

SEATON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 JUNE 2015

Present:

Councillor P F Bateman

Councillor M T Ditchburn

Councillor S Forrester

Councillor A Grey

Councillor Mrs L Harwood (Chairman)

Councillor D Horsley

Councillor C J Holding

Councillor I M Jenkinson

Councillor R McCracken

Councillor J Musgrave

Councillor Mrs J Norman

Councillor J Sandwith

Councillor K Slone

Councillor C Woodman

Clerk: P Bramley

Minute No. 28

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs C Tibble.

Minute No. 29

Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were received from Councillor S Forrester, Item 16, Planning Applications 2/2015/0308, 2/2015/0311 & 2/2015/0296, Personal; & Councillor Mrs J Norman, Item 16, Planning Applications 2/2015/0308, 2/2015/0311, 2/2015/0337 & 2/2015/0296, Personal.

Resolved that the declarations of interest be noted.

Minute No. 30

Requests for Dispensations

None received.

Minute No. 31

Minutes of Meeting held on 18 May 2015

Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 18 May 2015 be accepted and signed as a correct record.

Minute No. 32

Police Report

PCSO Laura Crears provided an update for the previous month. The report advised of the following incidents in the previous month:

- A bike had been stolen from outside the Royal Oak
- There had been two incidents of theft of alcohol from shops in Seaton
- Incidents of youths shooting wildlife on The Welfare were investigated
- A number of incidents on Seaton Carnival day, 13 June, including planters damaged & broken; anti-social behaviour & severe violence, possibly gang related. The incidents were subject to a wide & ongoing investigation.

PCSO Crears advised that the Police did not have sufficient numbers to support staffing at carnivals & that carnival organisers were responsible for marshalling.

Resolved that the report be noted.

Minute No. 33

Progress Reports

1) Clerk

Resolved that the progress report be noted.

2) Village Hall

Resolved that the report be noted, including disabled access improvement works & that congratulations be offered to the Village Hall Committee on the positive turnaround in operations from the position some two years previously.

Minute No. 34

Allotments

Members received an update on the position concerning the Council's arrangements for the provision of allotments.

- 1) It was noted that, following a meeting of the Allotment Working Party held on 28 May, the Clerk had written to Persimmon Homes regarding possible use of land at the western end of Meadow Vale as allotments, but had received no response.
- 2) A possible conflict had been reported by the Council's barrister advising on the likelihood of a compulsory acquisition of land at Lowca Lane being successful, in that he had previously given advice to some of the Council's former tenants on that site. He had advised that in his opinion, there was not a conflict, but that he would not be able to act were the interests of the Council & the former tenants opposed.
- 3) The Council's solicitor had advised that, since the Council was still awaiting the advice of counsel on the likelihood of a compulsory acquisition of land at Lowca Lane being successful, the Council's position would not be compromised by the release of information to Mr R Hunter stating that such advice was still awaited, (Minute 11(2) refers).
- 4) Former councillor Mrs K Birkett had offered land for temporary use as a site for chickens, etc, when the Lowca Lane site was vacated.

- 5) The Council's barrister had advised that he was available for a conference in the week commencing 22 June, for which 25 & 26 June were considered the most suitable dates.
- 6) Further consideration was given to the document, 'Seaton Allotment Proposals', (Minute 13 refers), distributed to members at the previous meeting. Possible problems with the use of common land for allotments were discussed.

Resolved that the position be noted & that:

- 1) A written report on the likelihood of a compulsory acquisition of land at Lowca Lane being successful be requested from counsel, together with an indication of the costs of his services, & that a conference meeting be not held at this stage.
- 2) The Council contact Cumbria County Council to seek advice on the status of Brick Dubs as common land & its possible deregistration for part-use as allotments.
- 3) A meeting of the Allotment Working Party be held prior to the next Council meeting at which the proposals for Brick Dubs could be considered further.

Minute No. 35

Public Questions

- 1) Mr P Haughin of Seaton Allotment & Gardeners' Society stated that he supported consideration of the land at Meadow Vale & Brick Dubs for an allotment site.

Minute No. 36

County & District Councillors' Reports

1) Allerdale Borough Council

Councillors M I Jenkinson & J Sandwith advised that they had nothing to report.

Minute No. 37

Defibrillator

Councillor C J Holding had met with representatives from the North West Ambulance Service to consider the most suitable location for a defibrillator. Advice had been received that Seaton Service Station was unsuitable due to the risk of explosion. Firth House was considered suitable & owners Your Derwent & Solway Housing Association had agreed to accommodate the facility, which Councillor Mrs C Tibble was seeking to arrange support funding for.

Resolved that the Council support the siting of a defibrillator at Firth House & provide revenue funding in future years, (Minute 207/2014 refers).

Minute No. 38

Allerdale Borough Council Community Grant Application 2015/16

A number of proposals were put forward for application of funding, including improving the infrastructure of the village, such as through provision of signs & flower beds; upgrading the Road Crossing near Seaton Service Station; improvements to Jackson Street Playing Field; & contributing to the provision of an allotment site.

Resolved that the matter be considered further at the next meeting.

Minute No. 39

Christmas Celebrations

Resolved that the matter be deferred until the next meeting.

Minute No. 40

Public Presentation of Council News & Information

Resolved that the Council contact its website host to seek information on possible improvements to the facilities offered by the site, such as a contact management system & local news feature.

Minute No. 41

Provision of Flower Beds & Trees

Resolved that members identify possible sites for the siting of flowers, flower beds & tubs, & trees, for further consideration at the next meeting.

