

SEATON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21 MARCH 2016

Present:

Councillor P F Bateman	Councillor M I Jenkinson
Councillor 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. 220

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Woodman.

Minute No. 221

Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest were received from Councillor A Grey, Item 18, Planning Application 2/2016/0132, Personal as an employee of Northern Rail; Councillor Mrs L Harwood, Item 18, Planning Application 2/2016/0101, Personal as Secretary & Treasurer to Seaton Club for Young People; & Councillor K Slone, Item 7, Personal & Prejudicial.

Resolved that the declarations of interest be noted.

Minute No. 222

Requests for Dispensations

A request to speak on Item 18, Planning Application 2/2016/0101, was received from Councillor Mrs L Harwood.

Resolved that the request be agreed.

Minute No. 223

Minutes of Meeting held on 15 February 2016

Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 15 February 2016 be accepted and signed as a correct record.

Minute No. 224

Police Report

PCSO Laura Creers attended the meeting & reported vandalism to cars had occurred on 19 March on Braeside & Rose Beck; no suspects had been identified. She reported that opportunist burglaries had occurred on 6 & 19 March. It was reported that some vandalism had occurred to the recently installed seating at Seaton shops; PCSO Creers agreed to check CCTV footage from the nearby security camera. Councillor Mrs C Tibble reported a case of graffiti on the road at Fernleigh Drive, which appeared to be directed at the Clerk. Councillor Tibble expressed her disgust that an employee of the Council, whose role was to carry out the decisions of the Council, should be so targeted & advised that it was the duty of members of the Council to report to the Police anything they knew of the matter.

Resolved that the Police Report be noted.

Minute No. 225

Progress Reports

1) Clerk

Councillor Mrs C Tibble provided further information on items concerning Cumbria County Council which she had discussed with Kevin Cosgrove of Cumbria Highways. Blocked drains on the main road had been cleared; dropped kerbs were currently being introduced in Seaton; access had been arranged to maintenance records of culverts; speed recording boxes were available to volunteers; & Sue Hayman MP would hold a meeting in Seaton to discuss flooding issues on 16 April, 10am until 12pm, at which experts from various organisations would be present to assist. A twelve hour assessment of traffic movement in the vicinity of Seaton Academy had been carried out on 17 March, which had identified 172 pedestrians & 312 vehicles, the peak being between 8.30 & 9.00am. The majority of parents taking pupils to Seaton Academy had parked in Seaton ARLFC Car Park, however, a number had parked in contravention of parking restrictions, so posing a danger to both their own & other children, as well as other vehicles. Councillor Tibble advised that the number met Cumbria County Council guidelines for the provision of a school crossing patrol, but not for a pedestrian crossing. Nevertheless, she would continue to pursue the provision of a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the school.

Resolved that the progress report be noted & that publicity to support the trial Seaton Evening Bus service, operational from 21 March for three months, be agreed.

2) Village Hall

It was noted that usage of the Village Hall had continued to increase. The necessary funding for disabled adaptations to the building had been arranged & work was expected to start in June on those, together with alterations to the Bower in support of Seaton Bowling Club. Councillor Tibble reported that she was seeking funding for a separate building for use by the Bowling Club.

Resolved that the progress report be noted.

Minute No. 226

Allotments

Members received an update on the position concerning the Council's arrangements for the provision of allotments. Councillor K Slone left the meeting for the duration of this item.

- 1) Members had received a copy of the notes from the Allotment Working Party Meeting held on 10 March 2016, from which a number of matters of clarification required consideration by the Council.
- 2) The farmer whose land at Meadow Vale the Council was planning to develop as an allotment site had, further to a request from Seaton Allotment & Gardeners Society, (SAGS), advised that he would, without prejudice, grant permission for SAGS representatives to arrange for the land to be sprayed with weedkiller, so long as it was accepted that it was entirely at their own risk & did not lead to an attempt to take any form of occupation or possession. The position had been confirmed by the Council's solicitor.
- 3) The Council's solicitor had responded to an enquiry about the Council seeking to acquire the land in question directly. He advised that the route currently being followed should be continued, as the farmer did not have the original Deed as evidence of ownership, which the Land Registry would need to be satisfied with. The success of the application to register the farmer with title to the land was essential to the Council acquiring the land. If the farmer held the original Title Deed, the Council could deal with him directly, but that was not the case.
- 4) It was reported by Councillor M Jenkinson that a resident had reported concerns with the proposed allotment site at Meadow Vale in terms of proximity to properties, noise & dogs on the site.

