

- **SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

Notes of the Council Virtual Meeting held on Wednesday 8th April 2020

The meeting was conducted remotely because of the COVID-19 crisis.

Present: Cllr B Holmes (Chairperson), Cllr R Gill, Cllr G Stoker, Cllr D Willacy, Cllr R Smith and Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk).

134/19 Minutes: It was resolved for the Parish Clerk to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2020 as a true record on behalf of Sedgwick Parish Council

135/19 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests: None

136/19 Public Participation: None received

Police Report: Not available due to Covid_19 lock down, assigned to other duties.

a) Information received from Cumbria Police Covid-19- update 28th March 2020 received

b) South Cumbria Constabulary

District Cllr Bingham, Cllr Harvey and District Cllr Cooper: No report received

County Cllr B Gray: No report received

Village Hall Report: No report received, but correspondence received Village Hall is closed due to the Covid_19 lock down.

137/19 Planning: Planning Application: -

- SL/2020/0198 The Orchard Wharfe Lane Sedgwick application for single store side & front extension and replacement front door. Cllr Willacy noted although it was an extensive extension there are no objections all Councillors agreed.
- Planning Application Online Workshop- Friday 17th April 10 30 am – 11 30 am, received and noted

138/19 Highways/Footpaths

a) The monthly highways report was received - update of dates of repairs - displayed on the website

b) Notice of 3-day road closure, start 20th April, location C5075 junction with C5071- displayed on website Clerk has also informed the bin collection which is on Monday 20/4 of this closure, so the depot can arrange early collection – As requested by Cllr Stoker

c) Update Changes to Bus Services across Cumbria- see CCC website for details received and noted

d) Road sign for Back Lane has come off the wall- Cllr Gill request The Parish Clerk to report it.

e) Grass Cutting - advised cuts will commence week 6th April- Clerk asked for it to be deferred.

Cllr Willacy stated if it wasn't cut by next month it would become a problem. Proposal to review on April 27th accepted.

139/19 Canal

- Monthly report by Cllr Gill - Repair to section of stone wall and foliage cut back monitored in May 2020.
- NLHF Steering Group –Project suspended as Carrie House is being furloughed. Wednesday 29th April 2020- Cancelled Due to COVID-19

140/19 Playground /Millennium Field

a) Monthly Safety Report – **Closed March 2020 due to COVID-19 lock down**, Adults reported using Equipment, PC Boak visited immediately and advised to lock the gate and he would check the area - Resident provided padlock and chain and field is now locked.

b) No dogs on Millennium Field – Cllr Holmes has received signs - yet to be displayed

c) Replacement stepping stump update Cllr Stocker completed

d) Replacement Goal Post update – yet to install

141/19 Website:

- Covid-19 information and updates have been put on the website
- Community Support Information – added to the website
- Parish Council information minutes, agendas etc update
- Website report 13 new hits with 16 pages viewed this week – 3rd April 2020

142/19 Sedgwick Parish Council Cabinet: due to COVID-19 lock down the Cabinet cannot be updated until further notice, but up to date Parish Council information will be available on the website

143/19 COVID-19 Update:

- Sedgwick Parish Council Adoption of COVID-19 Policy, distributed and agreed 18/3/20
- The Coronavirus Act, which the government introduced on 19 March, postpones any elections that were due to be held in May 2020 until 6 May 2021
- NALC communication indicates that where the Annual General Meeting of the Council is not possible, the officers will remain in place until the next General meeting. This was received and agreed
- Flexibility of meetings – email with information will follow, received and agreed - it is noted that not all councillors have internet so participation via platforms such as zoom may not be inclusive.
- Community Resources for emergency Support line and safeguarding, received and agreed
- Official UK Gov-Guidance for care of the deceased with suspected or confirmed Covid-19, received and noted
- Bereavement Support Information from CALC, received and noted
- Coronavirus Briefing Update – 1st April 2020, received and noted
- Cumbria Arts & Culture Network: Covid-19 Newsletter, received and noted
- Cumbria Police : Additional bed capacity created for Cumbrian Hospitals, received and noted
- COVID19 Support available to vulnerable people needing urgent help in Cumbria, received and noted
- Action Fraud Reports relating to Covid-19, received and noted
- Government Coronavirus Briefing – 31 March 2020, received and noted
- ICO Data Protection and Covid-19 Update, received and noted
- NALC Coronavirus Information, received and agreed

