

## SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of Sedgwick Parish Council held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7:30pm

This meeting took place using the videoconferencing platform "Zoom".

Members of the public were given the opportunity to join the meeting online or by phone.

**Present:** Cllr B Holmes (Chairperson), Cllr R Smith, Cllr Stoker, Cllr B Tanham, Cllr A Holmes, Cllr Rathbone and Mrs S Roberts (Parish Clerk)

**108/20 Apologies:** It was resolved for apologies with reasons given, to be noted from PCSO Boaks, District Cllr R Bingham and County Cllr B Gray

**109/20 Non-Attendance:** District Cllr B Cooper and District Cllr T Harvey

**110/20 Minutes:** It was resolved for the Chairperson to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 as a true record.

**111/20 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests:** None

**112/20 Public Participation:** Correspondence received from resident on Back Lane- Councils report in the newsletter on cyclists – the issue was discussed under 11 Highways and a letter was agreed to a response.

#### **113/20 Reports**

**Police Report:** None Available due to Covid-19 lock down, but receive weekly updates on Covid\_19

**District Cllrs:** Cllr Bingham sent a report about Covid tier restrictions, the Oxford Zeneca vaccine is being rolled out in the area and over 70's are receiving it. Transport to the clinics is being provided tel 08001831696/ 08081963646 or hospital car service 01539 728180. Vulnerable children & key workers children are receiving food vouchers – information available from food voucher team, Schools are supporting children's education by lending laptops, further information contact Gill Holmes tel 0782512094. During this lock down food support is available by volunteers tel 08007831966. The police have spoken to lots of people around hot spots like Bowness and a party held in Ulverston.

**County Cllr B Gray:** Cllr Gray sent a report discussion are taking place about green signage '20 is plenty' which could be used in locations in Kendal. As County Cllr Gray cannot attend the meeting Cllr D Rathbone attended the meeting on her behalf and advise the Parish Councils during the evening

**Village Hall Report:** None received

**114/20** Cllr R Gill resigned as Parish Councillor due to work commitments caused by the Covid-19 situation. Cllr B Holmes thank him for his commitment, told him he was much valued member of the Council and how the Council appreciated his dedication in Parish Council matters. With the lockdown restrictions and proximity to May elections, it was agreed that the clerk will contact CALC to ask about the best way forward to appoint a replacement for Cllr Gill.

**115/20 Parish Councillors roles and responsibilities update:** a copy of the new roles will be displayed in the cabinet and on the web site.

**116/20 Training / Developing your Skills – CALC September to December 2020 & South Lakeland Area Support Training:** Cllr A Holmes has taken part in Effective Cllr module 9 on 16<sup>th</sup> Dec and Cllr B Tanham & Cllr A Holmes are taking part with the CALC Code of Conduct Training on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Cllr B Tanham attended Suicide First Aid Training on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

#### **117/20 Planning:**

SL/2020/0890 Raines Hall – Change of use of Land to pitch 12 touring caravans/motor homes/camping-was discussed and agreed the council had no objection.

SL/2020/0874 16 Hill Close -replace balcony for kitchen and create bedroom – Clerk to find out what the further information is before Council make the decision.

SL/2020/0973 Raines Hall – Concrete base - has been approved by SLDC.

**118/20 Sedgwick Parish Council COVID 19 –** Cllr B Holmes reported the update of helpline has been put on the website and will be on the forth coming newsletter.

**Sedgwick Neighbours and Friends Resilience Group.** This group remains in operation and will continue to support residents as the second wave worsens in the area. **Correspondence:** Local Resilience Forum News Release 26<sup>th</sup> November, SLDC area Support December Update, SLDC Leader Pack for December, Local Resilience Forum news 10<sup>th</sup> December & 17<sup>th</sup> December & 22<sup>nd</sup> December, CALC 31<sup>st</sup> December Area update of move to tier 4, CALC Covid-19 Information pack

