

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th March 2022 at 7:30pm
Venue: Sedgwick Village Hall

Present: Cllr B Holmes (Chairperson), Cllr B Tanham (Vice), Cllr G Stoker, Cllr A Holmes, Cllr D Rathbone, and Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk) and No members of the public attended.

- 146/21 Apologies:** It was resolved for apologies with reasons given that were accepted by Sedgwick Parish Council, Cllr W Burrow- work commitment, he observed the meeting on a virtual link as an observer. District Cllr R Bingham – not available as he is attending Milnthorpe Parish Council meeting tonight.
- 147/21 Non-Attendance:** County Cllr B Gray
- 148/21 Minutes:** It was resolved for the Vice-Chairperson to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 9th February 2022 as a true record.
- 149/21 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests:** Cllr B Tanham declared that as she is the owner of a part of the canal towpath, she can take part in discussion regarding the Canal but cannot vote on any decisions. Sylvia Roberts the Parish Clerk also declared that her Son-in-Law Stuart Lambert would be a useful contact for providing a quote for the construction of a stone/slate bus shelter. It was agreed that if there are any further dealings with this contractor that Cllr B Holmes would deal with the matter not the Parish Clerk. Also The Parish Clerk would leave the room at item 15 (h) Finance in order to allow the Council to discuss CALC National Pay award/scale for 2021 year.
- 150/21 Public Participation:**
- A resident has requested grant funding for her son's summer orienteering trip to Norway. The Clerk will inform the resident the Parish Council that the Council grant application criteria does not include covering individual's activities, so they are unable to support this request.
 - A resident raised concerns about fireworks events at the Villa not being displayed on the notice board by the Council. The Clerk would contact this resident and advise the resident to contact The Villa directly so they can pursue the matter themselves. It has previously been established that the displays are legal. The Villa does not always give sufficient notice to the Council to act. When information is received it is advertised on our Facebook page and in two places on the website. This will continue. If residents need up to-date information, it is their own responsibility to contact the Villa directly.
- 151/21 Reports**
- Police Report:** The Council are receiving Covid Police Updates and a monthly community newsletter. The Clerk had contacted the Community PCSO and had established PC Walker had moved to another area so she has contact PCSO Newman and Sergeant S Scott-O'Neill in order to invite them to SPC APM 16th March. PCSO Newman has introduced herself but stated she will not be attending any PC Meetings and they no longer provide Parish Reports. The Council are disappointed with this lack of community engagement compared to areas adjacent to the Parish and asked the Clerk to find out if any drop-in sessions would be available for residents to speak to their designated PCSO Newman.
- District Cllrs:** Cllr R Bingham – full report displayed in the noticeboard.
- County Cllr B Gray:** Cllr D Rathbone added that SLDC Programme Board was organising the shadow Council which had to be in place by May 2023. Cllr Rathbone has invited Cllr Jonathan Brook- SLDC Leader to attend the next meeting-16th March 2022
- Play Equipment funding – Polly Straker SLDC has responded to SPC and was very helpful although no funding was available via SLDC but suggested Cumbria Community Foundation.
- Village Hall Report:** The Broadband upgrade took place on 16/2/22.
- 152/21 Cllr Jonathan Brook – SLDC–** will be attending the APM next week to talk about Local Government Reorganisation and what it means to SLDC
- 153/21 Vacancy of a Parish Councillor:** The Parish Council have advertised the Casual Vacancy - to date no applications have been received.
- 154/21 Planning Application submitted/received:** None received

155/21 Sedgwick Parish Council COVID 19 – Cllr B Holmes reported the restrictions have been lifted.
Correspondence: SLDC news Release 24/2/2022 SLDC Support for those effected by Covid1/3/22 & SLDC Test site Closures 3/3/22. It was agreed the Covid requirements are no longer required this item will be removed from the agenda next month.

