

**Minutes of the Meeting of St Bees Parish Council held on
Monday 20 July 2015 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall**

PRESENT: Cllrs D Sim (in the Chair), P Argyle, M Davies, G Gilmour, J Haile, T Kelly,
F Kennedy, M Riley, C Robson, N Smart, H Strong and the Clerk

In attendance: Cllr I Hill, CBC Ward Councillor
Cllr H Wormstrup, County Councillor Egremont North/St Bees

134/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bettinson, Millington and Mellor.

135/15 DISPENSATIONS & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Smart declared a pecuniary interest in the item concerning St Bees School.

136/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no matters raised.

137/15 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 JUNE 2015

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 15 June 2015 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

138/15 CCC ISSUES

It was RESOLVED to bring forward this item on the agenda.

Cllr Wormstrup reported that he had provided information to the Clerk on the take-up of Superfast Broadband which indicated that the take-up in St Bees had been very good.

A number of highways issues were discussed including visibility around the Station Rd junction and at the Fairladies entrance. Cllr Wormstrup reported that a traffic survey was due to take place shortly as part of a review of speed limits. He would confirm with Highways when the review of the speed limit in St Bees would be completed and report back.

It was noted that there had been no recurrence of the drainage problems by the entrance to Station car park since work took place last December. Cllr Wormstrup suggested a site inspection of other drains and it was agreed to arrange a convenient time for Cllr Wormstrup and Cllr Bettinson to meet.

Cllr Wormstrup then left the meeting.

139/15 CBC ISSUES

Cllr Hill reported that the travellers who had returned to the beach car park last week had left on Friday afternoon. CBC had acted swiftly to serve the required legal notice. The Chairman explained that on Friday it had been necessary to take a decision to close the toilets on safety grounds as water was continually being spilled on the floors and public safety could not be guaranteed. It was noted that the contractor had done everything possible to keep the toilets in a good condition and had managed to bring them back into use late on Friday to minimise inconvenience to beach users.

It was RESOLVED that, if in future a similar problems arose at the toilets, it would be the council's policy to take any action necessary to ensure public safety.

Cllr Hill also reported that additional junior doctors had been appointed to increase staffing in A&E at WCH. The proposal to provide a 7 day/week consultant service was unlikely to be feasible in hospitals such as WCH where consultant numbers were not sufficient to provide the cover required.

Cllr Hill then left the meeting.

140/15 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

As no nominations for the office of Vice Chairman had been received at the annual meeting, it had been agreed to reconsider the matter at this meeting. The Chairman outlined the duties of Vice Chairman. Cllr Gilmour was proposed by Cllr Haile and seconded by Cllr Robson.

It was RESOLVED that Cllr Gilmour be elected Vice Chairman for the current year.

141/15 MEETING WITH THE ELECTED MAYOR

The Chairman and Clerk had met the newly elected Mayor on 7 July to discuss issues affecting the parish. There had been a useful exchange of information about the closure of St Bees School in light of the common interest of CBC and parish council in preserving the assets for the benefit of the community. There had been discussion of the SHLAA and planning matters as well as the Moorside development, a possible new cycle track and traffic issues.

It was noted that the Mayor had offered to attend a parish council meeting, possibly in September. It was agreed that the discussion should focus on the most important matters of interest to the parish including the possible extension of Station car park, cycle track etc.

142/15 FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT

(a) Financial Report

A summary of the accounts at the end of June was received together with the notes of the meeting of the Finance & Risk Advisory Group on 16 July (copy attached to the minutes).

Cllr Kelly outlined the main points from the meeting. The Qtr 1 review of income and expenditure had been completed and the recommendations from the internal audit for 2014/15 had been considered. Work was in hand to implement the recommendations and FRAG would provide a further report following its next meeting. The risk register had been reviewed and no new risks had been identified.

The group had also noted that the contract for the upkeep of the beach toilets was due to end on 30 September. In light of the difficulties recently experienced with the toilets and the excellent service provided by the contractor which exceeded the contract requirements, the group recommended that discussions take place with the current contractor with a view to extending the contract for a further year in line with fin reg 11.1.c.

It was RESOLVED to write to the contractor expressing the council's appreciation of his work in the recent very difficult circumstances.

It was further RESOLVED that discussions take place to extend the contract for a further year as the standard of service had been excellent and in the current circumstances it was not deemed appropriate to put the contract out to tender.

