

## SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12 October 2022 at 7:30pm Venue: Sedgwick Village Hall

**Present:** Cllr B Holmes (Chairperson), Cllr B Tanham (Vice), Cllr G Stoker, Cllr A Holmes, Cllr V Macconnell, Unitary Shadow Cllr D Rathbone, District, Cllr R Bingham and Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk) no members of the public attended.

The meeting was opened and began with a minute's silence in memory of our late Queen Elizabeth II

- 42/22 Apologies:** It was resolved to accept apologies with reasons given from Cllr W Burrow- work commitments.
- 43/22 Non-Attendance:** County Cllr B Gray
- 44/22 Minutes:** It was resolved for the Chairperson to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022 as a true record.
- 45/22 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.
- 46/22 Public Participation:**
- Council have received a complaint about changes to the post box collection time change. The Post Office have explained that it is to improve efficiency and that the number of collections remains the same and that only the timings are being changed. Consideration was given and it was noted that other residents are benefitting from the change. The resident will be contacted.
  - WI Officers update received, noted and details will be updated on the web page
- 47/22 Reports**
- Police Report:** The Council are receiving Police Updates and a monthly community newsletter.
- District Cllrs:** Cllr R Bingham – emailed report displayed on the Noticeboard and Website
- County Cllr B Gray: Shadow Unitary Cllr D Rathbone** reported The Shadow Unitary New Council has appointed three Officers who have progressed the blueprints of services required to the scrutiny committee. The Officers will be based in Kendal, Barrow and Carlisle but cannot take up their posts until end of December. The priority is on safe & legal. This is a transformation journey for Cumbria services will be run by a single Council, dual Council or remain the same. There is a strong mandate for keeping services local to areas. Cllr Rathbone reported: come April 2023 the changes will happen, and residents will receive the service that they receive now but will come to understand the differences. At present there are so many unknowns so if SPC have any questions to refer them to Cllr Rathbone or Cllr Brook.
- Village Hall Report** – we have received the Village Hall AGM minutes from 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022. It was noted that the Village Hall information on the website is very out of date and incomplete and the clerk was asked to contact the VHC for an updated list of the new Committee Officers and their contact information, the calendar of regular bookings. a list of Trustees and their constitution to display on the website and also to offer to display their Minutes on the website. The Village Hall have requested that the Council fund the Defibrillator upgrade cost of £204.00. This was proposed by Cllr Holmes and all agreed. They have also been approached by the NHS to provide a venue for a walk in clinic on October 18<sup>th</sup>. The venue is available but there would be a charge of £60 rent that unfortunately the Village Hall Committee would not cover. The organisers have asked the Council whether they would fund it. This was proposed by Cllr B Holmes and approved by all the Council.
- 48/22 Co-option of a Parish Councillor:** The Council considered an application from Val Macconnell offering her services as a Parish Councillor. Having discussed her application, it was agreed by all Councillors to co-opt her to the position with immediate effect. The Clerk was instructed to email Cllr Macconnell the necessary paperwork for completion and return to SLDC in order to complete the process. Cllr Macconnell was welcomed to the Council.
- 49/22 Update Declaration of Interest Forms:** Councillors were reminded if they had any changes, the Parish Clerk handed out new forms which they could update and forward to SLDC

