

Minutes
of the
Seascale Parish Council Meeting
held on
Wednesday 1st May 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 Ken Mawson
Cllr John Spokes
Cllr Ian Tallentire

Members of the Public:

R Watson
B Parsons
List incomplete

Meeting is recorded for minuting purposes

1. Apologies

Cllr J Graham and Jill Bush the parish clerk

2. Announcements from the Chair

it's nice we have the sun out, we might have already reached spring at long last after the longest winter in everyone's living memory. Lovely to see over the last weekend or so and even over the easter break when the weather was relatively inclement, so many people enjoying the village and its facilities, which is, despite taking a winter battering looking pretty good.

The Chair had no further announcements, apart from inviting a lady from a TV researcher to introduce herself and that she had come a long way to the meeting.

3.

Member of Public (Rachel Watson): thank you, I'm a television researcher, I work for a company called true vision productions and we are based in Cambridge, I have come up because we are researching for a drama based on the Windscale fires of 1957, so which we hope to get into production in the next year or so, so I'm here to meet people and say hello and see if there is anybody who has any stories to tell or any family stories to tell who want to have a chat with me, at the moment its just research, this is very specifically about the 1950s, so it's not about present day Sellafield, its specifically about what happened at Windscale, so after the war, then the fire and the inquiry, so I'm looking to speak to people who might have family stories or memories, I'm speaking to a couple of gentlemen tomorrow who were in the fire, so if anyone would like to meet me or have a chat with me, or get in touch I'll leave my contact details and could you please get in touch? I'm going to stay for the meeting, I have my notebook at the back, so if you do want to leave your contact details with me you can. If you want to have a chat with me, or know of any other people who would be interested.

Cllr David Moore: is it similar to Chernobyl? (referencing the 2019 tv show)

Rachel Watson: well, I like to compare it to Mr bates vs the Post Office, very British story, but yes Chernobyl is a good sort of thing, it's based-on facts, it's based on real people,

Cllr Lizzie Mawson: and if it goes further than the research, would be it be filmed within the area?

Rachel Watson: I would want it to be filmed here, yes. Sadly, that is out of my control, but that would be what we want to do, I'm originally from Bolton and I have family up here, so I feel very strongly about that, I don't have the money, but I can lobby for you. Well, I'll stop there so I can carry on with your meeting, but I will stay if anyone is interested.

Cllr David Moore: you will need to remember that that was 1957, even some of us, that's a bit longer than...I was still only 5 when it happened.

Rachel Watson: well, if you have any memories David, well that's brilliant, thank you very much

Cllr Bran Harvey-Chadwick: I can take your info and put it on our socials to see if anyone round there can get back in touch with us, or directly back in touch with you,

Rachel Watson: that would be fantastic.

The Chair thanked Ms Watson and advised the meeting would move on.

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 Tallentire

5. To consider any planning issues

6.1 4/24/2105/OF1 - Sellafield - Installation of a single storey building to be used as a transfer facility

- No Objection

6.2 3/24/2107/OF1 - Sellafield - Installation of a 2-storey modular building within the main site - No Objection

6.3 4/24/2109/OF1 - Sellafield - Improvement works to main site area – No Objection

7 Reports from Councillors and working groups

7.1 Mid Copeland GDF Community Partnership

Visioning Subgroup has recently delivered a visioning workshop facilitated by external supply chain companies. Parish Council representatives were invited to the initial sessions and asked to give their parish aspirations in the immediate, medium and long-term timescales. Six themes were identified: - tourism & attractions, health & wellbeing, employment & skills, transport, housing, and environment.

Following on from the initial visioning session it is proposed to plan more sessions throughout the summer in Beckermeth, Seascale, Gosforth, Thornhill. Partnership Members were asked to suggest participants that could offer different demographics. Also, visioning sessions in four local schools are proposed.