(b) Payments

It was RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

- Chq no 002092 CBC – NNDR Beach toilets 2015/16 5th instalment £153.00
- Chq no 002093 CBC – NNDR Station car park 2015/16 5th instalment £77.00
- Chq no 002094 United Utilities – water, beach toilets 9/3/15 to 9/6/15 Total £418.81
- Chq no 002095 United Utilities – allotment water 9/3/15 to 9/6/15 Total £11.50
- Chq no 002096 Blomfields – filling of baskets (VIB) £460.00 + £92.00 VAT Total £552.00
- Chq no 002097 CBC – Election – admin charge Total £80.00
- Chq no 002098 CBC – emptying litter bin Fairladies footpath Qtr 2 Total £24.70
- Chq no 002099 CBC- play area inspections Qtr 2 £101.08 + £20.22 VAT Total £121.30
- Chq no 002100 CBC – emptying litter bins play areas Qtr 2 Total £247.00
- Chq no 002101 Egremont Town Council – annual contribution to lengthsman scheme Total £1164.00
- Chq no 002102 P Turpin –reimbursement for lock/keys for boat compound £26.20 + £5.24 VAT Total £31.44

- Chq no 002103 J Donaldson – reimbursement for postage £16.25+ refreshments for training course £8.96 Total £25.21
- Chq no 002104 J Donaldson – salary (net) July 2015 - £614.55
- Thomas Milburn Property Ltd – toilet service July £583.33 + £116.67 VAT Total £700.00 (to be paid by SO)
- **Payments since last meeting to report**
- Chq no 002089 St Bees Garden Society –donation £150.00 (agreed at last meeting)
- Chq no 002090 Playsafety Ltd – RoSPA play area inspections £283.00 + £56.60 VAT Total £339.60 (payment due before this meeting)
- Chq no 002091 Post Office Ltd (for HMRC) PAYE Qtr 1 £284.35
- Answer 4 You – answering service £8.80 + £1.76 VAT Total £10.56 (paid by direct debit on 17/7)

143/15 ST BEES SCHOOL

Cllr Smart withdrew from the meeting during this item in view of his pecuniary interest.

Following the last meeting a letter had been sent to the Governors and a response had been received confirming that a Project Management Group was being established under the chairmanship of Anthony Fox which would take over from the Board of Governors on 31 August. There had been a meeting of the parish council sub-group and a letter had been sent to Anthony Fox confirming the council's willingness to assist the PMG in any way it could. The Chairman also reported that he and Cllr Gilmour had had initial discussions with representatives of an organisation in the nuclear supply chain who had previously given advice to the Rescue Team as part of their socio-economic commitment.

It was noted that there was as yet no definite confirmation that School facilities such as the lecture theatre would continue to be available to local groups but the School had indicated that they hoped to be able to make facilities available subject to insurance considerations. It was noted that the swimming pool was going to be available after 1 September for public sessions.

144/15 CONSULTATION – MOORSIDE PROJECT

A draft response to the Nu-Gen consultation on the Moorside Project had been circulated together with supplementary information focussing on the traffic issues affecting St Bees Parish.

It was **RESOLVED** that the draft be approved and the response and supplementary information be submitted on behalf of the parish council.

145/15 CONSULTATION – GEOLOGICAL DISPOSAL FACILITY

The government had issued a Call for Evidence on how it should work with local communities in finding a site for a geological disposal facility. A draft response had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was noted that St Bees Parish Council was in a unique position to respond as it was believed to be the only local council which had undertaken a household survey of views in 2013.

It was **RESOLVED** that the draft response be approved and submitted on behalf of the parish council.

146/15 NATIONAL GRID – NORTH WEST COAST CONNECTIONS PROJECT

The National Grid had published the route corridor for the North West Coast Connections Project which would link the proposed Moorside development with the grid. The route would have two parts – a northern link on-shore from Moorside to Harker, near Carlisle, and a southern link going on-shore from Moorside across the Furness peninsula and then under Morecambe Bay to the new Middleton sub-station near Heysham.

It was **RESOLVED** that a response be submitted urging the use of UK manufacturing capacity and local labour wherever possible.

147/15 PROJECT REPORTS**(a) Beach Regeneration**

It was noted that CBC had now installed the new interpretation board at the main beach. One of the springy toys in the play area had been broken and taken out of service. The Clerk would contact Wicksteed to discuss repairs.

It was also reported that CBC had been successful in a funding bid for coastal communities and further information was awaited.

(b) Traffic Calming/Speedwatch

Cllr Mellor had confirmed his willingness to take over the role of co-ordinator of the Speedwatch Scheme.

It was RESOLVED to proceed with recalibration/servicing of the speed gun provided the costs remained in line with the original estimate.

(c) Community Events

There had been little interest from other organisations in holding an event over the August bank holiday and the tides were not convenient for beach activities. In the circumstances it had been decided not to hold an event this year.

(d) Tree Planting

There was no report available.

(e) Outrigg Play Area

Cllr Riley had reviewed the list of repairs required in light of the recent RoSPA inspection and had obtained an estimate from Wicksteed. It was agreed that priority should be given to repairs to the surfacing, swing seats and springy toy and that other quotes be obtained for comparison.

(f) Cycle Path to Whitehaven

Cllr Strong proposed to establish a small group of interested people to begin initial work on the project. He had received several offers of help from the local community and Cllrs Davies and Kelly also volunteered to join the group.

148/15 BEACH RD FOOTPATH

The outcome of the funding application to Copeland Community Fund would be known towards the end of the month.

