

Seascale Parish Council

Chair Person; Lizzie Mawson

Minutes of the meeting held on 4th February 2026

at the Methodist School Rooms Seascale

19/26 Present: Lizzie Mawson (LM) Chair, David Moore (DM) Vice chair, Catherine Harvey Chadwick (CHC) , Bran Harvey Chadwick (BHC), Zoe Hanlon (ZO), Brenda Parsons (BP), Jane Coltman (JC)

- i) Apologies for absence were received from KM (health)
- ii) 10 members of the public were present
- iii) In attendance Mary Bradley (MB) supporting clerk role

20/26 Requests for dispensations and declarations of interests

None were declared

21/26 Exclusion of Press and public

No items of business listed on the agenda required exclusion of the press and public

22/26 Minutes of meetings

- i) Minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2026 were approved
Proposed by JC Seconded by DM All agreed
- ii) Matters arising – update on H and S presented by BP at last meeting – MB reported that she had check as requested and had verbally had confirmation that a contract for waste on the car park was in place. BP then began to read from notes and make certain accusations concerning other councillors which were strongly denied. LM moved the meeting on.

23/26 Chair's Announcements

LM reported that the main points would be covered in agenda items

24/26 Public participation (Max 4 mins per person – Max session length – 15 mins)

- i) A question was raised regarding car parking at the Banks. There was no further update from last month.
- ii) A question was raised regarding the funds for the electrician with regard to the Xmas lights. It was agreed that this would be answered under the relevant agenda item.
- iii) It was reported that the area near the sports hall could be developed and there was the opportunity to bid to the £80m funding stream. All agreed this would be a good project.
- iv) A poster was available to promote all the activities available at the School rooms. LM said how much these are appreciated by residents.
- v) Clarity was sought regarding Facebook. The actual SPC face book page isn't currently utilised. JC and ZO are admin for a Facebook page where SPC matters are reported. There are also 2 other Facebook pages that have Seascale comments.

It was agreed that in order to ensure the SPC is used correctly a policy and procedure needs to be written to clarify what is posted and who can post.

JC offered to do a draft for the next SPC meeting.

- vi) DM was thanked for the work he had undertaken at the Sports Hall
- vii) The state of the litter bins on the car park were discussed and all agreed that there needs to be better locks and the broken lids replaced. The issue of inappropriate waste being left there was also raised. If this is known to be a certain time, then the CCTV can be checked.

CHC and BHC to follow this up.

25/26 Report from visiting Councillors and police

DM (as Cumberland councillor) gave an update on the proposed art installation. Instead of presentations at parish council meetings, Councillors (but not general public at this stage) are invited to join a webinar 5/3 at 6- 7.30 pm. MB had prior circulated information and the access code.

26/26 Clerks report/correspondence

- a) MB reported back that UU said following her letter they thanked the staff concerned.
- b) Precept has been submitted and acknowledged

- c) Letter resent to Utilities Warehouse yesterday on a recently acquired new email address with a response saying they will get back to MB in 10 working days.
- d) Letter to highways re road markings by Bridge and registered on HIMS
- e) Assertion 10 training offer will be taken up by BHC and MB
- f) Councillors were asked to note that any decisions, contracts etc going forward must consider Biodiversity responsibilities.
- g) Information regarding housing and climate change events had been circulated.

27/26 Community Resilience

- a) DM reported on behalf of the Heart of Communities Task and Finish group that all was progressing well, with agreed dates for delivery and fixing of items. The soft play area was now in situ, and a successful event had raised £150.
- b) To ensure payments are made in a timely manner, MB to send updated schedule to MW.
- c) Anti -social behaviour – BP spoke to this, but it was unclear regarding the point being made for Cllrs to address. DM clarified that he does not sit on any committee related to this. MB tried to explain the Police and Crime Commissioners project but was prevented from doing so by BP.

28/26 Play Grounds

- a) LM is still aiming to get quotes for the Foreshore play park repairs. MB had circulated the latest maintenance report to councillors in confidence, following a request by JC at the previous meeting.
- b) ZO gave an update on the work related to Coniston play park Task and Finish group. The first payment of money from mid Copeland GDF had been received and a meeting arranged on 5/2/26 with Playdale to progress the work.
- c) There was an issue regarding 2 benches currently in situ on site. The T and F group were asked to consider relocating these in an appropriate place within the parish, giving consideration to current that may need replacing.
- d) MB to confirm a schedule of payments and pass to MW to ensure timely payments are made.

29/26 Parish Council Assets

- a) Sports Hall – DM was thanked for repairing the urinals. He had also inspected the roof tiles which were confirmed as being hardboard. Although will need replacing in time, they are currently not likely to fall or cause any damage. The door lintel had been checked but this needs fine weather to resolve.
- b) A quote had been received for the library meter cupboard door. This was accepted as there is a need to be able to access the meters and check the usage which appears higher than expected.
ZO/MB were asked to progress this.
- c) Library bid for refurbishment was still on hold waiting the structural engineers report. MB to chase.
- d) BHC brought 2 quotes for work related to the CCTV equipment. The quotes do require revision as now out of date. This led to a discussion on current contractual arrangements and a desire to consolidate if feasible, to one contractor. BHC asked to explore options and bring fresh quotes to the March meeting.
- e) In response to the query regarding the lights, DM said that the electrician had given notice that he will not be doing the Xmas lights in future. The Parish Council has no obligation to provide lights and as reported at the last meeting, it is for the community to decide what they would like. JC queried that this was more than the budget and DM stated that the invoice included work carried out on the toilet block. He also stated that the higher cost was for replacing broken lights. MB would ensure that the breakdown of work was allocated to the correct budget line.