Mid Copeland GDF Community Partnership Youth Engagement Strategy was circulated to all Partnership members. The purpose of the strategy is to clearly outline the Partnership's objectives for engaging with young people, recognising their importance as key stakeholders in the community. It is a working document and will be subject to annual review to ensure it remains relevant and responsive to the needs of young people. The strategy aims to establish better communication channels and increase engagement with younger people recognising their unique perspectives and the importance of including them in discussions about the GDF project. The intention is to tailor

events and communications specifically to meet the needs and preferences of young people, including seeking feedback directly from them.

There are broader benefits of youth engagement beyond project awareness, and the Partnership would look for ways that it can include skills development, leadership opportunities, and capacity building within the community.

Youth Engagement Strategy is very much about Partnership and collaboration, working with local schools, youth groups, and other relevant forums and networks to ensure that a diverse range of perspectives are captured and considered. Feedback will be gathered from young people through various platforms and will provide a responsive approach ("you said, we did") as well as evaluating the activities that are organised.

Scouts Visioning:

Cllr David Moore: We may as well cover these under this might we? I fetched these posters, each of the groups, they have been working in groups of 6 and each one had a poster on their boards for their vision of the future of was, there was a good attendance of the kids there, GDF did the kids proud by ordering them a rather large heap of pizzas, and they assumed that the parents would be coming with the kids, but only 3 parents turned up, I did point out most people send their kids to scouts to get rid of them, not join them. Lizzie did provide refreshments for parents, but the parents were a bit thin on the ground, but the kids enjoyed it. I handed out certificates being the SPC rep that was there, and they had printed certificates for them all, it went towards one of the scout badges that they had done and they said I could keep these, I did say when I went around them, some of them are very advanced and wanted a monorail between here and Gosforth and things like that, But a lot of them were things I said to them this is what the future is, but this future could be a close future as some of the things are deliverable fairly quickly, so I think there is real opportunities at the moment to pick up a few of these and get some quick wins and some of them were just about dog muck and things, and just things they didn't like about Seascale, there was just dog muck and litter, I didn't want to point out that lots of the litter is stuff they leave, but I think it's important they are involved and they really wanted to be involved and they really enjoyed it so

Cllr Lizzie Mawson: that's great, is that what they produced? The kids?

Cllr David Moor: the kids produced all these themselves, now to be fair, when we worked with shackles off there was a youth worker from Inspira who worked with them, and he has now gone to work with NWS for youth engagement, so Inspira have not fallen out with us, we have not poached hi, they were quite happy for him to take a career step forward for him but, we have got someone who is really good at working with the young people, it's no good us going, most of us don't talk the same language as them, never mind know how to communicate, He did a really good job with shackles off and now he has gone to work with the NWS we are developing a youth strategy that will be underpinned by Inspira and use their links into school, We are also going to try and setup and engage a group of young children but we need to pick them off now at year 6 because they will all go off into different secondary schools, but if we can get a catchment now that we will be talking to in the primary schools it's effected, it doesn't matter where they go on to, if we can get them .

Cllr Lizzie Mawson: well now is the time to do it, as they are finishing their SATS, it will free up a load of space

Cllr David Moore: so we are going to all the primary schools and do some work with the year 6s and hope that when they move to secondary we keep them together no matter where they go to

Cllr Catherine Harvey-Chadwick: the year six teachers will really like that, they like a project, they got these year sixes and like to do something nice for them in their last year

Cllr David Moore: we are well aware that getting into secondary schools is very difficult as if it isn't linked to the curriculum and they are not giving them a wedge of money, school is not really focused

on that, so that's why we thought the ideal opportunity was to pick the cotaught up from year 6 and work with them where they may do in out of school time.

- 7.2** Cllr Bran Harvey-Chadwick: since last month I got back in touch with Design Works who are our current website people in Kendal to get a quote for a website upgrade and I also contacted a company in Milliom for a quote from them, I had a chat with the guy from design works, and he was like yeah we can give you an upgrade package bring you up to date and it will cost you £750 and £300 a year for hosting which is more than we currently pay. They also offered 1 to 1 consulting for anyone who wanted to help with the website which was like £65 an hour, that would be if there was an issue with the website and wanted it fixed. I wasn't very impressed with that.