Resolved that the position be noted & that:

- 1) Subject to it making arrangements to ensure that it was established as a properly constituted group, SAGS be appointed to administer the Meadow Vale site on behalf of the Council, operating in accordance with the council's policy & procedures, to be determined, & paying over to the Council such rent as is agreed when due.
- 2) Consideration be given to the Council's contribution towards the development of site infrastructure at Meadow Vale site once a proper plan of the proposed site had been developed for which the infrastructure costs could be estimated, draft measurements for which were under preparation by SAGS for discussion with the Council.
- 3) The Council agree to register the Meadow Vale site as a statutory allotment site, subject to consideration of the potential costs & to the registration being possible.
- 4) Further to Minute 228(7) 2013/14, which stated that 'It be agreed that, upon acquisition of an allotment site by the Council, the Council's former allotment holders be given preference in the allocation of plots', SAGS be requested to provide a record of the last known users of the Lowca Lane site, for comparison with the Council's records, & the Allotment working Party be asked to make recommendations to the Council on the arrangements to be followed in determining tenants for the Meadow Vale site.

Minute No. 227

Public Questions

- 1) Mrs Kate Workman reported that she lived in a property where Ling Beck was above ground, & that the Environment Agency had advised that it was planning major works to the beck's infrastructure, where problems with the culvert had been identified. She also advised, with respect to land at High Seaton which Story Homes was hoping to develop, that site investigations had identified mine workings indicating a basis of extraction akin to open cast mining. She was concerned that Story's may be planning to infill the fissures in the land, so making the surface impervious & causing more surface water drainage. Mrs Workman was thanked for her information.
- 2) Mr Paul Teasdale reported concerns with water drainage at Quality Corner, near to Brown's Place, particularly from a new housing development on the site. Councillor Mrs C Tibble advised that County Highways had plans to investigate the site & that she would advise that drainage in the vicinity of Brown's Place be checked in particular.
- 3) Mr Paul Haughin of SAGS stated that:
 - a) If there was any insinuation in the graffiti referred to in Minute 224 resulting from actions of SAGS members, he could advise that was not the case.
 - b) Annual allotment rents in the area ranged between £47 & £57.
 - c) Mr K Walker was the only former tenant of the Council who had maintained more than one plot at the Lowca Lane site.
 - d) He held a Waiting List, Councillor K Slone held a Waiting List & he understood that the Council held a Waiting List. He was hopeful that agreement could be reached in arriving at a suitable position concerning occupancy arrangements for the Meadow Vale site.

Minute No. 228

County & District Councillors' Reports

1) Cumbria County Council

Councillor Mrs C Tibble reported that over the previous two years, the number of Cumbria Highways management staff had been reduced from thirteen to four. To assist in managing queries, Highways managers had requested that any enquiries from Council members be routed through the Clerk, rather than directed to individual officers, to facilitate more effective management, as records of work were being lost through Council staff leaving.

2) Allerdale Borough Council

Councillor M I Jenkinson advised that, following the introduction of dog control areas in Seaton, he perceived that the environment had been cleaner over the previous two to three months.

Councillor J Sandwith advised that he had nothing to report.

Councillor Mrs C Tibble advised that she had attended a briefing of Part 2 of the Supplementary Local Plan. She advised that it was essential that the Parish Council offered comments, as if a site was included in the plan as suitable for housing development, it was implicit that it would get planning permission. The proposed Story Homes development at High Seaton was cited as an example. She advised that it may be advisable to hold a separate meeting to review the position.

Councillor Tibble also advised that Allerdale Scrutiny Committee had recently reviewed the Cycletrack maintenance service provided by Sustrans, & that the organisation had been successful in its bid for Heritage Lottery funding, which would facilitate substantial works in the area.

Resolved that the reports be accepted.

Minute No. 229

Application for Financial Assistance – Citizens Advice Allerdale

Resolved that a grant of £250 be awarded to Citizens Advice Allerdale to assist with the organisation's running costs.

Minute No. 230

Meeting Extension

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

Minute No. 231

Seaton's Got Talent

Resolved that the Council agree to support the 'Seaton's Got Talent' competition 2016 run by Mr Michael Milner, & that prizes of £50 for the under 16's competition & £100 for the over 16's competition be agreed.

Minute No. 232

Pavement Resurfacing

Resolved that the Council contact Cumbria Highways again concerning the poor state of pavements in the Coronation Avenue area.

Minute No. 233

Seaton Scarecrow Festival 2016

Resolved that the Council hold a festival in 2016 & that a Working Party, consisting of Councillors S Forrester, Mrs L Harwood, D Horsley & K Slone, be established to manage the event.

Minute No. 234

Seaton Best Kept Garden & Container Competition 2016

Resolved that:

- 1) The Council hold a Best Kept Garden & Container Competition in 2016.
- 2) A Working Party consisting of Councillors Mrs K P Birkett, M Ditchburn, A Grey & Mrs L Harwood be established to manage the event.
- 3) In addition, the Council invite Seaton Junior & Infant school pupils to participate in a 'Tallest Sunflower' competition, for which the Council would provide sunflower seeds.

Minute No. 235

Queen's Birthday Celebrations

Resolved that:

- 1) The Council seek information to support the provision of an open air cinema event for villagers in celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday in 2016.
- 2) The Council seek information on the number of pupils at Seaton Junior & Infants schools in consideration of the provision of specially minted coins for pupils in recognition of the Queen's 90th birthday.

