

Minutes
of the
Seascale Parish Council Meeting
held on
Wednesday 6th March 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:

P Cater
M Franks
J Goode
B Parsons
J Parsons

Meeting is recorded for minuting purposes

1. Apologies

None

2. Announcements from the Chair

The Chair expressed frustration with Cumberland Council's very late notice advising it would not be providing an open space contract from the end of March. The Parish Council was not advised of this until 29th February, giving it only a month to find another supplier. Notification of change used to be sent out in December. By failing to do this, it has also denied Parish Councils the ability to consider the cost implications of a new supplier prior to submitting the precept for the next financial year that commences in April. It is fortunate that the Parish Council had received an email from someone who was trained on the open spaces contract under Copeland BC. He is also RoSPA qualified. The Chair acted quickly and has spoken with this potential new supplier who also comes recommended. The contract cost is at the negotiation stage. A strongly worded letter has been sent to Cumberland Council condemning this inconsiderate behaviour.

3. Declarations of interest by Councillors in respect to agenda item 6.

None

4. Ratify the previous meeting's Minutes

Proposed by Cllr Spokes and seconded by Cllr Graham

5. 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. – see item 9.6 below

- 10.1 Clerk to request box of parking discs from Cumberland Council. Actioned 8th February, pending formal response to request. Request submitted again
- 11.1 Update on the feasibility to produce a Parish magazine - see 11.1 below
- 12.1 Clerk to contact head mistress and request meeting date and times options – see item 11.1 below
- 12.2 Clerk to contact dog club and request meeting date and times options. See Matters Arising below
- 12.3 Cllrs L Mawson and Moore to report back on meeting with Cumberland service manager – see item 11.3 below
- 13.2 Gabion seawall basket deterioration reported to Highways

Matters Arising

5 (12.2) Cllr Moore reported the planning application was not strictly accurate. Whilst it confirms the garage was sold by the previous user to the dog club, the land it is on is still owned by the Parish Council. A meeting with Cllrs Moore and Spokes will meet the dog club at the garage. Update a meeting is being arranged at a date and time suitable for both parties.

6. To consider any planning issues

6.1 4/24/2045/OF1 - Sellafield - Objection submitted

- How is the site to be accessed as the Seascale and Gosforth Road is not designed to cope with the level of traffic referred to - Therefore significant improvement need to be made to this road – the access road leading to the site is designed for parking, not HGV traffic - What is the contract management plan - How will contractor parking be accommodated. Therefore Seascale Parish Council request sight of a clear traffic and travel plan. Also a document setting out the management control of demolition emissions, especially asbestos risk.

6.2 4/24/2045/OF1 – Sellafield – No Objection

7. Reports from Councillors and working groups

7.1 Cumberland regeneration programme presentation – Cllr Moore was unable to attend, as this meeting was rearranged as the same day and time as the Parish Council meeting.

8. Finance

8.1 The reconciled Cash Book Balance for February is £102,27.63

Creditor	Credit	Debit (gross)	VAT	Comments
Waterplus		79.71	0.32	Library water x 4 charges - Dec-Jan
Waterplus		144.56		Toilet block water & wastewater - Dec-Jan
NLS Security - Esafes		439.20	73.20	Chubbsafes Executive 40 K safe
LandRegistry	14.00			Refund
Octopus Energy		36.71	1.80	Toilet block electric - January
Octopus Energy		831.56	138.59	Library electric - January
EE Ltd		22.50		DAV monthly SIM maintenance

8.2 Payments for approval

Some of the payments for February were pending authorisation. This was resent with the early March payments request. At present there will be a further payment to be made to WF Services.

Creditor	Credit	Debit (gross)	VAT	Comments
Avison Young	7500.00			03/10/2023 - 02/04/2024
Catherine Harvey-Chadwick		23.00		Foreshore litter bins January
Catherine Harvey-Chadwick		46.00		Foreshore litter bins February
ICO		40.00		Annual subscription
Designworks		180.00	30.00	Annual website subscription
Cllr Moore Toolstation		55.44	9.24	Toolstation - Toilet block taps
PATA		31.05		Payroll service
Waterplus		79.71	0.32	Library water x 4 charges - Jan-Feb
Waterplus		144.56		Toilet block water & wastewater - Jan-Feb

8.3 Library electric meter update

A request was submitted to the Supplier for a single reading meter with a request for the tariff and standing charge would be. The current meter is 'smart' meter with 3 readings (2 with the same tariff and one different) and the Supplier cannot always access the readings. The Supplier did not confirm a single reading meter, did not provide the standing charge and the single tariff was more than the average of the current 3 combined. 33.90p/kWh unit rate versus 29.1033r. This was queried and given green companies get subsidies this should be substantially less, not the same as the current energy market values. Tariff rate was queried by Council and the Chair requested a copy of the bill. Update this was sent across to the Chair along with the Suppliers email showing the changed tariff. The clerk asked if someone could take the meter readings as the bills are estimates. Cllr Tallentire offered to do this.

