush		46.78	Postage, stationery & Land registry
24/01/2024	Cumbria County Council	15913.50		LLWR donation
26/01/2024	EE Ltd		22.50	DAV monthly SIM maintenance

## 8.2 Payments for approval

Catherine Harvey-Chadwick	23.00	Foreshore litter bins January
Waterplus	79.91	Library water x 4 charges - Dec-Jan
Waterplus	144.56	Toilet block water & wastewater - Dec-Jan
Esafes	439.20	Chubb safes Executive 40 K safe
Designworks	180.00	Annual website subscription

## 8.3 Precept

Unplanned spend

1 – trade waste bins cost has gone up from £785.20 to £884.00 per quarter. This is an 11.8% rise.

2 – the insurance cost re-evaluation of the building assets.

3 – £600.00 cost and over 40 hours of the clerk's time as a result of complaints submitted to the ICO, which were not upheld, with one being thrown out as Frivolous. This cost is borne by the taxpayer through the precept

4 – inflation impact

None of these can be planned in January/February, which is when the Precept needs to be submitted to the higher Council for the following financial year. There will be an overspend, but hopefully below the 6% ceiling allowed. The 4.99% precept uplift would still not cover this year's current overspend.

Cllr Moore reported SPC was fortunate that it also receives over £30,000p.a. from 2 additional sources and perhaps the precept uplift could be reduced. He proposed that not all the trade waste cost needs to be paid from the precept as not all the waste comes purely from the foreshore litter bins, some comes from the car park and other areas and the funding for this can come out of the monies received from LLWR and the car park licence. Cllr Tallentire raised a counter argument because of impact of inflationary and pay increases the 4.99% uplift should be retained. Cllr Moore proposed the Council can afford to reduce the precept uplift to 2%, thus helping to make the Council Tax bill the residents receive from Cumberland Council less than if a 4.99% uplift was submitted. It was likely the residents would appreciate keeping the rise to a minimum. The Chair and Cllr C Harvey-Chadwick expressed agreement.

## 9. To consider matters pertaining to Parish Assets

**9.1 Library – SPC representative** – Nothing to report

**9.2 Play areas** – Cllr L Mawson and Cumberland's RoSPA inspector will be conducting an onsite meeting to discuss any repairs required on the play areas.

**9.3 Toilet block** – Nothing to report

**9.4 CCTV** – Nothing to report

**9.5 Sports Hall – SPC representative** – Nothing to report

**9.6 Parish Asset refurbishments and funding options** – The Council acknowledge the library needs refurbishing and that there is already funding for this. Extra equipment for the play areas and a 4g pitch in the Coniston Park would be beneficial. Shackles Off and the Scouts will collate a presentation of amenities of benefit to the younger generation. However, the Council would also like to provide an opportunity for ideas from all age groups. Social media could be utilised and possibly a survey monkey set-up. Cllr Moore advised there was a funding fair on 29<sup>th</sup> February in Gosforth Hall and he would make enquiries to establish how and what funding they could provide, one of the funders may offer to set up the survey monkey for the Council. GDF – Jacobs could carry out the work through their community work, thus reducing the overall cost. A member of the public also offered to help with any amenity improvements and was thanked by the Council for this much appreciated offer. A port could be opened in the library to allow those without computers to use the internet to open the survey to more people. Based on the overall responses the Council would then have a community plan to work with.

## 10. Consider matters relating to the Highways and Transport

**10.1** Cllr K Mawson reported the police are issuing tickets for obstructive parking by the Co-op.

A member of the public expressed annoyance that he had received a ticket when briefly parked in the cricket field lay-by. The Council explained the reason this was created because Sellafeld workers were using it and parking there for up to 12 hours a day, thus denying locals ability to use it. It was not their decision; the decision was made by Cumbria Council highways division and the initial request was not submitted by a Parish Cllr. It agreed the disc zone parking sign is too small, located high up and not easy to spot. The gentleman concerned does however have a blue disc and a Cllr advised he can use this. Currently, there is nowhere in Seascale where you can get a parking disc. The clerk was asked to contact Cumberland Council to request a box of discs which could then be distributed to the local retailers. There is no charge for these discs.

## **11. Urgent items raised by Councillors**

**11.1** Cllr K Mawson asked what was happening to the parish magazine. Sadly, it was unlikely it was going to be reinstated in the Tethera style as the process creating it is unwieldy. Drigg PC have produced a parish magazine on an A4 sheet folded into a A5 sized booklet on good quality paper. The Council acknowledge the parish magazine has always been popular especially by those who prefer a paper format, and it is something they will be looking into. Although it would not be able to provide door to door delivery, it could be made available for people to pick up in the local shops and the library.

## **12. Correspondence**

**12.1** New school head mistress enquiry greeted positively by Council. Clerk to ask the head mistress for a couple of dates and times that a few Cllrs can be available to meet her.

**12.2** Dog training group would like to meet with the Council. Clerk to ask the club for a couple of dates and times that a few Cllrs can be available to meet her and the architect. Cllr Moore has stipulated he would like the documentation evidencing the Rail Company gifted the garage to the club.

**12.3** Fly tipping issues have resulted in the trade waste bin not being emptied. The clerk has advised it has paid to have this emptied and asked for an explanation why it should be responsible for fly tipping when their receptacles have no real deterrent. Cllrs L Mawson and Moore will arrange/will be meeting with Mr Dixon the service manager. The Council seek an explanation why VAT has been removed from it trade waste bin contract, whilst other businesses invoices show VAT charges Further, they will ask why there has been an 11.8% increase in the charges.

## **13. Members of the public questions submitted to Council**

**13.1** B Parsons repeated her complaints about waste collection and the car park and stated that we believe the car park should charge. A member of the public asked her, "who is this we"? I do not agree with this, and other members of the public also did not agree to car park charging and also did not see a problem with waste collection.

A member of the public also criticised B Parsons for her constant complaints and the resulting cost to the taxpayer because of this. That she appeared to spend all day at her window looking for something to complain about. B Parsons responded she did not spend all day at her window.

The Chair advised B Parsons her allocated time to speak had been expended and asked if any other members of the public had any questions.

**13.2** G Pyne-Lingham expressed concern about the deterioration of the gabion in the seawall and a high-risk injury to a child if they fell against it. Council agreed this is not being maintained to a safe standard. Cllr Moore explained whilst this is something Cumberland Council would repair; they do not have funding for this, and it has to request funding from central government for this.

## **14. Dates of forthcoming meetings**

**Full Council Meeting Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

## **15. Part 2 meeting - Report from closed meeting on pay structure**

**15.1** The litter bin monitors, the cleaner and Parish clerk all receive an increase in the hourly rate of pay.

## **Summary of Actions**

- 6.1 Planning department to be notified of Council comments – actioned
- 9.6 Cllr Moore to report back on funding options for parish assets and offers from any fund holders
- 10.1 Clerk to request box of parking discs from Cumberland Council. Actioned 8<sup>th</sup> February, pending formal response to request
- 11.1 Update on the feasibility to produce a Parish magazine
- 12.1 Clerk to contact head mistress and request meeting date and times options. Actioned
- 12.2 Clerk to contact dog club and request meeting date and times options. Actioned
- 12.3 Cllrs L Mawson and Moore to report back on meeting with Cumberland service manager