Minute No. 236

Allerdale Borough Council Community Grant

Progress on implementing projects funded from the 2015/16 grant provision was noted. It was reported that, aside from the development of community gardens, which awaited notification from the Village Hall Committee, & a wall mounted notice board on the Hunters Drive shop, all projects had been completed or were in progress. Allerdale Borough Council Town Centre Manager Mr Toni Magean had advised that the Council could reserve unused monies pending arrangements being made to progress the projects outstanding. Councillor K Slone advised that he had, on behalf of the Council, reached agreement with the owner of the shop on Hunters Drive for a notice board to be affixed to the external wall of the shop; there had been no stipulations regarding the size or siting of the notice board which could be fitted. Consideration was given to potential applications of 2016/17 Allerdale Borough Council Community Grant funding. The following projects were suggested:

- 1) Notice Boards for High Seaton & Coronation Avenue areas of Seaton.
- 2) Replacement bridges over the streams below Scaw Bank footpath, which had been washed away in the December flooding.
- 3) A pedestrian safety barrier under the bridge outside Seaton Academy.
- 4) Queen's 90th Birthday celebration minted coins for Seaton schools' pupils.

Resolved that members advise the Clerk of further proposals for the application of the funding for consideration by the Community Grant Working Party.

Minute No. 237

Public Presentation of Council News & Information

Councillor R McCracken reported no further progress on the development of a trial example by Councillor A Grey & himself for consideration by the Council.

Resolved that a local supplier be commissioned to produce the newsletter on the basis agreed, (Minute 156 refers).

Minute No. 238

Planning Issues

Resolved that the following observations on planning applications be made, (note that Councillor Mrs L Harwood left the room for consideration of Planning Application 2/2016/0101, after advising of the reasons for the submission of objections to the proposal by Seaton Club for Young People, & Councillor A Grey left the room for consideration of Planning Application 2/2016/0132) :

Reference No: 2/2016/0101
Applicant: Mr Jack Bhardwaj
Proposal: Change of use from A3 Café to A5 Hot Food Takeaway, (with extractor flue)
Location: 80 Main Road, Seaton
Objection given concerns with lack of parking availability outside the takeaway, & potential odour problems for households in the vicinity.

Reference No: 2/2016/0167
Applicant: Mr & Mrs P Scott
Proposal: Remove conservatory & build dining room extension
Location: 1 Barncroft Close, Seaton
No Objections

Reference No: 2/2016/0132
Applicant: Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
Proposal: Installation of rock armour for railway protection
Location: Royal Armour Compound land south of Flimby, Maryport
No Objections

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

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

Minute No. 239

Accounts – March 2016

Resolved that the accounts listed in the schedule, totalling £7,869.99, including payments agreed at the meeting, be agreed for payment.

Minute No. 240

Review of Assets 2015/16

Resolved that the Assets list 2015/16 be agreed.

Minute No. 241

Correspondence

Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.

Resolved that:

- 1) Consideration of provision of a path in Jackson Street Playing Field, following a request received from two correspondents, be undertaken by the Jackson Street Playing Field Working Party.
- 2) The Council agree the increased cost of maintenance of Jackson Street Playing Field submitted by the Council's contractors.
- 3) No financial support be offered to the British Red Cross.
- 4) The Council not hold a beacon display in celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations, given that other proposals were under consideration.
- 5) No further comments be offered in respect of the notification of an appeal in respect of Planning Application 2/2015/0337.
- 6) Councillor Mrs L Harwood seek further information concerning the provision of a bus shelter at Calva Brow, following a request from the Cumbria County Council Bus Infrastructure officer.
- 7) Consideration of a request for funding received from Mr John Miller of Seaton ARLFC be given at the next meeting.

Minute No. 242

Councillors' Reports

- 1) It was suggested that the Council give consideration to inviting local businesses to sponsor the provision of flower beds in suitable places in Seaton.
- 2) Further to a receipt of a request for the provision of a plaque in recognition of the services to Seaton of former Parish Council Chairman Mr Clifford Hodgson, the Council seek information for the provision of a plaque to be sited at the base of one of the trees at Seaton crossroads.
- 3) The Council contact Allerdale Borough Council Environmental Health Services concerning the disturbance caused by the regular firing of a bird scarer, understood to be on land at Oyster Bank owned by Mr Ian Mitchell & leased by Mr John Bowe of Schoose Farm, Workington.
- 4) It was reported that further investigations were taking place into water leakage on Causeway Road, & that a resident had fallen & incurred a broken leg in the vicinity.
- 5) It was agreed to consider further the provision of bridges across streams below Scaw Bank at the next meeting.

Minute No. 243

Next Meeting

Members were advised that the next meeting would be held on 18 April 2016.

The meeting finished at 10.10 pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date