

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 Council Meeting held at Welton Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 27 November 2024

Present: Cllr Emily Hudson, Cllr Peter Pearson (Chair) and Cllr Michael Stockdale.

Others: M. Johnson, Cumberland Councillor
Two representatives from A Wilderness Way
Six parishioners

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

53/2024	Apologies Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Geoff Carruthers, Cllr Diana Turton and Cllr Christine Tinnion. The reasons for absence were noted and accepted.
54/2024	Minutes of last Parish Council meeting The Chair was authorised to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 September 2024 and the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 2 October 2024.
55/2024	Declarations of Interest/requests for dispensation Cllr Peter Pearson declared an interest in item 65.5 on the agenda due to being a Trustee of the Northern Fells Group and a member of Welton Village Hall Management Committee. A dispensation had already been granted to Cllr Pearson in relation to NFG.
56/2024	Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960) None
	The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public the opportunity to raise any concerns in relation to the Parish
57/2024	Public Participation Two representatives from A Wilderness Way were in attendance and provided a verbal presentation about the background of A Wilderness Way as a provider of residential care for children who have suffered trauma and exploitation. A Wilderness Way has been operating for 16 years, is regulated by Ofsted and currently has 52 properties. The representatives from A Wilderness Way answered questions from Members and members of the public and tried to allay any fears residents may have about the proposed use of Kiln Croft, Welton as a residential care home. The representatives from AWW left the meeting at 8.18pm and reassured members of the public present that they would try to address any future concerns either directly or by attending a future parish council meeting. No other matters were raised. The Chair reminded the public present that there are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council. Four members of the public left the meeting.
	The meeting was re-convened at 8.20pm

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58/2024	Cumberland Councillor's report M. Johnson, Cumberland Councillor reported on Cumberland Council's Winter Ready Campaign. Details are on Cumberland Council's Website. Cumberland Council's Children Services had received a good report from Ofsted and Cumberland Council has agreed with Westmorland and Furness Council to progress talks with government on devolution by moving to an elected mayor. Cllr Johnson also reported that the repair work on Sebergham Bridge had been completed.
59/2024	Planning (a) Planning applications received: None. (b) Decisions: CLDP/2024/0012 Certificate of Lawful Development application for proposed use as Class C2 Residential Institution Kiln Croft, Welton, CA5 7HW GRANTED
60/2024	Highways Bell Bridge Road - Cllr Peter Pearson reported on the progress with the Bell Bridge road. It is anticipated the work will be undertaken between June and September next year. Sebergham Bridge - A temporary road closure had been received to allow Cumberland Council to carry out bridge repair commencing on 18 November 2024. It was noted the repair work was now complete and the trees obscuring visibility had been removed. Cllr Pearson reported that the hole next to the bridge had been logged with Highways. Highways had forwarded the report to BT Openreach to deal with.
61/2024	Parish/Community Plan Members discussed whether the coffee morning proposed for Saturday 8 February should be postponed to later in the year potentially to coincide with the parish meeting. It was agreed to rearrange the coffee morning and finalise the date at the January meeting.
62/2024	Website Cllr Peter Pearson reported that GoBo Creative had quoted a figure of £1200 to transfer the website and make some amendments. The maintenance fee would be £190 per annum. Members discussed the information circulated by CALC from Active Council. Active Council had quoted a price of £200 for a small council website with a fee of £175 per annum for website hosting and support. Cllr Pearson agreed to make some further enquiries with Active Council.
63/2024	Representative on Northern Fells Group Prior to the meeting Cllr Peter Pearson had circulated a link to the annual report of the Northern Fells Group. It was proposed and agreed that Cllr Pearson would continue as the parish representative for Sebergham and Welton on the NFG.
64/2024	Shaping the future of bus services - Cumberland Council survey Members noted that Cumberland Council are gathering community feedback on preferred destinations, frequency of routes, and ideal travel times. Input will guide improvements and help ensure that public transportation meets the needs of all residents. Further information is available on Cumberland Council's website. It was suggested that a feeder bus to Dalston would be useful to residents and visitors in the parish. Cllr Pearson agreed to feedback the suggestion in response to the consultation.

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65/2024

Financial Matters

65.1 Members noted the Local Government Services Pay award for 2024-25 had been agreed on 23 October backdated to 1 April 2024

65.2 The following payments were considered and authorised:

Date	PAYEE	Budget line	Value
27.11.2024	J. Rae	Clerk's salary Quarter 3 1.10.24 – 31.12.24 (includes back dated pay award)	£960.42
27.11.2024	HMRC	PAYE Quarter 3	£240.00

65.3 Income received from:

Cumberland Council – Half Yearly Precept £3.150.00

ENW Wayleave £20.80

65.4 The cash book at 31 October 2024 was noted Balance £6809.89.

65.5 Budget 2025-26

A draft budget had been circulated with the agenda. Members discussed the anticipated expenditure for financial year 2025-26. RESOLVED to increase the precept by £300 to £6600.

66/2024

Date of next meeting – The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 29 January 2025.

The meeting closed at 9.39 pm.