- 50/22 Training:** Calc update September – December 2022, GDPR Training 12/9, Community Engagement, and a Community Plan & update CVS 2hr online training applying for funding. Social Media Training. It was agreed that anyone wishing to access any training to contact the Parish Clerk to arrange the booking of their request. Cllr Macconnell requested to attend induction training, and this was agreed.
- 51/22 Vacancy for Sedgwick Parish Clerk;** The Council was happy to receive notification that Sylvia would continue in this position until Summer 2023.
- 52/22 Annual Schedule of Parish Council Meetings:** The dates of future meetings were agreed. It was proposed by Cllr B Holmes and agreed by all Councillors to meet alternate months on the second Wednesday of the month with an extra meeting in March for the APM. This request would be forwarded to Sedgwick Village Hall Booking Officer along with the outstanding hire fee( £120 )and the Covid Vaccination hire fee (£60)
- 53/22 Planning Application submitted/received:**  
 SL/2022/0516 – Cricket Club Construction of new Changing Room Facilities – Planning Application  
 SL/2021/0383 – Land West of Sedgwick at Natland -29 Houses- Planning with a Decision  
 Land Allocation for the Local Planning Review - Cllr B Holmes reported that the SLDC Land Allocation web site was difficult to access with old news being mixed with present news and conflicting deadlines – it looked like the survey closed in November 2021. Cllr Rathbone was unaware of this problem and ask Cllr B Holmes to forward any objections from the Council before 28<sup>th</sup> October. He would also check if this deadline could be extended. Cllr B Holmes reported that although there are no requests for allocation in Sedgwick Parish there are numerous sites between Kendal and Natland/Oxenholme (effectively joining the three settlements), in Stainton (Shyreakes), Endmoor and Crooklands that will have a heavy impact on the Parish. Concern over the scale of these proposals and lack of adequate infrastructure was expressed. It was agreed that Cllr Holmes would collate concerns and circulate to councillors and forward this information to Cllr Rathbone
- 54/22 Highways/Footpaths**
- a) Highways Report – We have been informed that the pothole at Force Bridge has been repaired but it hasn't – Cllr A Holmes to follow up. After a two-year campaign, we have been informed that the pedestrian warning signs are to be replaced as they are faded. The grit bins are ¾ full but have water ingress so are crusty. The Riverside bin is unusable because it is being used as a dog poo bin.
  - b) On 12<sup>th</sup> May, Cllr B Holmes contacted Peter Hoskings to request an appeal against the anomaly of Cooper Hill not being on the gritting list as it is on a bus route and so treacherous when icy. Still No response has been received.
  - c) Correspondence with Helen Karaaslan – The outcome of the speed monitoring exercise which we were told did not support our campaign to get a 20mph speed limit in Sedgwick (which is supported by Cllrs Brook and Rathbone), was challenged in April on the grounds of the inconsistencies in the interpretation of data, increased traffic volume, lack of pavements and lighting, added hazard due to agricultural vehicles and the volume of extra traffic due to tourists. To date the Council has no acknowledgement or reply. Cllr Rathbone has also not been able to make progress in this matter and will chase this up again. It was agreed to approach a further Officer about how the Council can make progress in the future.
  - d) Cllr R Bingham has been contacted regarding the lack of action over the replacement of the Back Lane sign – he reported that he has offered to fund it out of his budget, his contact is Peter Clark who has reported that it is in hand.
  - e) Bus Shelter Installation. The Council were approached by residents to provide a bus shelter for people waiting for both service buses and school buses. The Council would like to encourage more people to use Public Transport so that services remain more viable and short journey car use is minimised and are aware that currently people have to wait under the aqueduct which is highly unsafe. The County Infrastructure Officer has confirmed that there is a valid need or a shelter and has submitted a grant application to provide Sedgwick with a bus shelter – after much research we have been recommended a heritage shelter made by Glasdon. Concerns over the location on safety grounds expressed by a resident, have been dismissed by the County and Council agreed that the provision of the bus shelter would significantly increase safety while also benefitting many people and being a asset to the community. It is not known whether this application will be successful. The cost of the Shelter from Glasson is £6,000.00. Cllr Tanham will contact Glasson to establish if this price includes installation and 3 quotes will be acquired for the groundwork.
  - f) Rubbish Bins: Cllr Rathbone gave the Parish Council an email address so they could request a rubbish bin by the Millennium Field and by the River Kent (to avoid the grit bin being used as a rubbish bin). This was agreed and the update would be provided at the next meeting.

## 55/22 Playground /Millennium Field

- a) Monthly Safety Report- by Cllr Stoker reported that he carried out the monthly inspection early in the week and said the field was well used, rubbish bins emptied, and equipment checked over. He has glued down the wetpour mat. The Tree Slide has a section of rotten wood under the slide which needs repair, and the Clerk was asked to contact D Willacy for his help in this matter.
- b) Equipment replacement – Three quotes covering 7 options for different slides were discussed. It was proposed by Cllr G Stoker that we should aim to purchase the Playdale , Freestyle slide on wetpour at a cost of £33,285. Funding updates would be discussed at the November meeting by Cllr W Burrow. Cllr Macconnell offered to assist with funding by organising a village fun run. This was thought to be a great way to start fund raising and she was thanked
- c) Sedgwick Parish Council Safeguarding Officer –deferred to Novembers meeting so that information could be distributed again on what this post entails
- d) The annual ROSPA inspection outcome was discussed: Areas of concern 1) Adventure Trail rotten timbers and damage from the strimmer. (to be filled in spring) 2) Tree Slide -fiberglass topcoat poor condition and wooden steps beginning to rot. (Continue to monitor) 3) Swing -wear to the floor (swing to remain at current height) 4) Basketball hoop only has one post – (there is not room for 2)

