

## SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8 April 2015 in Sedgwick Village Hall at 7:30pm

**Present :** Cllrs B Holmes (Chairman), J Goodland, D. Willacy and G Willacy,  
Mrs J Davidson (Clerk), and no members of the public.

#### **147/14 Apologies**

It was resolved for apologies with reasons given to be noted from Cllr Oscroft.

#### **148/14 Minutes**

It was resolved for the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2015.

#### **149/14 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Willacy declared a non-pecuniary interest in - Agenda Item 11 a) - Sedgwick Village Hall - to receive and consider two quotations for the resurfacing of the path leading to the back door of the Village Hall - minuted as paragraph 157 i).

#### **150/14 Requests for Dispensations**

None.

#### **151/14 Casual Vacancy**

The resignation of Cllr Alan Bobbett with effect from 9 March 2015 was received and noted. A notice of the Casual Vacancy for a Councillor had been displayed on the Parish Council Notice Board from 13 March 2015. SLDC has now confirmed there had been no requests for the vacancy to be filled by election within the statutory 14 day period. Therefore it can now be filled by the Parish Council - by co-option - and from today an advertisement of the position has been displayed on the Parish Council Notice Board.

#### **152/14 Public Participation**

District Councillor S Eccles had conveyed her apologies due to being unable to attend this meeting.

#### **153/14 Planning**

It was noted that no planning applications had been submitted to - or granted by - SLDC since the last meeting.

#### **154/14 Highways/Footpaths**

- a) It was reported Cumbria Highways has confirmed an order has been placed for fencing to be provided for the top of the new wall adjacent to the river between Cooper Hill/Force Bridge.
- b) It was reported that fencing has been placed on the wall adjacent to the river next to Force Bridge. It is understood this has been done by the Canal and River Trust probably due to a Health and Safety requirement.
- c) Cllr Goodland reported that 30mph and other highway signs in the village have been cleaned by Mr Stoker. Appreciation was conveyed to Mr Stoker for carrying out this task.

#### **155/14 Playground /Millennium Field**

- a) The Parish Council reviewed the playground inspection report which had been carried out by Cllr Oscroft and received at the last meeting :
  - The two picnic bench tables/seats which it had been agreed were in a poor condition have now been replaced.
  - Cllr D Willacy and Cllr G Willacy would inspect the three bench seats around the edge of the field as they are considered to be in need of cleaning/re-painting and present a report.
  - Cllr D Willacy and Cllr G Willacy would inspect the large slide as it is considered to require cleaning and present a report.
  - Cllr G Willacy would obtain a quotation for the purchase and delivery of new chippings as it is considered that more are required around the base of the slide.

- The condition of the swing seats would continue to be closely monitored during the regular parish council inspections.
- The Clerk would obtain a supply of plastic bin liners for the waste bin.

#### 156/14 Canal

- a) It was reported there has been no further progress with the proposal to update the Sedgwick Canal Management Plan 1994 – 2014;
- b) Cllr Goodland presented a request on behalf of Mr Stoker who wishes to provide a panoramic sign – of approximately 18” x 12” – to be placed near to the ‘Stoker Seat. Mr Stoker has asked whether the Parish Council would give consideration to his proposal for which he would provide the project management and funding. The Parish Council agreed that - in principal - there should be no objection but formal permission would not be granted until an illustration of what is proposed has been seen. It was agreed that Cllr Goodland would convey this response with appreciation back to Mr Stoker.

#### 15714 Sedgwick Village Hall

- a) *Cllr D Willacy did not take part in any discussion or decision regarding this following item.* Two quotations – from 2014 - for the resurfacing of the path leading to the back door of the Village Hall were received and considered. It was resolved to approve the quotation of £770.00 (excluding VAT) which had been submitted by D.H.Willacy & Son Ltd.
- b) Cllr Willacy reported the Village Hall will be used as a Polling Station for the General Election to be held on 7 May 2015.

