

SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 11 NOVEMBER 2009

PRESENT

Mr J S Hollins-Gibson
Mr G Gash
Mr M Stockdale
Mr P Pearson
Mr P Wybergh
Mr A V Rule
Mr M Carruthers
Mr A Bell
Collr D Fairbairn
Ms P L Gauntlett (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Nigel Forsyth of Steadman's joined the meeting at the request of the Parish Council to discuss their retrospective planning application for the security lighting.

2 members of the public were in attendance.

2. MINUTES

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting of 23 September 2009 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Alan Rule, Peter Pearson, Andrew Bell declared a personal interest in the Lingside Farm planning application.

4. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Report from Councillor Fairbairn.

Allerdale will be £3.5m worse off in the future years as there will be a decrease in the amount of Government funding that is received. The main road through Welton and Goose Green will be resurfaced in the next financial year. The County Council will also need to make substantial savings over the next 5 years.

A resident wished to speak about the retrospective planning application for Lingside Farm. The new plans want to demolish 8 of the existing buildings. There is no need for this as there is nothing wrong with the buildings. The Agricultural Needs Assessment states that, the farm will support 225 ewes. In the opinion of local farmers the farm is too small to support 225 ewes. The farm is 63 acres but 20 of these are poor grazing land. The industrial building should be demolished and the other buildings should be left alone.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

A resident has been pushing the County Council for many months about the state of the Cumbrian Way. The Clerk has been copied into these e mails. The work to drain the area has not been done and it could be 2011 before it is tackled. Walking sites are now urging walkers to avoid the area because of the state of the path. The land is leased by the Forestry commission but there seems to be some dispute as to who is responsible for the repairs. Councillor Fairbairn will chase this up through the County Council.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Eden DC, publication of Core Strategy document.
CALC AGM
Draft Amended Statement of Community Involvement
Link Up CVS magazine
Cumbria Rider magazine
Your Cumbria magazine
Your NHS magazine

7. SIDS

Welton had the SIDS recently, but it was noted that the vehicles are not slowing down when they get to the signs. The Clerk will contact the Police and ask if they can do some speed traps in Welton when the SIDS are there. The speed of people travelling through the village is between 40 and 50. The Clerk will tell the Police how effective the speed trap van is when it is in Dalston. The SIDS are due next time 2 weeks before Xmas.

8. PARKHEAD QUARRY

The Clerk had circulated Mr Hughes report to everyone.

9. PRECEPT

The Clerk had circulated an up to date financial position and a projection for next year in September. It was agreed to pay the "catch up" of 2 x £150 to the PCCs at the next meeting together with our annual donation to the Northern fells project. The Chairman will ask the school to identify a project costing up to £200 that we can fund.

The Clerk had obtained a copy of the Northern Fells accounts. All Parish Councils in the area are donating £200 to the project. As Sebergham is a smaller Parish it seems unfair that we are paying the same amount as much larger Parishes. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Northern Fells and suggest that the annual donation should be set on either a per head in the Parish basis or base it on the precept of the Parish.

It was agreed to precept for £3300, proposed Mr Hollins-Gibson, seconded Mr Rule.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2/2009/ 0738. Mr Forsyth explained the current layout of the lights as Steadman's. There are 14 lights on west side of the building, these are on light sensors and come on from 3pm to 7pm and again from 6am to 9am (if required). These lights have been angled down 90 recently but they are still bright and shine down the hill. The lights on the north side of the building are on movement and light sensors and are linked to the CCTV. Residents state that, the north side lights are coming on before 5 am most days although Steadmans dispute this. The lights are to light the yard as this is where stock is kept and lighting is required to load the lorries in the mornings and unload in the evenings. Residents state that the single light beside the loading bay doors can sometimes be on at midnight. Earlier in the year the lights were on all night. Mr Forsyth stated that, there are no longer any shifts being worked due to the recession and there are no plans to return to shift work in the near future. There are no more lights to be installed. Mr Forsyth will go back to the contractors who installed the lights and see what they say. If this is unsatisfactory then there will be a site meeting with one or two Parish Councillors and Mr Forsyth. The Clerk will ask Allerdale to hold the planning application for a few weeks until we can get a response from Steadmans and explain our reasons for this.

2/2009/0797 plans for Lingside Farm. These plans have been put out to consultation since the agenda was issued. The paper copies have not yet been received but the clerk & Mr Rule had taken the details off the Allerdale website.

It was stated that there already sufficient buildings on the farm, and there is sufficient space for the type of farming proposed. The agricultural need has not been proved, and by demolishing the buildings they are denuding the farm to make it that they do need the additional building which is the subject of the enforcement order. The cost and work involved in making the industrial building suitable for agricultural purposes would be disproportionate.

In addition the Clerk is to state that, the repeated applications for this site appear to be undermining the planning process and the Parish Council urge Allerdale to draw this matter to a speedy conclusion and enforce the enforcement order.

11. PARISH PLAN

The group need a meeting to summarise the questionnaires. Mr Pearson will arrange this.

14. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The External Auditor had completed the audit. They had accepted the Risk Assessment as adequate but the PC must note that this is done in April and recorded at the relevant meeting. The value of the Village Green must be declared as £1 on next year's accounts.

The following cheques were signed by two signatories present.

87 A Ward (IT work)

15.00 (this was signed at the last meeting)

88 P L Gauntlett (2 months wages) 213.27
89 BDO Stoy Hayward 57.50

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 20 January 2010.

The meeting was closed 21.40

Mr JS Hollins-Gibson