8.4 Honesty box - will be emptied and banked this month

9. To consider matters pertaining to Parish Assets

9.1 Library – Meeting with the library Trustees. Whilst the library is reluctant to close the library because of the interest is growing, substantial renovation is required – Toilet area to include a disabled toilet and a new kitchen. The space where the old ga boiler is housed and the space leading to it would comfortably house these. Replacement lintels, chimney stack removed, leak and plaster work repaired, decorating and a new heating system. These improvement would make it more self-sufficient. Cllr Tallentire will check the library cupboards and files for the plans made for the initial renovation. Mr Franks confirmed he had seen the hard copies, and it is likely they are still stored in the library. One of the main problems is finding a suitable contractor to carry out this substantial work and who would manage this project? Cllr Spokes is employed as a project manager and has offered to cover this. Some of this work could be carried out with the library remaining open and if a suitable location) could be found while the other work is carried out during this period. Shackles Off may be able to help with this. Funding for all the works could be applied for from GDF and Cumbria Community Fund.

9.2 Play areas – Cumberland Council would still provide the play area inspections. However SPC are fortunate that it now has two options and can consider the best one.

9.3 Toilet block – Whilst some of the taps have been sticking, the taps, with a side-to-side bar, appear to be the best style and have been fitted by Cllr Moore. The Parish Council thanked him for the time and work spent carrying this out. B Parsons asked why the gents toilet light was on? She was advised it was possibly due to the timer. She was thanked for notifying the Council.

9.4 CCTV – Ongoing issues with several of the cameras that rely on the EE network to transmit a signal due to the ongoing mast works at Sellafield.

9.5 Sports Hall – SPC representative has not received any invites to its meetings recently. It was also reported that there is at least one group who would like to hold events for children during the holidays, however not getting any response to their enquiries. Some of the Cllrs advised they have been approached by a few residents and local clubs who would like to use the sports hall and possibly be interested coming onto the committee. Cllr Tallentire to email to advise the Sports Hall of this and ask if they are interested in more committee members.

9.6 Parish Asset refurbishments and funding options – Cllr Moore reported the funding fair held on 29th

February in Gosforth Hall was well attended with numerous funding opportunities. Cllr B Harvey-Chadwick advised he has been approached about ideas to enhance the parish. Cllr Moore advise there is space in the toilet block that could be utilised for local groups, though perhaps not shower facilities. B Harvey-Chadwick reported he was receiving suggestions for the Community Plan and would continue until the end of the month. The results would be compiled likely to be able to report on the results at the next meeting. Once this has been collated SPC can information

10. Consider matters relating to the Highways and Transport

- 10.1** Cllr Moore reported concrete block reinforcements along the promenade.
- 10.2** Confirmed there was funding for the 2, brighter, streetlights by the school, but the date of work has not yet been scheduled.
- 10.3** He also reported replacement fencing will run from Neb House to Falcon House, probably done in two stages.

11. Any Other Business

- 11.1** Meeting with the Schools Head Mistress – Cllr K Mawson reported the school is short of LEA governors. The main problem with this is because the school is run by a board of governors, with an increasing focus on trained LEA Governors, and this role has become increasingly work intensive dealing with budgets and H&S etc, so no-one is interested. The school expressed an interest to help with the parish magazine. Organise beach cleans and other activities.
- 11.2** Cllr Tallentire has created a simplified asset management plan for the funds held in the General Reserve account, which he will forward to the rest of Council for their consideration.
- 11.3** Trade Waste – To date, there has been no feedback from Cumberland Council following the meeting. It was acknowledged some of the locks were faulty and occasionally not locked after emptying. SPC suggested the removal of the clothing containers as there are already others located around the village, this space could then be used to store the trade waste bins within an enclosed locked area to deter the fly tipping, which Cumberland advised it would erect and pay for. Cumberland was not aware the litter bins are emptied 7 days a week and was advised the frequency the trade waste bins are emptied. - B Parsons was asked not to interrupt a Cllr when he was speaking - SPC will also provide a map of the foreshore bins. It was noted while the meeting was taking place a large lorry came to collect the clothing containers it was unable to do so as, it has the wrong attachments. Cumberland's response was positive and will explore both options. Cllr Tallentire reported that he knew someone who came into the Seascale twice a week and would empty the bins. SPC now has 2 options, the latter will obviously depend on the cost.