Minute No. 42

Development of a Council Plan

Resolved that the Council seek assistance in developing a plan from a suitable expert in Council Plan preparation, subject to support funding being identified as a part of the work.

Minute No. 43

Planning Issues

Councillors S Forrester & Mrs J Norman left the room for discussion on items on which they had declared an interest.

Resolved that the following observations on planning applications be made:

Reference No:	2/2015/0308
Applicant:	Mr Mark Hodgson, C/O Telford Planning Associates
Proposal:	Outline application for change of use of land to residential
Location:	Lowca Lane, Seaton

No Objections to the development, however, it be proposed that Allerdale Borough Council utilise the provisions of the Section 106 agreement to provide funding to cover the additional school facilities required which would result from the impact of more families in Seaton.

Reference No: 2/2015/0311
Applicant: Mr Graham Langcake
Proposal: Rear part two storey extension
Location: 33 High Seaton, Seaton
No Objections

Reference No: 2/2015/0337
Applicant: Mr A D Allison
Proposal: Outline application for erection of single storey dwelling
Location: Barncroft, 16 High Seaton, Seaton
No Objections

Reference No: 2/2015/0296
Applicant: Mr Ken Wilson
Proposal: Installation of single wind turbine, maximum height to tip of 45m
Location: Moor House Farm, Winscales, Workington
No Objections

Resolved: that the following planning application decisions made by Allerdale Borough Council be noted:

Reference No: 2/2015/0194
Applicant: Mr Andrew Bromley
Proposal: Two storey extension
Location: 20 Derwent Bank, Seaton
APPROVED

Minute No. 44

Accounts – June 2015

Resolved that the accounts listed in the schedule, totalling £1,348.00, be agreed for payment.

Minute No. 45

Banking Arrangements

Resolved that the Council seek to change its banking arrangements to a suitable provider with improved returns in comparison to its current provider.

Minute No. 46

Internal Audit Report 2014/15

Members received a report from the Council's Internal Auditor, Sharron Scholey, following her audit of the 2014/15 accounts. Ms Scholey concluded that procedures being followed were effective & efficient, for which the Council should be commended. It was suggested that information be provided in quarterly reports to help explain budget variations, that receipts be issued for any cash & cheques received, that some additions be made to the risk register & that arrangements be made for the Bus Shelter at Barncroft Avenue to be specified in the Council's insurance policy.

Resolved that the report be accepted.

Minute No. 47

Meeting Extension

Resolved that an extension beyond 9.00pm be agreed to allow proper consideration of the following items of business.

Minute No. 48

Correspondence

Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.

Resolved that:

- 1) Further to responses received from Cumbria County Council with respect to the Parish Council's proposals concerning the evening bus service to Seaton, (Minute 214/14 refers), the Council seek to arrange a meeting with Stagecoach to discuss the issue further, represented by Councillors A Grey & J Musgrave.
- 2) Further to a request received from Mr T Magean, Allerdale Borough Council Town Centre Manager, for suitable sites & potential groups interested in assisting with the Seaton Community Volunteer Clean-up day, 10.00am until 1.00pm on Tuesday 7 July, together with a request for the cost of refreshments to be met by the Council, the Council suggest the Cycleway through the centre of Seaton as a site requiring cleaning; schools as a potential source of volunteers: & provision of refreshments to a maximum cost of £100, or £5 per head, as appropriate.
- 3) Further to a request for information concerning specific issues relating to recent cuts in public transport, received from Mr T Magean, Allerdale Borough Council Town Centre Manager, including cuts where no viable alternative had been put in place, the Council advise Mr Magean of the problems caused by the cancellation of evening bus services in Seaton.
- 4) In response to a letter received from Mrs June Bowes concerning the problems experienced by her great granddaughter in trying to use the play facilities at Jackson Street Playing Field, the Council advise that the field was checked on a daily basis, that the incident referred to was an unfortunate one & that the Council was looking into providing equipment for older children on the field, which would be separately sited to that of the current provisions, (Councillor J Musgrave requested that his name be recorded as voting against the proposal).

- 5) No substitute be agreed for Councillor M I Jenkinson, who was unable to attend the Iggesund Community Liaison Group meeting to be held on 16 June.

Minute No. 49

Councillors' Reports

- 1) It was agreed to contact the vicar following reports received of overgrown trees growing in St Paul's Churchyard blocking light to properties on St Paul's Avenue.
- 2) It was agreed to support Seaton Junior Football Club in its proposals to improve the condition of Meadow Vale football pitches, noting that grants were potentially available.
- 3) It was noted that members should provide nominations for the Best Kept Garden & Container competitions to the Clerk by mid-July.
- 4) It was agreed to investigate ownership of land to the rear of Seaton shops.
- 5) It was agreed to investigate the possibility of dropped kerbs being installed at the junctions of Cape Road & Ling Road, & Cape Road & Inner Ling Road, & outside Seaton library.
- 6) It was agreed to contact Cumbria County Council concerning the provision of a grit bin at the top of Croftfield Road, including provision of necessary funding for the bin.
- 7) It was agreed to contact United Utilities concerning the proliferation of rats behind properties on Donald Road.
- 8) It was agreed to write to Cumbria County Council concerning the extent of weeds around Seaton, at road & pavement edges, & concerning the obscuration of the 'Welcome to Seaton' sign by overgrown trees on Calva Brow.

Minute No. 50

Next Meeting

Members were advised that the next meeting would be held on 20 July 2015 at 7.00pm.

The meeting finished at 9.40 pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date