

SEATON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 FEBRUARY 2016

Present:

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

Clerk: P Bramley

Minute No. 189

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor C Woodman.

Minute No. 190

Declarations of Interest

A declaration of interest was received from Councillor K Slone, Item 7, Personal.

Resolved that the declaration of interest be noted.

Minute No. 191

Requests for Dispensations

None received.

Minute No. 192

Minutes of Meeting held on 18 January 2016

Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 18 January 2016 be accepted and signed as a correct record, subject to the amendment of 'Telford' to 'Grimley' in Minute 173(1).

Minute No. 193

Police Report

Resolved that the Police Report be noted.

Minute No. 194

Progress Reports

1) Clerk

It was noted that the consultant assisting the Council with the submission of a funding bid to support the development of a Council Plan had not responded to contact attempts since December.

Resolved that the progress report be noted.

2) Village Hall

It was noted that the Village Hall Committee Annual Meeting would take place on 25 February.

Minute No. 195

Allotments

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

- 1) The Chairman had contacted the farmer concerning the possibility of the land at Meadow Vale under consideration as an allotment site being dug over/prepared. He had responded to say that whilst he totally understood the enthusiasm and frustration of the gardeners, it would be a complete waste of his time and theirs to meet or indeed do anything until the ownership of the land had been accepted by the Land Registry. He wished it to be made clear to them that he did not own the land at the moment; it would in the first instance have been owned by his late father and only when Title had been established would he, as executor of his father's estate, be able to make decisions on what happened with it.
- 2) The Council's solicitor advised that he had prepared a Statement of Truth in support of the farmer's application to seek registration of Field number 86, (part of Roger Flat), in his name as Executor for his late father. Because it is believed that what remains of Roger Flat was owned by his father at his death, it was deemed appropriate that the application was made to first register the farmer as owner, (as his father's Executor), and then, assuming that application was successful, he would transfer the land to the Parish Council, at which point it would be registered in Seaton Parish Council's name.
- 3) The Council's solicitor advised that it was not appropriate for the land in question to be prepared for allotments at this stage. The land needed first to be registered with the farmer as his late father's Executor, so that he would have satisfactory evidence of ownership, (bearing in mind that although it is believed the land is comprised in his late father's estate, the original Deed is missing). Secondly, the control of allotment land would be more appropriately dealt with by the Parish Council than a private individual. Whilst there was the problem of the timescale for the Land Registry to deal with it, Seaton Parish Council could not give permission for prospective allotment holders to go onto the land & the farmer needed to have his late father's ownership accepted by the Land Registry.
- 4) The Council's solicitor advised that the Statement of Truth, (see (2) above), had been completed & forwarded to the Land Registry. He reminded the Council that the timescale involved could be considerable; current paper applications were taking at least twelve weeks & a more complicated issue he had dealt with had taken some five months for the Land Registry to deal with.

- 5) The Council's solicitor advised that he had managed to obtain from Milburn's Solicitors a copy of the Deed under which the farmer's father had acquired the land, marked as examined with the original in 1979. Whilst the original Deed was not held, a copy of a Certified Copy would assist.
- 6) Further to Minute 172(2), Councillor R McCracken advised that he would forward to members, as requested, a copy of documents prepared depicting possible layout arrangements for an allotment site at Meadow Vale.

Resolved that the position be noted.

Minute No. 196

Public Questions

- 1) Mr Michael Tubman of High Seaton advised of flooding problems behind his home at High Seaton. He was advised that Cumbria County Council Area Highways Manager Karl Melville had visited the site with a local resident who had similar flooding issues. Problems with a drain at the top of Sunnyside had been identified & a drain in the fields in the area was the wrong size. Unfortunately the impact of major flooding problems on the area's road network was impacting on reparatory work. Councillor Mrs C Tibble agreed to keep Mr Tubman informed of progress.
- 2) Mr Paul Haughin of Seaton Allotment & Gardeners Society, (SAGS), asked if SAGS could be kept informed of ongoing issues concerning the provision of allotments by the Council, which was agreed, subject to matters having first been reported to the Council. Mr Haughin also asked if a meeting of the Allotment Working Party could be arranged in the future; it was agreed that a meeting would be held at an appropriate stage.