30/26 Parish Maintenance and Highways

- a) MB had circulated an update from volunteers from the mowing meeting held on 28th January 26 at the library which was for interested volunteers to find out more about the requirements for mowing the grass the parish is responsible for. Only 4 volunteers attended with 4 Cllrs (1 of which volunteered). The meeting ended with a view that the council needed to tender for this work.

- b) Cllrs agreed that a tender should be prepared with an option to cut the Dell on a separate contract and with agreement able to use our equipment or their own. MB to prepare a tender. JC and LM to check and agree on distribution. Cllrs will be asked to share with anyone who may be interested in tendering.

31/26 Planning and Licencing applications

MB had missed this and it was not formally on the agenda, but she brought it to Cllrs attention so that they could respond individually

4/26/2014/OFI 15/12/25 55 Gosforth Rd Seascale – 4 bedroom detached house

No objection providing access was considered

-4/25/2419/OFI – DM reported that details of SPC ownership have been submitted to and acknowledged by Cumberland Council planning department who if no further representation is made by the applicants, will not be progressing.

31/26 Planning and Licencing decisions

Currently nothing to note

32/26 Governance, Support Structures and Staffing (carried from January meeting)

- i) Nominations for staffing committee - LM, DM and JC – MB to organise an agenda and meeting.
- ii) Nominations for asset and development working group – MB spoke regarding a recent training course she had attended. She said that she felt that it would be a good idea to work with the Cllr leading on each asset individually so that baseline reports could be produced. The working group could then be formed to follow up on the reports.
Cllrs agreed to this suggestion and MB will arrange a schedule. Progress on updating policies and procedures was in hand- JC said she had completed the first batch, and they will be circulated and put as draft on web site for Cllrs to consider. Amendments and comments to JC.

- iii) Financial standing orders – MB had produced the first draft but felt that the sums of money needed to be reviewed.
The following amendments were the result of discussion:
5.8 – £3,000 (not £10,000)
5.9 - £500 – 3,000 (not £1,000)
5.15 - £3,000 (not £2,000)
Plus 2 other minor amendments to wording.
This will now be amended and the final version placed on the web site with the current one removed.
- iv) Training needs – discussion held over from November – items had been circulated. ZO and BP to attend the governance session for induction. DM expressed interest in the session on assets.
- v) JC spoke to the Supporting Documents for Meetings paper previously circulated. This was agreed as good practice. MB to simplify the current form and send to Cllrs to aid correct practice.

33/26 Finance and accounts

RFO Report 27th January 2026 , For Seascale Parish Council Meeting 4th February 2026

Bank Balances as of 27th January 2026:

General Reserves Account:	£164,482.90
Current Account:	£56,142.74
Unity Card:	£100.00
	£220,725.64

Payments made in January 2026:

Date	Creditor	Credit	Debit (gross)	VAT	Comments
01/01/2026	Opening balance	£170,000.56			
20/01/2026	Nuclear Waste Services	£53,363.00			Coniston Play area grant
05/01/2026	Dawn Dennet		£230.00		Toilet block cleaning

14/01/2026	Octopus Energy		£43.19	£2.06	Electricity - Toilet block
14/01/2026	Octopus Energy		£643.62		Electricity - Library
19/01/2026	Mary Bradley		£1,892.10		Supporting clerk
19/01/2026	Seascale Sports Hall		£720.00		5 yearly electrical inspection
19/01/2026	Waterplus		£128.09		Water - Toilet block
19/01/2026	Quality Cleaning		£108.00		Litter bin emptying
19/01/2026	PATA Payroll Services		£11.70		Payroll services
20/01/2026	David Pegram		£1,770.00		Toilet block door replacement
20/01/2026	AV Irrigation		£1,644.96	£274.16	deposit for irrigation installation at Bowling Club
22/01/2026	HMRC	£4,579.56			VAT claim 2024-2025
26/01/2026	EE Limited		£25.82		DAV monthly SIM maintenance
31/01/2026	Unity Trust Bank		£8.85		Service Charge

£276.2

£227,943.12 £7,226.33 2

Payments for authorisation at February Parish Meeting:

1.	T&C Biggins – Christmas lights	£720.00
2.	David Pegram – Toilet block ceiling	£3,850.00
3	Millers roofing services	£3,048.00

Proposed as accepted LM, seconded by CHC - 6 for 2 against.

34/26 Budget for 26/27

- i) The Asset register – prior circulated, was briefly discussed. The 2 items which need further consideration are Land at Whitriggs Bridge and Watering Place (identified after meeting as 2 old watering holes for parish horses).
- ii) Concern was expressed regarding not receiving back the accounts for 24/25 as there is LLR funding at risk. MB to once again chase the auditors.

35/26 Councillors matters

- JC updated that the defib had been repaired and back in situ.
- Untidiness at entrance to Railway station – DM reported that Cumberland UA were aware.
- Report of Rats and Moles on the Dell – people need to report this to environmental health.
- BP said that a member of the public had asked what was happening with the old bank building. JC said that she was looking into this personally, it was not a council project, however she could confirm that she had spoken to the owner and was going to email them with further details. She would be happy to update when she received a reply.

36/26 Date of Next meetings

All at 7pm in the Methodist School Rooms, Seascale , 4th March 2026, 1st April, 6th May APM 13th May.

Meeting ended at 21.05