#### 15814 Administration

- a) **Society of Local Council Clerks’ Conference** – the Clerk reported she had attended a Society of Local Council Clerks’ Conference which had been held in Bolton on 25 March 2015. Items on the agenda had been :
  - Law for local councils
  - Managing your council’s risk
  - An update on neighbourhood planning progress, support available and examples of successful consultation and plan policies
  - Consulting with your community
  - Fracking
  - Employment workshop
- b) **Website** – the Clerk brought attention to the Parish Council website which she continues to update on a regular basis. Any feedback from Councillors and members of the public is encouraged and welcomed.
- c) **Office Facilities** – the Clerk presented a report regarding the provision of Parish Council office facilities. At the present time the business of the Parish Council is contained on the private computer of the Clerk which means that no-one else has immediate access and similarly the current e-mail address is not accessible to anyone else. It was agreed that this situation needs to be reviewed and in the first instance the Clerk was actioned to explore what would be the cost of providing a laptop computer.
- d) **Parish Council Notice Board** – appreciation was conveyed to Cllr D Willacy who has recently re-stained the Parish Council Notice Board.

#### 159/14 Finance

- i) **Insurance** – arrangements for all insured risks for 2015/16 were confirmed.
- ii) **2014/15 Payments/Receipts Report** – the Payments/Receipts Report for 2014/15 was received and noted.
- iii) **2014/15 Audit** - It was resolved for Section 1 – Accounting Statements for ... and Section 2 – Annual governance statement of the Audit Return for 2014/15 to be signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.
- iv) **2015 Millennium Field Grass Cutting** - two quotations were received and considered for the 2015 grass cutting contract for the Playground/Millennium Field. It was resolved that the contract for this year should be awarded to Continental Landscapes.
- v) **2015 Village Green / Back Lane / Canal Grass Cutting** - two quotations for the 2015 grass cutting contract for Village Green / Back Lane / Canal were received and considered. It was resolved that references should be requested from one of the contractors and Continental Landscapes should be asked to submit a third quotation for consideration. A decision regarding which contractor to choose would then be made at

the next meeting of the Parish Council. Appreciation was conveyed to Cllr D Willacy and Cllr G Willacy who kindly offered to cut the grass on the Village Green in the meantime.

**vi) Payments** - it was resolved for the following payments to be approved :

Zurich Insurance – Insurance Cover 2015/16	£314.02
James E Park Tree Services - Tree Clearance Work	£560.00
Stramongate Press – Printing	£ 28.80
Cllr B Holmes - Parish Meeting Expenses	£ 28.96

**vii) Receipts** – it was noted a cash payment of £20 has been received from a member of the electorate who has now removed the old picnic tables from the playground.

**160/14 Correspondence**

- Mr & Mrs D Parkes – Crooklands Crematorium Site Refused
- CALC - Circular April 2015
- Any other correspondence, notices and publications received since the last meeting and not included on the agenda was noted.

**161/14 Parish Meeting**

The Parish Meeting which had been held on Wednesday 11 March 2015 was reviewed. It was felt the meeting had been a positive one and had been well attended. A member of the electorate had brought attention to the condition of the road surface under the railway bridge. Also a request had been made as to the feasibility of there being a warning sign saying 'No Gritting in Village' to warn about the bridge which gets icy during the winter over the River Kent and Cooper Hill. The Clerk was actioned to contact Cumbria Highways regarding the road surface and also to explore the cost/possible wording of ice warning signs.

**162/14 Items for consideration for a future agenda**

- Back Lane / Village Green / Canal Grass Cutting
- Playground
- Highways
- Old Parish Council Notice Board / Parish Notice Board
- Office Facilities

**163/14 Date of next meeting**

It was confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Meeting to be held on 20 May 2015. The meeting will commence at 7.30pm and will be held in the Sedgwick Village Hall.

*The meeting closed at 8.50 pm*

Signed : ..... (Chairman)  
Date : 20 May 2015