12. Correspondence

- 12.1** Ponsonby and Calderbridge PC meeting re NDA's long-term neglect of properties in the local area that are left unmaintained and untenanted without reason and then just demolished. These could have provided homes and business premises for many local people. Submitting a Recall Application would open an enquiry/investigation and halt this behaviour. Seascale Chair's name, along with other Parish Chairs will be added to this. Advise Ponsonby and Calderbridge parish clerk.
- 12.2** Dog club has requested a meeting with the Council. Cllrs Moore and Spokes will attend, preferably before the dog clubs meeting on the following Tuesday, but not the clubs committee meeting. With a preferred location of a meeting to be at the garage.
- 12.3** Library trade waste bin contract has been received with a deadline date of the 15 March. Council authorised the clerk to complete the details, sign it on behalf of the Council.
- 12.4** The artwork agreement from Cumberland Council has been received, it also has a tight response date. Council authorised the clerk to check the detail, amend as required and sign it on behalf of the Council.

13. Members of the public questions submitted to Council

- 13.1** J Parsons expressed concern about the continued lack of street lighting when he took his grandchildren to the school. Cllr Moore advised the missing streetlights will be replaced, but with only two, however these are larger and brighter than the original ones. He confirmed the funding was

there, but they are not yet listed on the schedule. Mr Parsons also expressed concern about the speeding on the corner and that the police are no longer there checking the speed of vehicles entering and leaving the village and would those signs lighting up the vehicle speed be installed, as he had seen these elsewhere. And would a community speed watch be set up. Cllr Moore advised Cumberland Council were currently considering placing 20mph speed limits around all the schools, he could ask Cumberland Council about the speed signage as highways was responsible for road signs. However, it was unlikely community speed watch would be set up, as this has been tried before with no success.

- 13.2** J Parsons also reported some remedial repair work is required on the flagpole rigging. He also reported a flag had been put on the pole above the Union flag and knotted. It has been taken down and he is holding it. No flag is erected above the Union Flag. The Council advised should anyone ask for the flag removed to refuse release as they had no authority to effectively fly tip and if it was handed back, it would probably end up back on the pole. Let the perpetrator realise there is a cost attached to this behaviour.
- 13.3** P Cater reported she had seen a young person by the flagpole and thought he authorised by the flag officer. The Council now have a description of who did this.
- 13.4** B Parsons reported speeding on Drigg Road. Reported illegal parking by the cricket field, and The Banks, all along its length was only one car wide and that she had to go to the very end to the gravelly area to be able to turn round. Cllr Moore advised Sellafield would be onsite the following morning at 6.00am to monitor the parking issues, also establishing shuttle bus usage and if those using them had the correct passes. B Parsons asked if they would be monitoring the car park and advised they were monitoring the parking in residential roads.
- 13.5** J Goode advised it wasn't so much over parking in The Banks, but 2 or 3 cars very badly parked.
- 13.6** B Parsons asked Cllr L Mawson if she was applying for a liquor licence and was advised this was not a Council matter. However, the Cllrs chose to answer and confirmed she had.
- 13.7** B Parsons also expressed concern about the tables outside and drinking outside. Cllr Mawson advised the police had been round with a Cumberland representative.
- 13.8** B Parsons asked for the Asbestos Report when Cllr L Mawson had shown it existence on facebook following a complaint. Also that Cumberland Council had told her they did not have this. She was advised that it was with the other planning application documents on the Cumberland website. B Parsons claimed it wasn't.

14. Dates of forthcoming meetings

Full Council Meeting Wednesday 3rd April

Summary of Actions

- 6.1 Planning department to be notified of Council comments – actioned
- 6.2 Planning department to be notified of Councils No Objection – actioned
- 8.3 Clerk to forward library energy bill to be forwarded to Cllr L Mawson – actioned
- 8.3 Cllr Tallentire to read library meter and send it across to the clerk, as all the bills are estimated
- 9.1 Cllr Tallentire will look for the original refurbishment documents, which are understood to be in the library
- 9.5 Cllr Tallentire to contact the library regarding parties interested to join the committee - actioned
- 11.2 Cllr Tallentire to forward the document to the rest of Council for consideration – actioned
- 12.1 Clerk to contact Ponsonby & Calderbridge Parish clerk. Actioned
- 12.2 Clerk to contact dog club and request meeting date and times options. Actioned but meeting now cancelled, further dates and times to be considered
- 12.3 Clerk to complete, sign and return library trade waste bin contract to Cumberland Council - Actioned
- 12.4 Clerk to read, amend as required, sign and return the artwork agreement to Cumberland Council - Actioned