149/15 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk's report on on-going matters was received and the following points were noted:

- Training for Councillors – a training session had taken place on 23 June in the Village Hall, attended by 11 councillors from St Bees and other local parishes.
- Footway lighting – The Clerk had attended a site meeting in Rottington with representatives from CBC and CCC to assess the viability of replacing the two pole lights with free standing columns. CCC was calculating the costs and CBC would confirm the amount available from the ENW grant. The Parish Council would then have the opportunity to decide whether to proceed with replacing one or both lights.
- Seaside Award – The plaque had now been received for display.
- Anti-social behaviour at licensed premises – following the last meeting an email was sent to the local police. Insp Wear had replied that he was aware of the issues and had asked colleagues outposted to Sellafield to take action to help deal with the situation. Insp Wear had also offered to attend a parish council meeting (possibly in September) for a discussion.

- Application for footpath diversion, Bell House Farm – CCC had stated that it could see no grounds to reject the request to divert the footpath as the new route would not be substantially longer and the original route would be completely fenced off.
- Lengthsman scheme – A vacancy for an apprentice to work with the lengthsman was being advertised and a copy of the advertisement had been posted on the noticeboards. A list of repairs had been sent to Works 4 You based on the asset inspection in the spring together with details of the painting required at the beach toilets.

150/15 PLANNING

(a) New planning applications

The Planning Advisory Group reported on the following applications received for comment:-

Ref 4/15/2219/0F1 Demolition of external stairs & construction of new porch
Shorelinks, Nethertown Rd St Bees

It was RESOLVED that there was no objection to this application.

Ref 4/15/2244/0F1 Replacement porch, erection of ground floor kitchen & bedroom extension
and 2nd floor bedroom extension
2 West View, Seamill Lane St

It was RESOLVED that there was no objection to this application.

Ref 4/15/2245/0F1 Change of use of ground floor from shop to museum
24 Main Street, St Bees

It was RESOLVED to support this application.

Ref 4/15/2266/TPO Various works to trees protected by a TPO
2 Fleatham Gardens, High House Rd, St Bees

It was RESOLVED to object to this application on the grounds that the application provided no evidence of why the work was needed. As the trees are protected by a TPO, work should only be carried out where it is necessary for the health of the trees .

Ref 4/15/2264/0F1 Reduction in height of chimney
3 Richmond Crescent, St Bees

It was RESOLVED that there was no objection to this application.

Ref 4/15/2252/TPO Felling of larch tree in conservation area
The Beeches, High House Rd, St Bees

It was RESOLVED that there was no objection to this application

Ref 4/15/2279/0F1 Demolition of existing garage & single storey extension and replacement with
new single storey extensions , double storey bay window, alterations to cladding
& new detached garage
De-Cida, Outrigg, St Bees

It was RESOLVED that there was no objection to this application.

Ref 4/15/2294/0F1 Change of use from storage to additional dining area. Change of use from staff
accommodation to 2 additional en-suite bedrooms and manager's apartment
Manor House Inn, 11-12 Main Street, St Bees

Ref 4/15/2295/0L1 Listed Building Consent for above

It was RESOLVED that there were no objections to these applications.

(b) Applications approved/refused

The following decisions had been made by CBC:-

- Ref 4/15/2190 Prior approval for change of use to dwelling – Barn adj to Stanley House, Sandwith APPROVED
- Ref 4/15/2198 Felling of two sycamore trees – Meadow House, High House Rd APPROVED
- Ref 4/15 2119 Extension to kennels –Quarry Bank Cottages, Pallaflatt WITHDRAWN
- Ref 4/15/2169 Reduction & removal of branches on various trees – 2 Fleatham Gardens, High House Rd REFUSED

151/15 REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

A written report had been received from PCSO Kane. He had confirmed the action to be taken in response to the concerns about anti-social behaviour associated with local pubs and had reported on two minor incidents to which the police had been called at the beach area.

152/15 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Details had been received of a consultation on the proposed Walney Extension Community Fund. This had been circulated to parish councillors to enable them to respond individually. Noted.

(b) Details had been received of the Tracks of the Iron Masters project, a collaboration between Sustrans and Art Gene, focussing on the part played by railways in the history of local industry. Copies had been circulated to all councillors. Noted.

(c) A letter had been received from NALC encouraging local councils to take part in Commonwealth Flag Day on 14 March 2016. Noted.

(d) Notes had been received of the meeting of West Copeland Partnership on 7 July. Noted.

(e) United Utilities had produced a range of posters, leaflets, video etc to support their Reservoir Safety Campaign 2015. Noted.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Cumbria Coastal Access Monthly Update –July 2015

CALC Newsletter –July/August 2015

Cumbria Wildlife Trust – July e-newsletter

ACT Gazette – Summer 2015

153/15 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

(a)The Beached Art event organised by Cumbria Wildlife Trust would be taking place on Sat 8 August.

(b)Cllr Robson reported on the high numbers of overseas visitors visiting the village and the Priory.

154/15 DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was RESOLVED that the next meeting take place on Monday 21 SEPTEMBER 2015 at 6.30pm

Signed.....

Date.....