156/21 Storm/flood response- Council discussed the alerts and information received – SLDC Storm Franklin 21_2_22, Met Office daily reports, Calc update on forth coming severe weather warnings

- Storm damage along the woodland canal path- repair undertaken by woodland contractor
- Cumbria Community Resilience Group – Letter from the Prime Minister- received and noted

157/21 Highways/Footpaths

- a) Highways Report - Cllr A Holmes updated the Council on outstanding repairs and would email Emma in Highways to confirm the correct location of the Sedgwick sign near the River Kent. A supplementary pedestrian warning sign has been installed at the aqueduct and the Village sign is due to be installed soon. Two potholes on Cooper Hill have been reported. Castle Hill Pavement work has been postponed again to 2023/4.
- b) Correspondence with Helen Karaaslan – we are still waiting for a response from our email of January 6th. The speed monitoring exercise had been completed in November and data was being reviewed in early December, then the monitoring was repeated in January. It was agreed to chase this up again.
- c) Cllr R Bingham has requested a replacement of the Back Lane sign, but it has not happened - he is still pressing SLDC for the reinstallation of the street sign.
- d) Bus Shelter Installation- a site visit had been undertaken to appraise the need for a shelter. The County infrastructure officer has confirmed a shelter would be recommended and that funding is available. This will require Council to provide plans and quotes. It was agreed the first quote would be sourced and reported back at the next meeting. Cllr Stoker has liaised with the resident living opposite the site.
- e) The Accident on Back Lane within the 30mph speed limit was reported on 21st February 2022.
- f) LAP Gritting Report for 2021-22 was made available to the Councillors and the contractor used by the scheme for additional gritting will no longer offer this service, so the scheme will end. It was accepted that the outstanding balance of £535.24 would be sent back to SPC

158/21 Canal Wildlife Area Report

- a) Monthly report was discussed and is available in the cabinet and on the web site.
- b) Further storm damage has brought down and damaged several trees, the contractor surveyed the damage immediately and removed a tree blocking the path and the Council have instructed him to carry out further emergency felling and removal of damaged trees by the end of March.
- c) Usage remains high and over the aqueduct it is very muddy.
- d) Restocking of the woodland in line with the felling license will be undertaken by the contractor before the end of March; the saplings arrived on 8th March
- e) LCRP Interpretation Installation of iron sculptures/way markers at Sedgwick Aqueduct - A decision by SLDC has yet to be made as amendments are required by CRT.
- f) Cllr B Tanham and Cllr B Holmes met with CRT this week and they have noted the state of the path and vegetation including root damage to structure. The CRT are liable for maintenance and will come up with a 5–20-year management plan. They will investigate safety measures such as a rail for the steps and a rail opposite the installation.
- g) Cllr B Tanham has ascertained that from David Gibson that CCC will part fund path repairs, but they would have to be commissioned through the CCC and would therefore possibly be more costly. She was also informed that we will need to acquire a path and/or road closure for any future planned felling. She is finding out the cost and time implications of this. This does not apply to dealing with storm damage. This may change the way we deal with felling in the future.
- h) Cllr Stoker has repaired the information sign which was letting in rainwater.

159/21 Playground /Millennium Field

- a) Monthly Safety Report- by Cllr Stoker reported he had checked the field and replacement stumps will be fitted in the spring, the wooden climbing frame has been checked and the splits are not rotten, wood sealant has been administered on the top bars. It was agreed to remove all the Covid signage and equipment. It was agreed to arrive early at the next meeting to inspect the site.
- b) Correspondence Polly Straker -Locality Team Leader SLDC explained no funding was available from SLDC at present to support replacing the Tree Man slide but she supplied a list of funding providers and said if any funding became available, she would contact SPC.
- c) Equipment replacement – update costings/funding/equipment was discussed with three quotes required before funding could be sourced. Cllrs Burrow, B Holmes and Stoker are working together on-site visits and funding, they will update the Council at the next meeting on the progress. Cllr Tanham reported her husband had expertise in raising funds and would be willing to assist. It was agreed for Cllr Burrow to liaise with Mr Tanham.
- d) Safeguarding Policy – was discussed and points agreed to be added on next month's agenda with training and policy approval