Minute No. 197

County & District Councillors' Reports

1) Cumbria County Council

Councillor Mrs C Tibble advised that she had nothing to report.

2) Allerdale Borough Council

Councillor M I Jenkinson requested that members take particular note of information circulated by the Clerk concerning flooding.

Councillor J Sandwith advised that he had nothing to report.

Resolved that the reports be accepted.

Minute No. 198

Co-option to vacant Council position

The Council had received three applications to fill the vacant position on the Council created by the resignation of Mr Carl Holding, following notice being placed inviting interest. Applications had been received from Mrs Kate Birkett, Mrs Joyce King & Mr Rodney Vaughan. The Clerk advised that a letter of withdrawal had been received from Mrs Joyce King on the day of the meeting. A vote took place for the remaining candidates, which resulted in a vote of 7 to 6 in favour of Mrs Kate Birkett.

Resolved that Mrs Kate Birkett be co-opted to the Parish Council.

Minute No. 199

Application for Financial Assistance – Seaton Royal British Legion Homing Society

Resolved that a grant of £100 be awarded to Seaton Royal British Legion Homing Society to assist with the society's running costs.

Minute No. 200

Application for Financial Assistance – Kieran Hodgson

Resolved that a grant be not offered to Kieran Hodgson, as the proposed usage of the funding was not considered to meet the Council's requirements concerning the potential benefits attributable to the Parish.

Minute No. 201

Jackson Street Playing Field Improvements

It was reported that the Cumbria element of Groundwork North East & Cumbria had recently folded, impacting on the potential path forward for the Council.

Resolved that a Jackson Street Play Area Working Party, to consist of Councillors Mrs L Harwood, Mrs J Norman, Mrs C Tibble &, (if agreeable), Mrs K P Birkett, be established to consider options & make recommendations to the Council on how to progress the planned improvements.

Minute No. 202

Scaw Bank Footpath

The Council had previously agreed that funding from Councillor Mrs C Tibble's Cumbria County Council ward budget be allocated towards works on rights of way in Seaton, (Minute 103 refers), which included works to the older footpath at Scaw Bank. At a site meeting held on 23 January, alternative works the newer path were identified by members, the cost for which had been quoted as £1,267, compared to the cost of improvements to the older path previously quoted at £445, an increase of £822.

Resolved that the improvements identified on 23 January be undertaken & the additional cost be met from savings identified in the Council's Christmas Lighting budget & from the Ground Maintenance budget, supplemented by additional funding from Councillor Mrs C Tibble's Cumbria County Council ward budget, the latter subject to agreement.

Minute No. 203

Christmas Celebrations 2016

Resolved that the cost of additional Christmas Lights to be displayed in St Paul's Churchyard, & the cost of a power supply post on the green beside the junction of Causeway Road with Main Road, to support an additional Christmas tree, be investigated, & that a Working Party consisting of Councillors S Forrester, Mrs L Harwood & Mrs C Tibble, be established to make recommendations to the Council.

Minute No. 204

Grants

Resolved that the draft standard grant application form be adopted, subject to the addition to the conditions of grant that a report advising on the outcomes of the project for which funding was sought be forwarded to the Council & to the addition of the words, 'for Seaton', to Question 3, & that all non-annual grant applicants be required to submit a satisfactorily completed grant application form with effect from 2016/17.

Minute No. 205

Public Presentation of Council News & Information

Resolved that consideration of a draft format of newsletter be deferred, noting that it is the format & not the news content which is required to be determined in consideration of the draft.

Minute No. 206

Bus Shelter Provision

Resolved that it be noted that Mr Ian Mitchell had agreed to fund & arrange installation of a bus shelter at Calva Brow, Seaton, & that Cumbria County Council be contacted to seek permission for the provision of a shelter in Seaton.

Minute No. 207

Local Emergency Access Centre

Resolved that it be noted that Allerdale Borough Council was responsible for the determination of Emergency Centres & that the Parish Council request that Allerdale consider & consult the Parish Council on the location of a suitable centre.

Minute No. 208

Speeding Surveys

Resolved that the Council contact Mr Phillip Groom, Cumbria County Council Traffic Management Officer, to ascertain the current position regarding the application of speeding surveys in Seaton.