The other guy was great, he was from a company in Millom called WHAMOS LTD, they are to do with the IT shop down there, I had a chat with him on the phone, they do parish council websites on and surrounding Millom they do Eskdale and Bootle and all those sort of places, if you want to have a look at any of them I have them open on here (my laptop) they are fairly nice, and....better than what we have, Now he is they were a whole new website is £1000

Cllr Lizzie Mawson: scrap ours completely?

Cllr Bran Harvey-Chadwick: yes, scrap ours completely, move all our data and everything, like we have all the minutes and everything, all of that will be moved over

Cllr Lizzie Mawson: Included in the £1000?

Cllr Bran Harvey-Chadwick: Included in the £1000 yes, so £1000 for the new website, plus £200 a year for hoisting and management

Cllr lizzie Mawson: and you bonded with him better than the other one?

Cllr Bran Harvey-Chadwick: extremely well, I sort of know him, not very well, but I have talked to him once, there was a ton of other stuff, ideas and things we can change, he is also happy to host and do our emails, so that will be bundled in, they will be in-charge of hosting and storing them, and migrating all of our Gmail stuff over to there

Cllr Lizzie Mawson: and what will they be using for that?

Cllr Bran Harvey-Chadwick: he didn't say, but he does it for all the other parish councils he works with and we will have a clerk@seascaleparish.com email address that will go through there, he talked a lot about GDRP and data protection and that sort of stuff so he knows what he is doing, Whenever we want something added to the website we send it to them and go can you put this on the website, and they will to have it on there within 24 hours, that includes the uploading the minutes. Will make like new pages and everything. He also said we should look at migrating our website domain to .co.uk instead of .com because its cheaper and more relevant to the service we provide, and they we can setup a redirect from our current domain to go to there, which they are happy to help setup.

Cllr Ian Tallentire: can I add a potential requirement as well? We've been speaking separately , when I attended the sports hall AGM a few weeks ago and one of the things that they were talking about was the potential of an online booking system, now I have been talking to Bran separately about this and it would end up being a web based system, I wonder if we can kill two birds with one stone and incorporate it into any new proposed website that we build here.

Cllr Bran Harvey-Chadwick: that is an interesting idea, because you could even branch out to that and go why don't we have an online booking system on the parish council website that lets you book, sports hall, library, other parish amenities etc, everything at once. However, an online booking system might be something that will take a bit longer to do and might have to come later because he said he can get this done in a month or so pretty much, the website as a whole, a basic website.

Seascale photos and walks will be updated, involve the parishioners in the project by asking for more up-to-date photos.

8 Finance

8.1 April Cashbook reconciled £96, 654.82

Creditor	Credit	Debit (gross)	VAT	Comments
Alicia Gee		37.50		Relief cleaner
Waterplus		92.34	1.67	Library water x 4 charges - Feb-Mar
WF Cascade		172.26	28.71	Toilet block supplies
Octopus Energy		33.55	1.60	Toilet block electric - March
Octopus Energy		802.89	133.82	Library electric - March
Waterplus		136.93		Toilet block water & wastewater - Feb-Mar
Catherine Harvey-Chadwick		46.00		Foreshore litter bins March
Zurich		3776.53		Annual subscription
CALC		380.42		Annual subscription
CALC overpayment		0.01		
Lisa Gee		37.50		Relief cleaner
TRGardens		416.00		Grass cutting
To General Reserve		30000.00		Internal transfer
Cumberland Council	25510.51			Precept
EE Ltd		24.28		DAV monthly SIM maintenance