## 119/20 Highways/Footpaths

- The Highways report was presented by Cllr Stoker. All previous faults are logged, and it was noted a further large pothole was to be reported by the River Kent. Cllr Holmes agreed to report it.
- Victoria Upton from CCC Highways department has replied to our letter regarding pedestrian safety where the footpath crosses Back Lane. Extending the speed limit is not recommended but road markings and a beware of pedestrian sign would be investigated by CCC.
- Since the last meeting, we have received various responses to our submission to the Police Commissioner and Cumbria Highways. Issues have also been passed to the CRASH team (South Cumbria Roads and Safer Highways) whose chair PC Jackson has responded personally.
- 20mph limit - resident requests to introduce a limit were considered at the CRASH meeting - however, the aqueduct is seen as a highly effective speed calming measure. 5 collisions in 10 years but only 1 in the last year have been reported. The CRASH meeting concluded "There is nothing at present which would demand a lowering of the speed limit" Council expressed disappointment at this outcome and agreed to question it. Cllr Tanham raised the point the village has no footpaths, only 1 road light and that this had not been taken into consideration and to say the aqueduct was a speed deterrent was not acceptable considering these factors. Concerns over the lack of pavements, the safety of people using the village hall, lack of lighting and the danger to pedestrians elsewhere in the village where motorists speed up, were also factors and this would be communicated to PC Jackson. Cllr Holmes will send a letter to him. **Residents are reminded to report incidents to the Police, so they have the correct data.** Cllr Rathbone suggested that the Council request a green sign stating '20 is plenty', this is easier for the highways department to justify. He informed the Council to contact Mo Dooz at Cumbria Highways to request this signage and any problems to come back to Cllr Rathbone. Cllr Holmes agreed to contact Mr Dooz.
- PC Jackson has suggested that residents form a community speed watch group to monitor traffic - he has offered training. Council agreed to investigate if this is feasible and report back at the next meeting.
- Safety at the aqueduct - highways have agreed to improve signage on the north side by the addition of a sign closer to the aqueduct.
- Carex Farm Crossroad safety - Victoria Upton has responded to requests by saying that engineering works to straighten road are not viable, but they have agreed to improve signage and will investigate whether additional markings or repositioned signs would help.
- Pedestrian and Cyclists at Back Lane and throughout village - PC Jackson has responded to concerns over cyclist and pedestrian safety by saying "The police are going to place out more warning signs in the new year once the new message has been approved as it's a bit more than the give cyclists space signs. Some will appear in and around the area and hopefully road users will take more care." Cllr Rathbone agreed to speak to Kendal cycle club about this issue.
- CCC are trying to increase their budget and funding maybe available for SIDS, which Sedgwick may be able to apply for in the longer term.
- Use of Sedgwick as a rat run - the CRASH team responded "Unfortunately, we cannot do anything about motorists using the road as a rat run as its not illegal."
- Gritting: the roads had not been gritted last Monday because the local service was unable to safely grit as it was too cold. There was an accident at the bottom of Cooper Hill because of the ice. The SLDC recycle lorry crashed on a gritted road because of black ice on the same day.

## 120/20 Playground /Millennium Field

1. Monthly Safety Report: Cllr Stoker reported the playground hand sanitizers have been replaced, bin emptied, equipment checked over all ok. David Willacy has agreed to repair the rotten wood on the tree house slide and Cllr Stoker would ask Mr Willacy who the contact was who emptied the grass cuttings bin as it was full. The annual cleaning of equipment will take place in a few months and new goal posts erected by Cllr Stoker.
2. Update on Covid-19 5/1/21 lockdown implications reported by Cllr B Holmes. The children's play area can remain open, but the adult gym equipment was closed. All Covid-19 measures are in place and risk assessment updated. The adult gym equipment has been cordoned off and signage displayed that this equipment cannot be used during lock down.
3. Monkey Puzzle Tree has been planted but the rabbits have been eating it, Cllr Stoker will fence /net the area around it as soon as possible.