Minute No. 209

Provision of Dog Bins in Seaton

Resolved that members advise the Clerk of suitable sites for additional dog bins to be located for notification to Allerdale Borough Council.

Minute No. 210

Flooding & Drainage

Resolved that Councillor Mrs C Tibble report the problem of blocked drains in Seaton to Cumbria Highways & seek a resolution to the issue, & that the Council make representations to Allerdale Borough Council, as Planning Authority, regarding the extent of investigative work carried out by Allerdale concerning flood management arrangements to be provided as a part of a development, given the apparent reliance by Allerdale on developers' proposals for flood risk management.

Minute No. 211

Neighbourhood Development Plan

Resolved that the matter be deferred pending clarification by Allerdale Borough Council of its policy for community infrastructure levies in its Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document.

Minute No. 212

Planning Issues

Resolved that the following observations on planning applications be made:

Reference No: 2/2016/0019
Applicant: Mr Shaun McGuirk
Proposal: Domestic Garage
Location: 50 High Seaton, Seaton
No Objections

Reference No: 2/2016/0063
Applicant: Mr Alan Irving
Proposal: Erection of garden building at rear
Location: 35 Lowca Lane, Seaton
No Objections

Minute No. 213

Accounts – February 2016

Resolved that the accounts listed in the schedule, totalling £5,130.02, including payments agreed at the meeting, be agreed for payment.

Minute No. 214

Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit 2015/16

Resolved that, from the evidence available, it be considered that the Council's arrangements for Internal Audit, taking into account its size & range of operations, complied with the requirements of the Accounts & Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006.

Minute No. 215

Internal Audit Plan 2016/17

Resolved that the Internal Audit Plan 2016/17 be agreed.

Minute No. 216

Correspondence

Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.

Resolved that:

- 1) No comments be offered to Allerdale Borough Council in respect of its consultation on its draft Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document.

- 2) The Council accept an offer received from Workington Academy Business Manager Sarah Allison to meet to discuss the provision of a Seaton School Bus Service, & that Councillor Mrs C Tibble & the Clerk represent the Council in meetings on this matter.
- 3) Further to a letter received from Mr David Metherell on behalf of Seaton Rangers ARLFC expressing concerns at the extent of dog fouling on Seaton rugby fields, the Council contact Allerdale Borough Council advising it of those concerns & request the provision of a dog bin in the vicinity of Seaton rugby fields.
- 4) Following receipt of information requested from Citizens Advice Allerdale in respect of a funding request, further consideration to the request be given at the next meeting.
- 5) Copies of relevant information received from Mr & Mrs B Workman concerning flooding concerns at High Seaton be distributed to members.

Minute No. 217

Meeting Extension

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

Minute No. 218

Councillors' Reports

- 1) Mr Les Smallwood of 2 Orchard Close, Seaton, had requested information concerning the ownership of the culvert carrying Ling Beck. It was noted that the Environment Agency had recently organised a survey of the culvert, indicating its responsibility.
- 2) It was agreed to write to Sustrans thanking it for the work undertaken recently by the Community Payback Team on drainage running alongside the cycle track in the Seaton area.
- 3) Following reports of safety concerns expressed by pedestrians using the footpath under the bridge on the Main Road near Seaton Academy, particularly for children, the Council contact Cumbria County Council regarding the possibility of the installation of a suitable barrier, for which consideration of funding could be given by the Parish Council from its 2016/17 community funding grant due to be provided by Allerdale Borough Council.
- 4) The presence of rats in back gardens on Ling Road, Cape Road & Donald Road be notified to Allerdale Borough Council.
- 5) A non-operating street light be notified to Cumbria Highways, following notification to the Clerk of its number by Councillor K Slone.
- 6) A non-operating light above the pelican crossing on Seaton Main Road, be reported to Cumbria Highways.
- 7) A meeting of the Brick Dubs Working Party be arranged to consider options on progressing Brick Dub's development as a Nature Reserve for recommendation to the Council.

Minute No. 219

Next Meeting

Members were advised that the next meeting would be held on 21 March 2016, following the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm.

The meeting finished at 9.05 pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date