

## **SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

*Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7:30pm at Sedgwick Village Hall.*

**Present:** Cllr B Holmes (Chair), Cllr B Tanham, Cllr G Stoker, Cllr Hall  
Mrs Rachel Harrison (Parish Clerk), Westmorland & Furness Cllr D Rathbone

**79/24 Apologies:** None

**80/24 Minutes:** It was resolved for the Chairperson to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025 as a true record.

**81/24 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.

**82/24 Public Participation:**

A member of the parish who was unable to attend submitted a report that they wished to express their discontent with the flooding in the road between Sedgwick and Natland. They reported that they had visited landowners at either side of the road and all parties are happy to have the problem fixed.

**83/24 Reports**

- a) Police Report: The Council are receiving a monthly community newsletter and can access the Crime Map online.
- b) Westmorland & Furness Council Cllr D Rathbone reported;

**84/24 Planning Application submitted/received:**

None.

**85/24 Highways/Footpaths**

- a) The Highways report was presented.
- b) The Parish Council were updated on the 20mph zone, the final design and formal consultation is now underway.
- c) The Parish Council have installed the new bench next to the bus stop and everyone is very happy with the installation and appearance of the bench.
- d) The Lighting Policy was discussed, Sedgwick Parish Council do not own any of the lights in the village.
- e) Electric charging points for vehicles were discussed
- f) The tractor debris on the road between Sedgwick and Natland was discussed

**86/24 Playground /Millennium Field**

- a) Cllr G Stoker gave his monthly Safety Report & Regarding repairs, there will be a new post for the gate installed, the swing seats to be swapped and small repairs to the slide.
- b) Orchard Grant – all present commented on how well the trees and hedges are looking.

**87/24 Fundraising & Events**

- a) The fundraiser on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025 at the Parish Hall in Kendal was discussed and details of the event were in the Spring newsletter. Sedgwick Parish Council will be responsible for the raffle.
- b) The new slide and prices were discussed

**88/24 Safeguarding**

- a) Cllr Tanham had nothing to report but would like to do the safeguarding training.

**89/24 VE & VJ Day 2025 – 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

- a) As previously discussed, members of the Parish are encouraged to put up flags, bunting & lights.

**90/24 CALC Training**

- a) Cllr Holmes & Cllr Tanham reported on the “Trees on Council Land” course which they attended.
- b) The BT digital switchover webinar was discussed and information will be presented to the parish at the APM.
- c) Cllr Tanham will look for some safeguarding training, recommended by CALC.

**91/24 Canal**

- a) A report by Cllr B Holmes was provided and can be seen in the noticeboard and on the website.

- b) The letter received from The Lancaster Canal Towpath Trail was acknowledged.
- c) Kent Estuary YFC have arranged their visit for 23<sup>rd</sup> March- Cllr will be attending on the day to supervise.

#### **92/24 Website/social media**

- a) Cllr B Holmes reported that the website is up to date and Facebook posts are being made.
- b) Following a recent CALC training course Cllr Holmes discussed whether there is a need for .gov websites and email addresses. All members of the Parish Council were given a report to read at the last meeting and the consensus is that

#### **93/24 Policies & Procedures**

- a) The Sexual Harassment Policy was approved and adopted and will be put on the website.
- b) The Freedom of Information Policy has been updated and approved ready to be updated on the website.

#### **94/24 Finance**

- a) The bank balances were noted as of 30/01/2025 Current = £5864.14 & 20/02/2025 Reserve = £22506.14
- b) To following payments were approved:  
**Parish Clerks Salary** January/February = **£475.58**  
**Parish Clerks Expenses** January/February = **£58.99**  
**HMRC PAYE (Rachel Harrison)** January/February = **£94.60**  
**Printing Plus** Spring Newsletter = **£101.00**  
**Data Protection Fee** = **£47.00**  
**Cumbria Landscaping** (Bench Instalation) = **£408.00**  
**Sedgwick Village Hall** (September/November) = **£36.00**  
 To following receipts of interest were acknowledged:  
**Interest = £65.89**
- c) The accounts agreed on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025 were signed as cleared the bank account.
- d) Mr Richardson was confirmed as the internal auditor for 2024/25.

#### **95/24 Newsletter**

- a) Feedback was received from the Spring newsletter

#### **96/24 Correspondence:** All the documents have been received and circulated to the Councillors.

#### **97/24 Open Action**

- a) It was confirmed that there are still 2 vacancies for Parish Councillors. The posts have been advertised and anyone interested should contact the Clerk for more information.
- b) The Electoral Review update was discussed and all Councillors have been sent the recent survey to complete.

#### **98/24 Items for consideration for a future agenda**

- a) The trees overhanging the Millennium field are to be assessed in the Summer.

#### **99/24 Date of Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the next Parish Meeting will be the APM on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.30pm** followed by the **AGM on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.30pm.**

*The meeting closed at 9.15pm*

Signed:..... (Chairperson) Date: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025