8.2 May payments to date

TRGardens		416.00		Grass cutting
Quality Cleaning & Contracting Ltd		108.00	18.00	Litter bin emptying
Waterplus		73.09	0.26	Library water x 4 charges - Mar-Apr
Waterplus (A/C Credited)		0.00		Toilet block water & wastewater
Catherine Harvey-Chadwick		46.00		Foreshore litter bins April
Cumberland Council		1170.00		Foreshore trade waste bins
Cumberland Council		444.78	74.13	Play area inspections (Nov- Mar)
Octopus Energy		44.11	2.10	Toilet block electric - April
Octopus Energy		670.79	111.80	Library electric - April
Lakes Financial Results		100.00		Internal audit
WF Cascade		118.06	19.68	Bin bags
Quality Cleaning & Contracting Ltd		108.00	18.00	Litter bin emptying
Pelleyounters		18.65	3.11	Toilet block supplies
T&C Biggins		40.00		Replacement toilet block lights
Cumberland Council		624.00		1 x BMX litter bin 2023/24
TRGardens		416.00		Grass cutting
Alicia Gee		82.50		Relief cleaner
Gosforth Church		250.00		Churchyard donation

9 To consider matters pertaining to Parish Assets

9.1 Library – Cllr Tallentire reported he and Cllr Spokes had a very productive meeting with the trustees from the library in terms of trying to push the refurbishment forward. The key obstacle was the library shutting down for some period of time. I know Cllr Moore had approached the cricket club about them temporarily moving into that area, and once we offered them that as a potential solution, very very quickly we got things moving, to the point where we have now come up with a final proposal and a very long list of wishes in terms of what they want from this project. However, funding will be needed for what is a hybrid of all the previous proposals and incorporated everything, we did try and keep it to a minimum. We have since met with Jen who produced the physical study from Dave Cummings, she has very kindly agreed to update that study to come forward with one option only in terms of projects, not even an options, one proposal only in terms of the project, she has kindly agreed to do that within our current funding as well, so we won't need any extra money for that either, she is going to come back and produce a new set of drawings for us.

9.2 Play areas – Nothing to report

9.3 Toilet block – The toilet block are again leaking and toilets not flushing well. A plumber who can carry out this work is needed.

9.4 CCTV – Just an ongoing issue with the signal with EE from the work on the mast on site, its not so much with the fixed ones, but the two on the path, the walkway they are not recording at all at the minute because you can get signal from EE, it works on a bridging network. Cllr Spokes contacted EE yesterday, one mast they can't get access to but they plan to replace it in the middle of this year, so by July/august time we will have 5G coverage, that's what they are rolling out on site right now.

9.5 Sports Hall – Cllr Tallentire reported it is still struggling at the moment in terms of the committee, and we have talked about it before. Cllr B Harvey-Chadwick advised he can put another call out on social media, on Facebook.

In terms of the revenue funding, it has decreased this year by £5300, mainly because they are running at a loss, it did include some big spends so they ordered new soft play, did some decorating and a new window. SPC are at a loss as to why the new window requirement was not mentioned as that is something the council should have funded. One of the problems is that people do not know how to book the sports hall and it is likely the C2C charge needs to be raised. The energy charges are also an issue.

10 Consider matters relating to the Highways and Transport

10.1 Cllr Ken Mawson asked if anymore has been regarding the demolition at the gas plant, and we asked for road improvements from Gosforth, have we heard anything back from that?

Cllr Moore reported he had spoken to highways, however, regarding 300 HGV movements, they are going to need to be putting something into the road, I don't think we will be getting anything this time, just because SPC were the only people who suggested it, but it was pointed out to them that it should maximise what will be known as a 106 agreement where the council would expect a contribution from the developer towards road improvements. SPC asked this was noted, but when highways are consulted, they put they have no objections. This is an issue when there are up to 300 HGV's coming along that road.

