SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Janice Rae, 1 Sun Croft, Ireby, Wigton, CA7 1ES Tel: 07547 368 323 Email: clerk@seberghamwelton.org.uk

Minutes of Sebergham Parish Council Annual Meeting held at Welton Village Hall at 7.35 pm on Wednesday 29 May 2024

Present: Cllr Christine Tinnion, Cllr Geoff Carruthers, Cllr Emily Hudson and Cllr Michael

Stockdale.

Others: M. Johnson, Cumberland Councillor

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1/2024	Election of Chairperson for council year 2024-25 On the proposal of Cllr E. Hudson, seconded by Cllr G. Carruthers Cllr P. Pearson was unanimously elected Chair for council year 2024/2025.				
2/2024	Election of Vice Chairperson for council year 2024-25 On the proposal of Cllr C. Tinnion, seconded by Cllr E. Hudson Cllr M. Stockdale was unanimously elected Vice Chair for council year 2024-25				
3/2024	Signing of declaration of office by the Chair and Vice Chair Cllr M. Stockdale Vice Chair signed a declaration of acceptance of office. Subject to Cllr P. Pearson accepting the nomination of Chair a declaration of acceptance of office will be signed.				
	Cllr M. Stockdale in the Chair				
4/2024	Apologies Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs P. Pearson and D. Depla. The reasons for absence were noted and accepted.				
5/2024	Minutes of last Parish Council meeting The Chairman was authorised to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 March 2024				
6/2024	Declarations of Interest/requests for dispensation None				
7/2024	Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960) None				
8/2024	Public Participation Cllr M. Johnson reported that The Countryside Access Officer at Cumberland Council had advised there had been a landslip on the Cumbria Way at Dentonside. The Ramblers Association are currently advising people via their website and are looking at two alternative diversion routes. A resident had enquired about the recent changes to the bus service through Welton. Cllr Johnson advised he was awaiting a response from the Bus Infrastructure Officer at Cumberland Council and will respond direct to the resident. It was noted that the withdrawal of the 73 service and the introduction of the 553 was recorded in the minutes of the last meeting. The current administration at Cumberland Council has borrowed £41m to pay for revenue services and the Annual Meeting of Cumberland Council was held last week				
9/2024	Policies The following policies were reviewed with no amendments made: Financial Regulations Asset Register Risk Management Policy Standing Orders				

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10/2024	Cumberland Councillor's report M. Johnson, Cumberland Councillor provided a report in the Public Participation part of the meeting.				
11/2024	Planning (a) Applications received None (b) Decisions None				
12/2024	Highways Bell Bridge Road - The emergency works to stabilise the bank have been completed. The Highway Authority are in the process of designing and seeking permissions for the permanent solution, and are seeking an appropriate contractor for the works, as outlined at the last meeting. It was noted that some pot holes had been filled on the B5299 from Goose Green towards Nether Welton. Parishioners are encouraged to continue to report Highway defects in the Parish. Cllr E. Hudson agreed to report the issues in Welton and forward the details to Cllr. M. Johnson. Cllr E. Hudson reported that residents in Welton were considering setting up a community speed watch group to address the speeding issues in the village. Cllr E. Hudson agreed to contact Cllr M. Johnson for further details of the scheme.				
13/2024	Proposed Temporary Closure of Public Footpath No 251016 Members noted that Cumberland Council had made an Order to enable tree felling and planting works to be carried out on footpath no 251016. The order will prohibit pedestrians from proceeding along an approximate 187 metre section of the public footpath. The Order will come into operation on 1 June 2024 and may continue in force for up to six months.				
14/2024	Parish/Community Plan It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.				
15/2024	Website No update was available for the meeting.				
16/2024	Bench at Welton The renovation of the bench around the flagpole in Welton had been completed and people have been seen using it. An invoice is awaited from the contractor. It was suggested that a permanent flag should be installed. Cllr E Hudson agreed to research prices and options available to be considered further at the next meeting.				
17/2024	Dog Fouling Issues in Welton Cllr C. Tinnion on behalf of a parishioner in Welton raised the issue of dog fouling incidents particularly around the Welton Plains area. It was agreed that parishioners should be encouraged to report any incidents to Cumberland Council.				
18/2024	Northern Fells Group Members noted that the Northern Fells Group was set up as a charity by the seven parishes around the Northern Fells. As such, each parish council nominates a trustee to sit on the board of trustees. Presently Cllr P. Pearson represents the Parish. Recently the NFG has been pleased to hear that King Charles will retain his patronage of the NFG.				

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19/2024 Financial Matters

19.1 The following payments were considered and authorised:

Date	PAYEE	Budget line	Value
29.5.2024	CALC	Subscription	£185.03
29.5.2024	Clear Councils	Insurance	£344.74
29.5.2024	T. Gear	Internal Audit	£ 85.00
29.5.2024	St James Church	Donation	£200.00
29.5.2024	St Marys Church	Donation	£200.00
29.5.2024	Northern Fells Group	Donation	£200.00
29.5.2024	CALC	Training – D Depla	£ 30.00
29.5.2024	J. Rae	Salary – Quarter 1	£842.40
29.5.2024	HMRC	PAYE Quarter 1	£201.60

- 19.2 The cash book for year ending 31^{st} March 2024 was noted. Balance at NatWest on 31^{st} March 2024 £3989.26.
- 19.3 The first half of the yearly precept £3,150 had been received.
- 19.4 Annual Audit (i) The internal audit had been carried out with no issues raised, (ii) Annual Governance Statement The Chairman and RFO were authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement, (iii) Accounting Statement The Chair was authorised to sign the Accounting Statement, (iv) Certificate of Exemption The Chair and RFO were authorised to sign the Certificate of Exemption. (v) Members noted the period of exercise of electors' rights commences on 3 June and ends on the 12 July. The notice will be displayed on the parish noticeboards and on the website. The requisite documents will also be uploaded to the website.

20/2024 Date of next meeting – the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 31 July, 2024

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.