

# SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Sebergham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18 March 2015 in Welton Village Hall

### Present:

Chairman Alan Rule  
Councillors Andrew Bell, Maria Chesters-Bouma, Ken Graham, Michael Stockdale.

Also in attendance: Councillor Duncan Fairbairn.

### Procedural Items

**1. Apologies** Councillors, Pearson and Tinnion.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Stockdale declared an interest in item 20 ii, iv and v, as these were financial payments to his partner. Also item 20 vi, as the EUKHOST invoice had been paid by himself and this was therefore reimbursement.

### 3. Minutes 21 January and 4 February 2015

Councillors **resolved** to authorise the Chairman to sign these minutes as a true record.

### 4. Public Participation

The chairman adjourned the meeting to allow members of the public an opportunity to ask questions or raise matters of interest.

Councillor Fairbairn was invited to give an update on County and Borough Council issues affecting the parish.

Councillor Fairbairn reported on proposals being considered by Allerdale BC to transfer to parish council's, responsibility for the cost of relocation/maintenance of existing street lighting on timber poles. It was explained that this would involve the council in significant additional costs which it is not in a position to meet. It was agreed to await the outcome of Allerdale's further considerations.

The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

### Business

As councillor Fairbairn needed to leave the meeting early, item 16 was brought forward.

### 16. Highways

The chairman reported the council was concerned that a number of reports had been made to Highways regarding work required on defective roads in the parish but currently, none of this work has been carried out. Councillor Fairbairn is going to follow up this issue with Highways. A number of other Highways issues were presented by councillors, including those put forward by parishioners.

### 5. Planning Applications

None

### 6. Planning Decision Notices

**2/2013/0227** Wind Turbines at Carwath. **Full Plans Refused** 13/2/15

**2/2015/0026** Wind Turbine Roundhill. Allerdale website currently displays this application as **withdrawn**.

### **7. Wind Turbine Planning Application Roundhill Farm.**

Councillors were given the opportunity to view photomontages produced to demonstrate the visibility of this proposed turbine from viewpoints in surrounding areas and consider the possibility of future use of these should this planning application be re introduced. The chairman thanked councillor Chesters-Bouma for her work on these very clear and informative images.

### **8. Pay As You Earn (PAYE)**

It is a legal requirement for parish councils to register with HM Revenue and Customs as an employer. Councillors **resolved** that the Clerk registers with HMRC for PAYE purposes. It was also **resolved** to use Dodd & Co as agents for payroll management.

### **9. Donation request Citizens advice.**

Councillors were asked to consider a request for a donation to Citizens Advice. It was **resolved** to not donate at this time.

### **10. Communication with Parishioners**

Arrangements have been made to publicise notes of the parish council meeting in the parish magazine and the local press. Councillors considered if any further action is required at present on this matter. It was **resolved** to give this further consideration and discuss at a later date.

The chairman thanked councillor Graham for the maintenance work carried out on the notice boards by Men in Sheds.

### **11. Road Safety**

Councillor Graham reported that he had met with PC Harris regarding use of speed guns in the parish. Equipment and training would be provided free of charge. Six parishioners have expressed an interest in taking on the training for using these guns. Councillors were in agreement that we should proceed with the training and report to the next meeting.

The council has received a letter from Cumbria County Council (CCC), explaining that they could no longer take on the maintenance of Speed Indication Devices (SID) owned by parish councils but the SIDs could be donated to CCC and be managed on behalf of the parish by Cumbria Road Safety Partnership. It was **resolved** that Sebergham parish council would prefer to retain the management of the SID at the current time.

Councillor Graham is going to look in to this further and contact the parishes who have joint ownership of the SID which is currently used by Sebergham parish council.

Consideration is going to be given to suitable sites in the parish where the SID could be positioned.

### **12. Wooden Bench**

Councillor Tinnion has acquired the wooden bench which previously belonged to Welton School. Councillors were asked to give consideration to whether the bench could be restored and the most suitable place to position it. It was **resolved** to look in to this further and discuss at a future meeting.

### **13. Bring sites**

Allerdale Borough Council are seeking comment on the 'bring sites' (re cycling) in the borough. It was **resolved** to respond to ABC that the council feels that the current arrangements should continue.

### **14. Broadband**

Councillor Stockdale reported that an EE Broadband trial in Sebergham and Welton continues.

The chairman reported on communications from Connecting Cumbria and others, and proposals to meet with BT & BDUK in an effort to understand and influence proposals for the provision of improved broadband services in the parish.

### **15. Dog Waste Bags**

Allerdale Borough Council can distribute these to parishes. It was **resolved** that these were not currently required by the parish.

## **Governance**

### **17. Recruitment Policy**

Employment Legislation and guidance on good practice is constantly evolving. As the only employee within the parish council is the clerk and recruitment would be sporadic, the chairman proposed that an appropriate procedure for recruitment should be adopted when required. This would follow legislation, advice from CALC and would be following a resolution of the parish council. This was **resolved**.

**18. Parish Meeting**

**Resolved** that the Parish Meeting 2015, be held at 7pm on the 20 May, prior to the Annual Meeting.

**Accounts**

**19. Current Accounts and Budget**

Councillors **resolved** that the circulated accounts and budget were an accurate record.

**20. Resolved that the following payments be made**

**i. Welton Village Hall, hire for meetings. £140**

**ii. Standing Order Clerks Wages**

**iii. Standing Order to Dodd & Co**

For PAYE and payroll management by standing order £12 (inc.vat) monthly.

**iv. Clerks outstanding pay** for the period 12 January to 28 February details circulated to councillors.

**v. Payment to clerk for New File management and Documentation**, details circulated to councillors.

**vi. EUKHOST, Website and Domain renewal. £41.99** Reimbursement was made to **Councillor Stockdale** who has made payment for this invoice.

**Date of next Meeting: Annual Meeting 20 May 2015 7.30pm**

**This will be preceded by the Parish Meeting at 7pm.**