160/21 Website/social media: Cllr B Homes reported that the website has been updated and was well used. Also, the Covid information had been updated to reflect the recovery phase of the pandemic. Additional new information has been added to the millennium field page giving the history of the Tree man slide

161/21 Finance

- a) The bank statements were received - Bank Balance as of 28 February Current £7,602.43 & Reserve £10,040.15
- b) Payments Approved: Shell Energy Broadband February £16.98, RBLI plaque £154.99, S Roberts Salary/expenses £1,579.02, J Park Storm damage work £ 580.00, J Park Tree planting £180.00 and Shell Energy Broadband March £18.98 and ICO annual fee £35.00, Printing Plus £139.11 Newsletters.
- c) Accounts reported on 9th February & 9th March which cleared the bank account was approved by Cllr A Holmes
- d) To sign the accounts reported on 9th March & 9th February 2022 cleared the bank account
- e) It was unanimously agreed to Appoint George Blenkarn Auditor for 2021/22 Accounts
- f) Update inventory PC 2016 324.98 – was obsolete and will be disposed of. PC 2021 £ 282.50
- g) SLDC News Release -Council tax rise of 1.5% was received and noted
- h) Parish Clerk left the room whilst Council discussed her annual appraisal and pay review. Council congratulated the Clerk on her outstanding efforts over the past 12 months. The CALC recommendations regarding the National Pay Scale award for 2021 was noted and it was unanimously agreed to back date payment with an increase of scale award from scp22 to scp23 amounting to £193.44 payable immediately.

162/21 Sedgwick Annual Parish Council Meeting 16th March 2022 – arrangements were agreed. Cllrs would discuss their specific areas of responsibility; the invited speaker would be Johnathan Brook SLDC Leader The Parish Clerk has invited participants and prepare the draft budget. Cllr B Holmes has collected the refreshments, and all is organised for next week's meeting

163/21 March Newsletter – received on 1st March and had been distributed to all residents. The size was A4 which was agreed if it was the same costing as A5.

164/21 The Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons- 2nd June 2022: Councillors attended the meeting 16th February with Stainton PC & Crosscrake Church. Plans are going to include a marquee being erected to serve refreshments for the weekend. The proposal that the costs of this will be shared by both Parish Councils was agreed The Royal British Legion Queen's Canopy plaque has arrived so the Council will shortly arrange the planting of a tree to commemorate the Jubilee Celebrations. A further email would be sent to the WI inviting them to the installation of the plaque. Next meeting 23rd March.

165/21 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Highways/Millennium Field/Website/Canal Report
- Local Government Reorganisation
- Millennium Field/ funding and replacement equipment
- Safeguarding Policy training and approval at the next meeting
- 2021/22 Accounts completed for the audit

166/21 Correspondence: All the documents have been circulated to the Councillors.

- **EV Car Club Survey** – Kate Gilmartin Community Energy Investment Leader Rural Community Energy Fund NW: received and noted
- **CALC** - Local Government Reorganisation Newsletter February: received and noted
- **Cumbria in Bloom, Tourism and IYN awards 2022;** received and noted
- **CALC – Newsletter;** received, like to note the revamped editions are appreciated and the topics interesting news
- **Buckingham Palace Garden Party 2022- 25th May 2022:** due to Covid restrictions the previous chosen candidates would be invited for 2022 garden party
- **CALC Training Programme for March & April 2022:** received and noted

167/21 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next Parish Meeting will be on **Wednesday APM 16th March & 13th April 2022 at 7 30 pm** at Sedgwick Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9: 40 pm

Signed:..... (Chairperson) Date: 13th April 2022