10.2 Related to the above, but also the impact the 'levelling up' of the A595 is going to be a serious problem for those wanting to use it between Calderbridge and Seascale. The road is going to be closed between 7pm – 5am. This is going to be a problem for all the residents who need to use this route. Road closures that have already started now, this month's down at Waberthwaite causing chaos and problems, but on the 28th of May they start in the middle of Calderbridge, the Calderbridge to Ponsonby will take 4 weeks, the road closure they have applied for us 7pm at night till 5am the next morning, so all the parish councils were represented, the road closure is a formal document, to say what time, they don't have to close the road, but they have to have paperwork in place if they want to, the road will be closed 7pm till 5am on weekdays (Monday to Friday) there will be two sections. It will take 4 weeks to get to Ponsonby then they will move, it will take a couple of weeks grace, then they will restart to Gosforth crossroads, which is another 6 weeks. This is going to be 8-10 week of closure, the point we put forward for can you not do the closure from 10pm, they could do it but it would take an extra 3 weeks to do the job, and they were not going for that. The position we got to is they want to negotiate, what they will do before they start up here, they will come and chat with us about what they want. Everyone has different views, the pitch at Calderbridge was if they are going to be coming past our houses with heavy machinery planning out, we'd rather you started at 7pm, they want the road shut at 7pm but nobody else does. In a night, they plane off enough to put 200 tons of tar in so, its really noising the planing machines would run 3-4 hours, and then they would come and put the tar down when the residents are in bed, then repeat this throughout the days, once they get out of the village Calderbridge would be comfortable to go a bit later.

What they have said is, even if this closure is in place, they are prepared to do what they call a 'Stack em', like a convoy system. Up until 10pm they would operate this system with an up to 20-minute wait, you are not guaranteed to pull up and be allowed through, they would stack you up and move you up until 10pm then they would do a hard close. However, this is not formally guaranteed or distributed to all the residents affected by this. Whilst the upgrade is needed it is likely to cause

substantial inconvenience, as there is no alternative route. Whilst a Whatsapp group will be set up that an engineer will be connected to, this will be of no use to those who do not have a Whatsapp facility.

10.3 It has been confirmed the photos Cllr K Mawson took of the footpath will result in it being repaired subject to a survey being carried out.

10.4 Cllr Moore has reported the footpath that goes to the footpath field, with bridge at the bottom. The bad news is they are going to close it until they get a new bridge on it. However, cattle use this and if signage is put up 'at your own risk' it is not much help to cows as they can't read.

11 Any Other Business

11.1 Cllr Spokes reported there has been a lot of negative posts about the artwork on the tower. Mr Holburt has said the village has a clock, it's the church clock but it is in need of refurbishment now he has said this was originally paid by the parishioners in 1937 and could SPC fund this. However, this is owned by the Church of England and it is the largest landowner in the UK. Cllr Moore also advised any funders will refuse requests for religious or educational projects.

11.2 There has been a positive response to the results of the community plan, however, 4g pitch has also been raised. One issue which must be considered is the shower, will washing off the sand result in blocking the drains? This will have to be investigated for viability.

11.2 Cllr L Mawson reported on a meeting with the headteacher at the school, they will be doing something with the children, to create posters and put stuff on social media about dog fouling in the village and I have put them in contact with the horticulture society and they are going to be

12 Correspondence

None

13 Members of the public questions submitted to Council

13.1 B Parsons asked if the arm on the flagpole broken and was advised it did need repairing. She noted it didn't last long. Cllrs explained it was the stormy weather that caused the damage.

13.2 Asked who Avison Young was. Council advised it was Sellafield's land agent. Asked why it was paying SPC £7,500? Council advised it is because they are Sellafield's land agent and pay SPC on behalf of Sellafield. B Parsons again raised the Sellafield 2021 agreement and continued to repeat the same and variations of the same questions/complaints. Stated "its not proper income" and does the external auditor know about this. Council advised yes, it is standard practice. (It was supplied in 3 the 2021-22 audit) B Parsons then raised an issue about specific words used and queried the amount the honesty box received. Council asked if there was any point to this? B Parsons then proceeded to insult "Cllr L Mawson for not being a successful business-woman, for not monetizing the car park correctly with parking tickets etc" and stated she "would not last 6 months".

