

SEATON PARISH

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 21 MARCH 2016

Present:

Councillor P F Bateman	Councillor M I Jenkinson
Councillor Mrs K P Birkett	Councillor R McCracken
Councillor M T Ditchburn	Councillor J Musgrave
Councillor S Forrester	Councillor Mrs J Norman
Councillor A Grey	Councillor J Sandwith
Councillor Mrs L Harwood (Chairman)	Councillor K Slone
Councillor D Horsley	Councillor Mrs C Tibble

Clerk: P Bramley

Minute No. 1

Minutes of Meeting held on 16 March 2015

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 March 2015 be accepted and signed as a correct record.

Minute No. 2

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor C Woodman.

Minute No. 3

Annual report of the Parish Council

The Chairman of Seaton Parish Council, Councillor Mrs L Harwood, presented the Annual Report of the Parish Council's operations for the year ended 31 March 2016, The Chairman commented that the Council had been involved in matters in the parish in varying aspects, of which several were worthy of comment:

- 1) The possibility of a compulsory acquisition of land at Lowca Lane, Seaton, had been discussed at length with Seaton Allotment & Gardeners' Society, & with the Council's solicitor. The Chairman advised that she had previously sought the availability of suitable land from a local farmer, & that in 2016 he had proposed land at Meadow Vale, which he was willing to gift to the Council for provision of an allotment site. Whilst there were complications concerning the registration of land ownership, the matter was being pursued through the Council's solicitor.
- 2) A change in format to the Seaton Best Kept Garden & Container Competition 2016, through which Council members, as well as members of the public, nominated suitable gardens, had proved a success, with many more entrants involved.
- 3) Seaton Scarecrow Festival 2016 had been cancelled. It was hoped that it could be resurrected in 2016.

- 4) Poor weather had affected arrangements for entertainment planned in support of the Seaton Christmas lights switch-on event, a joint event with the Church, with most planned activities being cancelled. Vicar of Seaton Ian Grainger had kindly offered St Paul's Church to host a very successful show from local Britain's Got Talent singer Emma Jones, poet John Hastings & Seaton Choirs, organised by Michael Milner, followed by a short switch-on ceremony.
- 5) Severe flooding problems had occurred in Seaton in early December, & the extent of rainfall had caused drains to overflow & properties to be flooded, with roads blocked, particularly Lowca Lane.
- 6) The Parish Council introduced the 'Seaton Community Champion' award in 2015/16. The inaugural winner of the individual award for services to the parish was former Lollipop Man at Seaton Infants School Alec Hall, (sadly deceased), in recognition of his service to the village over many years. The winner of the group category was Michael Milner, very well known for his work with choirs in the area.
- 7) A flag pole had been installed on the wall of the Parish Rooms, which would enable the Union Jack to be displayed at suitable times. In addition, the Headteacher of Seaton Junior School had expressed interest in pupils designing a 'Seaton' flag.
- 8) Following the cessation of the evening bus service from Workington to Seaton, the Council had organised with Stagecoach a three month trial service running from Workington at 9.00pm. The service started on 21 March 2016 & if it proved successful, the Council would consider extending it.
- 9) Improvements to footpaths in Seaton had been made in 2015/16, funded by contributions from Seaton Cumbria County Council member Mrs Celia Tibble's ward budget, supported by a contribution from the Parish Council.
- 10) Allerdale Borough Council had made an award of £10,000 to the Parish Council for application on community projects. The Council had agreed to use it to fund: Meadow Vale Car Park resurfacing; support for a Community Garden development, (subject to agreement by Seaton Village Hall Committee), to consist of three polytunnels & suitable fencing; five trees on the greens at Seaton Shops crossroads; a 'Welcome to Seaton' sign sited on Calva Brow; a wall mounted & a post mounted notice board; & three seats on the greens at Seaton Shops crossroads, (& the re-siting of the existing seat).
- 11) The development of a Nature Reserve at Brick Dubs was an ongoing project. The Council had worked with Groundwork North East & Cumbria in 2015/16 in developing ideas for the site, with input from Seaton school pupils & the community.
- 12) Proposals for the development of Jackson Street Play Area had been prepared by Groundwork North East & Cumbria, with significant input from Seaton school pupils.
- 13) Improvements continued to be made to Seaton Village Hall & funding had been agreed to support the improvement of disabled facilities to the building in 2016.
- 14) Carl Holding had resigned his position on the Council in December 2015 & the Council had co-opted Councillor Kate Birkett to fill the vacancy.

Minute No. 4

Questions from members of the Parish Electorate

There were no questions from members of the public present.

The meeting finished at 7.10pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date