## 121/20 Canal

- a) The monthly safety check by Cllr Gill was discussed. There are no new issues and he recommended further delaying the small wall repair until after the felling is carried out.
- b) Cyclists using the Canal Path – this has increased significantly since the lock down restrictions have been in place. All "No Cycling" signs are in position and cyclists should not be using the footpath.
- c) Woodland Management: the Canal Woodland Consultant Arboriculturist A.Hearn has confirmed receipt of the felling licence. The Clerk to has contacted the contractor to arrange a start date. He has agreed to

email a report outlining his work itinerary and contact Mr D Willacy to access the site. The licence requires the Council to restock any felled trees within a 6-year period.

- d) Cllr Holmes is trying to obtain grant funding to cover some of the felling work. A community grant for match funding could be applied for (£1500) and District Cllrs Bingham and Harvey have indicated that they could offer some support in April 2021.
- e) Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership - Winter Newsletter which has been received and noted.
- f) Towpath Trail Project – Virtual Steering Group Meeting Wednesday 25/11/2020 at 10 – 11.30 am, Cllr B Tanham attend the meeting and reported back. The need for a handrail on the aqueduct was raised again the Canal Trust said the Heritage Officer would need to view and approve this request. Cllr Tanham has reported to C House that the path above the aqueduct was very muddy and needed resurfacing. Due to accessibility, volunteers and Covid restrictions Carrie was not sure when this could be done.

Cllr Rathbone left the meeting and was thanked for his attendance.

#### **122/20 Website**

A verbal report was given by Cllr B Holmes who reported the website has not been accessed as often since the tourist season ended prematurely due to COVID 19. Updated information about Covid-19 has been added to the website with the helpline details and all updates have been added.

#### **123/20 Finance**

- a) Bank Balance as of 30 December 2020 Current a/c £9,813.18
- b) Payments Approved: Broadband Village Hall November £15.00, Calc Training £40 & £40, Printing Plus Newsletters £143.90 and Treble3 web hosting £156.00.
- c) The Accounts Report from meeting dated 11<sup>th</sup> November & 14<sup>th</sup> October including transactions cleared was signed. (Cheques awaiting signing and banking due to Covid-19)
- d) The VAT has been reclaimed for 2020 at the end of the year- amount £258.40.

**124/20 Sedgwick Precept for 2021/22:** In 20/21 Sedgwick precept was based on 191 houses subject to charges raising £10,693. 21/22 it is based on 189 houses. It was agreed and approved to an increase of 3% making the precept to £10,865.43. It is estimated that this would lead to an increase of £252.42. Cllr B Holmes and The Clerk to complete the paperwork and return it to SLDC. Cllr A Holmes asked if central government did not fund the houses which are exempt from charges, the Clerk agreed to ask SLDC and report back at the next meeting.

**125/20 Christmas Newsletter Update:** Other than the Cyclist issue no other comments had been received.

#### **126/20 Items for consideration for a future agenda**

- Update on Covid-19
- Highways Report with progress of outstanding issues
- Canal Report including Ash Die Back Report/ Grants available
- Millennium Field Report
- APM and newsletter - the clerk to contact CALC regarding virtual APM requirements.
- Darker Skies discussion

**127/20 Correspondence:** All the documents have been circulated to the Councillors.

- **Gifts/Hospitality Declarations:** received and noted
- **Legal Position on Parish Polls:** received and noted
- **CALC Parish and Town Elections;** received and noted
- **Standards Matter 2 : Public Consultation and Public Sector Survey by 15/1/21;** received and noted
- **ICO EU information;** received and noted
- **News Release – Bay Authority Bid and Councils agree to Bay Authority bid submission;** received and noted
- **CALC update Re: Government Reorganization in Cumbria;** received and noted
- **CALC Newsletter for December & November;** received and noted
- **Sedgwick History Information Cllr Tanham** received
- **SLDC news release - £500.000 plan to boost town – approved;** received and noted

#### **128/20 Date of next remote Meeting**

It was confirmed that the next Remote Parish Meeting will be on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7 30 pm.**

*The meeting closed at 9: 00 pm*

Signed: ..... (Chairperson) Date: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021