## 56/22 Canal Wildlife Area Report

- a) Monthly report by Cllr B Homes- This is available on the website and noticeboard, The Clerk would contact James Park to organise winter goat willow clearance/ inspection of the dead trees for Autumn, and removal of the rotten bench on the canal path. The footpath noticeboard information has been replaced.
- b) The opening of the Queens Canopy sign has been postponed until a future date to be agreed, maybe to coincide with King Charles III Coronation in May 2023
- c) At present there is a high level of usage along the Wildlife Area footpath including cyclists who are using the path even though it is not permitted.
- d) All but one of the No Cycling signs have been vandalised again. Cllr B Tanham met with PCSO Newman they carried out a village walk with Cllr Tanham highlighting all the issues in the Village. Cllr Tanham thought it was very productive and PCSO Newman offered to attend the APM if she was available.
- e) Cllr B Tanham reported The Canal and River Trust intend to remove the vegetation along/around the aqueduct in Autumn 2022 but that no update has been received so Cllr Tanham will contact Angela Green Officer for The Trust. It was agreed for Cllr B Tanham to contact Historic England to establish the ownership of the steps to try to progress the installation of a handrail. CRT hope to install the artwork installations at the end of the year but is still awaiting planning approval. A notice has been erected on site for an extension to the temporary closure. Ash Trees on the CRT owned land have ASD, Cllr B Tanham agreed to inform the Canal & River Trust. There have been no minutes of partnership meetings published since November 2020, so it unlikely we will find out what is happening. It was agreed for Cllr B Tanham to raise this issue with the LCRP Chairman Chris May and report back at the next meeting

**57/22 Website/social media:** Cllr B Holmes reported that the website has been updated and was well used. A request to have a rail link added was declined.

## 58/22 Finance

- a) The bank statements were received - Bank Balance as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 £ 9,403.37 & Reserve £15,044.11.
- b) To approve payments: Broadband Village Hall July /Aug £16.98 & Aug/Sept £16.98 & Sept/Oct £19.51 Holmes -Jubilee prizes £42.14 & ink cartridge £24.95- Cheque reissued, Printing Plus Newsletters £165.41, ROSPA Inspection £157.80, Wel Medical Update defibrillator £ 204.00, G Stoker repairs £20.43 and Room Hire £180.00
- c) Sign the accounts agreed on 14<sup>th</sup> September & 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and cleared the bank account.
- d) Shell Energy Broadband notification plan increase £2 per month from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022

**59/22 Summer Newsletter:** It was well received by residents and plans are now being discussed for the next newsletter. It was agreed to send a “Christmas Card” style A5 size card, and add information about the Land Allocation Plan, Proposed Bus Shelter, Vaccination Clinic, Defibrillator, Fund raising for the replacement play equipment and call for Coronation Celebration Volunteers.

## 60/22 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Highways/Millennium Field/Website/Canal Report
- Local Government Reorganisation
- Millennium Field/ funding and replacement equipment
- Winter Newsletter- A5 card size
- Safeguarding

61/22 **Correspondence:** All the documents have been circulated to the Councillors

62/22 **Open Action:** all received and noted

- Kendal River Corridor – Vision and Objectives –
- CALC- Local Government Reorganisation Newsletters 4/8/, 18/8/, 1/9, 15/9, 22/9, 30/9, 6/10
- SLDC- Invitation to online discussion about new Council – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October
- SLDC- Shadow Authority Newsletter 7<sup>th</sup> October
- CALC- Westmorland and Furness Council Plan -Draft
- CALC- Climate Change & Parish Council Toolkit for Climate Change 5/9/22
- CALC- Cumbria Local Authority Climate update 9/9, 10/9 - 22/9
- SLDC Local Planning Newsletter
- Levelling Up Bill – MP Tim Farron
- CALC- Invitation Town/Parish Council Flood & Coast Forum 20<sup>th</sup> October

63/22 **Date of Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the next Parish Meeting will be on **9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7 30 pm** at Sedgwick Village Hall.

*The meeting closed at 9: 40 pm*

Signed:..... (Chairperson) Date: 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022