B Parsons then returned to Avison Young and Sellafield questioning, ignoring the explanations previously given. Council asked B Parsons if there was any point to this? She asked "why are the residents not getting the proper value of the car park that we deserve, Sellafield are getting all the value and putting in a free bus service, and free parking for their contractors, but that doesn't include the residents of Seascale who are paying on their tax." Council advised that was not true. B Parsons then asked why the Council Tax goes up every year? Then complained about the Scouts mentioning the ice-cream parlour. Then continued to insult Lizzie Mawson and accusing her of using the parish council website to advertise her business. Cllr Moore advised this was the scouts' vision of the future of Seascale, to include all the successful businesses and facilities we already have and wanted to see them all on the website. B Parsons again referred back to Avison Young and stated "so Avison Young are going to continue to pay for Sellafield" and advised, "yes as they are Sellafield's land agent."

Update: On 3 May B Parsons also used the whatdotheyknow site 4 times to ask the clerk "At the Seascale Parish Council meeting May 1st 2024 Cllr David Moore Confirmed the first of 6 monthly

payments made by Avison Young and recorded in the 'CASH BOOK' for £7,500 to SPC was for a car park lease agreement starting October 3rd 2023 - April 2nd 2024. Under whose authority was the payment made? I request a copy of the lease agreement.”

The clerks’ response “Cllr Moore clearly explained to you at the meeting that Avison Young is the agent who makes the payments on behalf of Sellafeld DVA. The only lease agreement in existence is the one you have seen, which you referred to in your email on 23 October 2023 sent at 09:34am. Sections 14 and 17.6 apply”

The whatdotheyknow site removed 3 of the repeated requests and also the derogatory comments and allegations made by the requestor about the clerk.

Dates of forthcoming meetings

Full Council Meeting Wednesday 5th June

Summary of April Actions

- 5 (12.2) Clerk to contact dog club regarding GDPR restrictions and advise the offer must now be declined.
Actioned
- 6.1 Planning department to be notified of Councils Objection – actioned
- 6.2 Planning department to be notified of Councils No Objection – actioned
- 6.3 Planning department to be notified of Councils No Objection – actioned
- 8.4 Clerk to transfer £30,000 from Account 1 into the General reserve account to action
- 8.4 Two banking signatories required to authorise transfer
- 8.3 Cllr Tallentire to read library meter and send it across to the clerk, as all the bills are estimated
- 9.2 Alternative supplier has been found for the open spaces work. Cllr L Mawson to finalise the details with contractor. Cllr L Mawson to action
- 9.2 Cllr L Mawson/Moore to contact Cumberland C to confirm the continuation of the play area inspections
- 9.2 The footpath from Drigg Road down to the beach needs maintenance to cutback the overgrowth. Cumberland C parks and footpaths dept contacted to report, the location from The Croft, Drigg Road footpath leading down to beach. Reported to Highways reference EI/200332
- 9.3 Cllr Spokes to investigate the toilet block flushing and leak problems. Actioned
- 9.5 Cllr B Harvey-Chadwick to put details of Sports Hall AGM on the facebook page to encourage those interested to attend
- 11.1 Cllr B Harvey-Chadwick to collate the data received from the response to the community plan to recirculate to get an extra level of detail.
- 11.2 Cllr B Harvey-Chadwick to make enquiries for an upgraded website
- 11.2 Clerk to make banker card enquiries. Actioned and information forwarded to Council.
- 11.3 Cllr Tallentire to edit the asset management plan and recirculate
- 12.1 Clerk to complete, sign and return foreshore trade waste bin contract to Cumberland Council.
Actioned
- 12.2 NDA have not responded to the letter signed by multiple Parish Councils regarding its long-term neglect of local properties and a further one will be sent. Ponsonby and Calderbridge PC to be contacted and advised SPC Chair signatory to be added to this further letter. – actioned