

SEBERGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Janice Rae, 23 Chapel Meadows, Bothel, Wigton, CA7 2AB. Tel: 07547 368 323
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Minutes of Sebergham Parish Meeting, held at Welton Village Hall, Wednesday 28 May 2025 at 7.30 pm

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

Others: One member of the public

APM1	Apologies Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M. Stockdale and Cllr M. Johnson.
APM2	Minutes The Chair was authorised to sign the minutes of the previous parish meeting held on Wednesday 29 May 2024.
APM3	Chairman's Report The Chair of the Parish Council provided a report on the parish council's activities over the previous year: Welcome to the Annual Parish Meeting. The role of the Parish Council is that of a statutory consultee, and it is for the primary local authority (Cumberland Council) to provide and run services (unless we choose to take on additional duties and services, at OUR cost). Throughout the year we try to liaise with the County Highways department to maintain & improve the condition of our roads, and address safety concerns; but it is vital that parishioners continue to directly report potholes, blocked drains, flooding problems, and footpath problems, through the Cumbria Highways hotline or website, as well as advising the Parish Clerk (with the reference number). We continue to respond to planning applications received from the county council, and Councillors welcome the views of residents when applications are advertised for consultation in order that the Parish Council can reflect local wishes & concerns. The Parish Council is only a statutory consultee, and <u>not</u> the planning authority (which is Cumberland Council); and whilst we may take a view on applications, we cannot object unless we have a material planning concern. Again, we would strongly encourage parishioners to raise any concerns directly with the planning authority, and also forward a copy to the parish clerk (for information).

	<p>Two members of the council have recently stood down, Christine Tinnion, who has served for many years, and Geoff Carruthers; and I thank them for their service to the communities of Sebergham and Welton.</p> <p>There are presently 4 vacancies on the parish council for councillors, and we would welcome anyone who is interested in being co-opted to the council to contact the Clerk. In particular we are hoping for increased representation from the Sebergham and Churchtown area of the parish.</p> <p>It is important that enough parishioners do sit on the Parish Council, otherwise the duties and responsibilities would be administered by Cumberland Council, with the cost borne by parishioners through the precept on your council tax bills (which Cumberland councillors would decide!).</p> <p>All of the Council's activities and decisions are reported in our published minutes which are posted on the noticeboards, and on the parish council website.</p> <p>Finally, my thanks to our Clerk and Parish Councillors, our Cumberland Councillor, for all their efforts on behalf of local people.</p> <p>Peter Pearson</p>
APM4	<p>Open question time</p> <p>No matters were raised.</p>

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm