



Minutes of Beckermert with Thornhill Parish Council
Meeting held on
Wednesday, 19 July 2023 commencing at 19.00hrs
Venue: The Reading Rooms, Beckermert

Present: (JN) Julie Nugent, Chairperson, (TB) Tim Barlow (Vice Chairman), (KC) Kath Cook, (MS) Michael Slater, (SC) Steve Caddy, (TC) T Church (Clerk)

1 Apologies

E Jewitt

2 To declare any interest in items on the agenda

MS declared an indirect interest in Agenda item 10 (river bank erosion).

3 Public Participation

The Chairperson thanked members of the public for attending this meeting.

**4 Approve the minutes of the BwT Parish Council meeting held on 21 June 2023.
Review actions from previous meetings**

The minutes from the June Parish Council meeting were approved as a true and accurate record. Chairperson to sign.

The actions were reviewed, updated, closed out or marked as ongoing, as appropriate.

ACTION 21/06/2023(A5) - Sellafield to Seascale Cycle track

As part of the action update the Sellafield to Seascale cycle track was discussed at length with concerned members of the public in attendance.

The members of the public have written/spoken to BwT PC and other stakeholders, including the local MP, Sustrans, Sellafield Ltd and the NDA who own the land, to raise their concerns about the complete disrepair of the cycle track rendering it unusable and inaccessible to the local community including cyclists.

It was reported that assurances, from Sellafield Ltd, had been given to BwT PC approximately two years ago, that the cycle track would be repaired and maintained but this clearly hasn't happened.

It was reported a request to Sellafield Ltd had been made for this issue to be placed on the agenda for discussion at the collective Parish Council meeting which TB would attend.

BwT Parish Council is supportive of this issue being rectified and will discuss progress made at each meeting for the foreseeable future.

ACTION 1: Clerk to include this item on each meeting agenda

Chairperson's signature



5 Finance

June Finance Report

Report noted.

Approve Clerk's July salary

APPROVED for payment.

RoSPA Inspection Cost– agree a way forward

It was **AGREED** that the annual inspections, carried out by RoSPA, were not needed this year. The new play park in Beckermet was inspected by PI on completion ahead of the park opening. This same arrangement would be applied to the new play park at Thornhill.

VAT Reclaim (agree the amount to transfer into project account)

It was **AGREED** to transfer the total VAT paid on Playdale invoices (in relation to the new play park at Beckermet) back into the project account.

ACTION 2: Clerk to work out the figure and transfer

Approve Cost of Laptop Service

APPROVED.

ACTION 3: Clerk to organise service during the Summer recess

6 Planning Applications

4/23/2180/0F1 – Sellafield Site

No comments/objections made.

4/23/2160/0F1 – 33 The Millfields, Beckermet

No comments/objections made.

ACTION 4: Clerk to relay feedback to Planning Department


7 Frequency of Parish Council meetings

It was **AGREED** that Councillors would think about the frequency of BwT Parish Council meetings for 2024, with a view to reducing the number of meetings held.

Currently BwT PC meet 11 times a year (not August) providing each meeting is quorate.

ACTION 5: All to feedback at September meeting

Chairperson's signature



8 New Website

Clerk to use the summer recess to focus on the new website. Update to be given at September meeting.

9 Overhanging Tree branches in Thornhill Play Park – phone line interference

A local resident had contacted BwT PC requesting the branches be cut back as they seemed to be interfering with his phone line/internet. It was **AGREED** that the resident should contact BT to establish if the branches are the issue.

ACTION 6: Clerk to feedback to local resident

10 Progress Reports

Parking in Beckermet

It was **AGREED** to erect signage in the play park car park with time restrictions highlighted to prevent all day parking by those not using the play park. Alternative measures would be taken if the signage didn't stop the issue.

20mph Speed Limit outside Beckermet School

Ongoing. The Parish Council is concerned about the current speed limit of 30mph on the road outside of the school. The speed limit should be consistent with other schools in the area at 20mph.

It was reported that a letter has been sent to Cumberland Council highlighting these concerns with a request for a speed limit decrease to 20mph. Awaiting a response.

In addition to sending a letter JN will also speak to the local councillor.

Asset Transfer Form – Land at Thornhill

JN to take forward.

Kirk Beck River Bank Erosion - Beckermet

United Utilities carried out a site visit on 7 July 2023. It was requested that the Clerk seek feedback from the site visit and ascertain what compensatory payments would be made to the Parish Council for accessing their land.

ACTION 7: Clerk to take forward

11 Councillors' reports on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council/Report Minor Matters

Feedback from meetings

JN gave feedback from the GDF meetings attended.

Chairperson's signature



Minor matters

- **NDA Community Funding** – The criteria, to access the funding ear marked for Beckermat and other villages, has changed, whereby an application for funding **has to be** made and three quotes obtained.

JN advised that she had requested a joint meeting, with the NDA and the relevant Parish Council Chairs. This would ensure consistent messaging, from the NDA, when outlining their application process to the local parishes.

ACTION 8: JN to discuss NDA meeting request with the other Parish Council Chairs

ACTION 9: Parish Councillors to identify project categories to be included in the funding applications

- **History Group** – relocate gate stoop stone to a more visible area and organise a plaque
- **Potters Lonning** - the stiles are in bad order.

ACTION 10: JN to establish ownership of the stiles to ascertain who should repair

- **Pot hole on Braystones Road** - still a problem; it is 2 feet deep and in desperate need of repair again
- **A595 roundabout at Blackbeck** – overgrown trees are blocking visibility for road users

ACTION 11: Clerk to ascertain who to report hazards to relating to Braystones Road pothole and Blackbeck roundabout

12 Recruitment of additional councillors

A poster has been designed and placed in the noticeboards located in Thornhill and Beckermat. BwT PC is hopeful that members of the community, especially in Thornhill, will come forward to assist with the exciting projects in the pipeline for their village.

13 Date and time of next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 20 September 2023 at 19.00hrs.

All business concluded; the meeting closed at 21.01hrs