

SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Janice Rae, 23 Chapel Meadows, Bothel, Wigton, CA7 2AB 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 28 May 2025

Present: Cllr M. Hilton, Cllr. P. Pearson, Cllr. D. Turton and Cllr E. Wilson

Others: One member of the public

1/2025	Election of Chairperson for council year 2025-26 On the proposal of Cllr E. Wilson, seconded by Cllr M. Hilton Cllr P. Pearson was unanimously elected Chair for council year 2025-26.
2/2025	Election of Vice Chairperson for council year 2025-26 Cllr E. Wilson was unanimously elected Vice Chair for council year 2025-26.
3/2025	Signing of declaration of office by the Chair and Vice Chair Cllr P. Pearson and Cllr E. Wilson signed a declaration of acceptance of office.
4/2025	Apologies An apology for absence was received from Cllr M. Stockdale. The reason for absence was noted and accepted. An apology for absence was also received from M. Johnson, Cumberland Councillor.
5/2025	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 26 March 2025
6/2025	Declarations of Interest/requests for dispensation A dispensation had previously been granted to Cllr P. Pearson in relation to Northern Fells Group. No other declarations of interest were received.
7/2025	Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960) None
8/2025	Public Participation A member of the public had raised an issue with a blocked public footpath that goes through Brow Top Farm. The path is sign posted pointing both north and south on the B5305 road but on walking northbound towards the Brow Top Farm the land owner had blocked the entrance. Cllr E. Wilson agreed to report this to Cumberland Council and respond to the member of the public who raised the issue. Cllr M. Hilton provided an update on the Highway /Footpath matters reported and discussed at the meeting in January. It was suggested that an update should be requested from Highways regarding the Bell Bridge road.
9/2025	Policies The following policies were reviewed with no amendments made: Financial Regulations Asset Register Risk Management Policy Standing Orders
10/2025	Cumberland Councillor's report M. Johnson, Cumberland Councillor was not in attendance.

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11/2025	<p>Planning (a) Applications received FUL/2025/0072 – Hazel Gill Farm, Welton, CA5 7HJ Proposal: Demolition of existing barn and construction of new dwelling (b) Decisions None</p>																																								
12/2025	<p>Highways Cllr M. Hilton raised whether the Parish Council could request that traffic coming through Sebergham from the M6 towards West Cumbria could be diverted once the southern link bypass is completed. Cllr P. Pearson advised that for various reasons this was unlikely to be recommended.</p>																																								
13/2025	<p>Website Cllr P. Pearson provided an update. The new website is in progress and the new .gov domain name had been purchased. Cllr E. Wilson agreed to take some photographs of the Parish for use on the website.</p>																																								
14/2025	<p>Donations Members considered granting donations to St James Church, St Mary’s Church, Northern Fells Group and Wigton Baths Trust. RESOLVED that the annual grants of £200 would be awarded to the two churches and Northern Fells Group. Following a discussion it was resolved to grant £50.00 to the Wigton Baths Trust.</p>																																								
15/2025	<p>Annual Insurance Members considered the renewal invitation from Clear Councils at £468.58 and the quotation from Zurich Insurance at £241.00. It was agreed that the cover provided by Zurich Insurance is adequate for the Parish Councils requirements. RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Zurich.</p>																																								
16/2025	<p>England/St George Flag Members considered purchasing an England Flag for use of St. George’s Day. It was also discussed whether a Cumberland flag should be flown on the days when the national flag is not raised. It was agreed to speak to parishioners and to consult residents via the Welton Facebook to see what their preference would be.</p>																																								
17/2025	<p>Resignation Members noted that Cllr C. Tinnion had tendered her resignation. The Returning Officer at Cumberland Council will be notified of the resignations of Cllrs Carruthers and Tinnion. A notice will be displayed in the Parish advertising the vacancies.</p>																																								
18/2025	<p>Financial Matters 18.1 The following payments were considered and authorised:</p> <table><tr><th>Date</th><th>PAYEE</th><th>Budget line</th><th>Value</th></tr><tr><td>28.5.2025</td><td>CALC</td><td>Subscription</td><td>£190.00</td></tr><tr><td>28.5.2025</td><td>Zurich Municipal</td><td>Insurance</td><td>£241.00</td></tr><tr><td>28.5.2025</td><td>T. Gear</td><td>Internal Audit</td><td>£ 85.00</td></tr><tr><td>28.5.2025</td><td>St James Church</td><td>Donation</td><td>£200.00</td></tr><tr><td>28.5.2025</td><td>PCC of Sebergham</td><td>Donation</td><td>£200.00</td></tr><tr><td>28.5.2025</td><td>Northern Fells Group</td><td>Donation</td><td>£200.00</td></tr><tr><td>28.5.2025</td><td>Wigton Baths Trust</td><td>Donation</td><td>£ 50.00</td></tr><tr><td>28.5.2025</td><td>J. Rae</td><td>Salary – Quarter 1</td><td>£881.74</td></tr><tr><td>28.5.2025</td><td>HMRC</td><td>PAYE Quarter 1</td><td>£220.40</td></tr></table>	Date	PAYEE	Budget line	Value	28.5.2025	CALC	Subscription	£190.00	28.5.2025	Zurich Municipal	Insurance	£241.00	28.5.2025	T. Gear	Internal Audit	£ 85.00	28.5.2025	St James Church	Donation	£200.00	28.5.2025	PCC of Sebergham	Donation	£200.00	28.5.2025	Northern Fells Group	Donation	£200.00	28.5.2025	Wigton Baths Trust	Donation	£ 50.00	28.5.2025	J. Rae	Salary – Quarter 1	£881.74	28.5.2025	HMRC	PAYE Quarter 1	£220.40
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	<p>18.2 The cash book for year ending 31st March 2025 was noted. Balance at NatWest on 31st March 2025 £3572.50.</p> <p>18.3 The precept £6,600 had been received.</p> <p>18.4 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 14 July. The notice will be displayed on the parish noticeboards and on the website. The requisite documents will also be uploaded to the website.</p>
19/2025	Date of next meeting – the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 July, 2025

The meeting closed at 9.07 pm.