144/19 Sedgwick Neighbours and Friends Group: - At the start of the pandemic and with an absence of advice or support from SLDC or CCC,,a community resilience group was established on March 17th by Cllr Holmes and the Parish Clerk, as an independent group. Firstly information was sent via facebook to offer support to residents. The first volunteers helped to leaflet all houses with our own leaflet, before the lockdown on 23rd March. Further volunteers have come forward and have adopted a small area of the village to monitor and support with things like collecting prescriptions and shopping. The clerk maintains the list of volunteers and residents at risk.

Since April 2nd, SLDC/CCC have provided a contact emergency number 0800 7831966 and email COVID19support@cumbria.gov.uk but they are simply signposting people either to NHS (if they are in the group that should be shielding until June) or back to us if they are not. As of 8/4/20 they have been offered no help and calls from residents are being dealt with by volunteers within the village.

Graham and Jane Wadsworth have extended their egg shop at Raines Hall to sell basic food items and this has been well received.

The Website and both FB groups are regularly updated with

Volunteer Guidance from the Cumbria Voluntary Service and information about safeguarding has been received, noted and shared with volunteers.

Cllr Stoker wish it to be minuted a thanks was in order, to the good work carried out by Cllr Holmes and the Parish Clerk to have this Support Service up and running so quickly.

144/19 Finance

- a) The bank balance as of 30/03/20 Current £4,635.71 agreed and accepted
- b) Payments approved but not paid as cheque book requires two signatures this to be completed after the lock down period comes to an end: Broadband Village Hall DD April £17.99, B Holmes refreshments APM £29.12, Difb Signs reissue payment cheque cancelled £20.91, No Dog Allowed Sign £ 9.57 and Norton renewal £59.99
- c) Sign the accounts agreed on 11th March 2020 and cleared the bank account, agreed and accepted the Parish Clerk signed this document on behalf of Sedgwick Parish Council
- d) Current NALC advice regarding the financial year end and AGAR states that the
 - *publication date for final, audited, accounts for local councils will move from 30 September to 30 November 2020*
 - *the requirement for the public inspection period to include the first 10 working days of July has been removed. Instead, local councils must commence the public inspection period on or before the first working day of September 2020*
 - *This means that draft accounts must be approved by 31 August 2020 at the latest or maybe approved earlier where possible.*
 - *Authorities must publish the dates of their public inspection period this year, and the government recommends that they provide public notice on their websites (where available) when the public inspection period would usually commence, explaining why they are departing from normal practise for 2020.*
- e) We await instruction from PKF Littlejohn regarding our AGAR and financial year end processes including audit. Accounts will be prepared as usual by the clerk.

e) ICO Renewal Confirmation, received and noted

145/19 Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 18th March 2020. The meeting was cancelled because of the COVID-19 crisis but will be rearranged when possible

146/19 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Approval of accounts and governance statement
- Review Standing Financial Orders and Risk Assessments
- Highways Report
- Canal Report
- Sedgwick Parish Councillor Post Available

147/19 Correspondence:

- Action for Health & Health Provider Forum Bulletin, received and noted
- Calor Rural Community Fund – 1 week left to submit – not available to Sedgwick as mains gas
- Parish Council Green Funds, received and noted
- Parish Council News; new funding, raising community spirit and Coronavirus update, received and noted
- South Lakeland Area Support News, received and noted
- South Lakeland Community Resilience Group- Age Concern, received and noted

148/19 Date of next meeting

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council Virtual Meeting will be on **Wednesday 13th May 2020** unless the Covid-19 lock down is over and the Village Hall reopens - see previous notes regarding postponement of the Annual General Meeting.

Signed: (Chairperson) Date: 10th June 2020

Mrs Boyan Holmes

Members were reminded to check regularly for any updates regarding the COVID-19 crisis.