

# THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held at the Committee Room, People's Hall, Sedbergh at 7.30pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Present: Councillors Atkins (Chair), Lancaster, Allan, Longlands, Arnold, Brooks, Capstick and Sedgwick.

### Part I

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dawson and McPherson and accepted by the meeting.

#### **2. Requests for Dispensations**

There were no requests for dispensations

#### **3. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **4. Public Participation**

Thomas and Carole Curran attended the meeting to represent residents at Millthrop following the proposal by BT to remove 77 telephone boxes in the South Lakeland District Council area. The phone box at Millthrop was one of the highlighted boxes for removal. Mr and Mrs Curran wished to ask Members if they would support their request to 'Adopt a Kiosk' (a scheme whereby a £1.00 sum allows you to 'adopt' the phone box). It was noted that there were certain deadlines to be adhered to in order to prevent removal of the phone box and, therefore, it was proposed by Cllr Lancaster that the Council should support Millthrop residents by adopting the kiosk, this was seconded by Cllr Longlands and agreed by Members. The Clerk was instructed to write to BT prior to the deadline advising them of the proposal to adopt the kiosk and clarify the procedure for fulfilling the request. It was noted that residents in Millthrop were considering the possibilities of housing a Defibrillator and/or a mini information/reference point within the kiosk.

#### **5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair, Cllr Atkins.

#### **6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

Item 5 – Public Participation – it was noted that the Sedbergh and District Chamber of Trade had not been able to fulfill their intention to have Chamber Members present on the car parks for the proposed 'free' Saturday parking and had, instead, placed a sign on the ticket machines advising people of two locations in the town where they could obtain a refund in exchange for completing a short visitor survey. Members noted the Chair's concern over the wording on the signs and agreed that signs needed to be specific and allow no ambiguity.

Item 10 – Millthrop Bridge – it was noted that repair works had now commenced on the bridge, initially damaged during Storm Desmond in December 2015.

Item 17 – Benches – Castlegarth and Maryfell – The clerk should again ask CCC Highways for an update on any planned works to benches in Sedbergh. It was further agreed to include, as a future Agenda item, a report on other benches in the town in need of repair.

#### **7. Co-option**

It was noted that two applications had been received in regard to the Casual Vacancy. The applicants were considered for nomination in alphabetical order:

Mr Nick Cross (no proposer)

Ms Faith Kendrick (no proposer).

As neither applicant secured a proposer on this occasion, it was agreed that the Casual Vacancy should be advertised again. A new template would be considered with an extended deadline. Both applicants would be advised that they might apply again if they wished.

## **8. Report from District/County Council**

Apologies were received from Cllr Nick Cotton and Cllr Mel Mackie. Cllr Lancaster wished to advise Members that B4RN (Community Broadband Project) was making good progress and hoped that Members would be supportive of this project in the future, particularly in view of the potential benefits to the communities of Howgill, Cautley and Dowbiggin.

## **9. Planning**

The attached Planning Report was adopted by Members.

## **10. Finance**

a) The meeting received the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

b) The Council agreed a list of payments presented at the meeting.

c) Following recommendation from the Policy and Resource Committee it was agreed to approve the 2017/2018 Budget (attached). Members noted that there was a year on year pattern developing of rising expenditure; however, this was due to increased spending in relation to programmed works, including Townscape projects and the planned resurfacing of Joss Lane car park.

## **11. Grants**

There were no grant applications received.

## **12. Amenities Committee**

The minutes were received by the Council and accepted at the meeting. It was noted that Sedbergh Wanderers Football Club would be attending the January meeting. The Clerk was requested to progress the works to the Alder Tree at the path close to Settlebeck and to update Settlebeck School accordingly. The Clerk will seek an update with regard to any available drawings for the toilets at Main Street.

## **13. Sedbergh Townscape Project**

An updating report was received by the Council and accepted.

It was noted that no tenders had been received within the specified period in relation to the proposed works for the improvements at The People's Hall. This was further discussed at the end of the meeting under Part II (see below).

## **14. Queen's Garden**

It was noted that the Committee is due to meet on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

## **15. Community Resilience Plan**

The draft Plan had now been circulated widely within the community and the response had been positive. It was hoped that Settlebeck School would also be involved in a future meeting. The need to purchase equipment, such as radios/road closed signs was also discussed and it was agreed by members that the Clerk should be given delegated power (in conjunction with the Chair) to purchase these items from the Amenities budget. Further noted was that future consideration should be given to the accessibility of a generator to serve the People's Hall.

## **16. Sedbergh War Memorial**

Following receipt of the attached report, Members agreed that Parkin and Jackson should be requested to complete the specialist repair to the stonework (as in previous years).

## **17. Sunday Free Parking Request**

Following the request from Traders/Businesses in Sedbergh, Members agreed that Free Sunday parking should be approved. It was further discussed and agreed by Members that December Sunday Free Parking should mirror any such provision by SLDC in future years.

### **18. Maryfell – Play Park**

A meeting had recently been held with SLDC, attended also by SLH, The Community Trust and residents. SLDC will make a contribution to a refurbishment of the Park and will also assist in finding other funding avenues. It was noted that both The Community Trust and SLH would also welcome a grant application to assist with works. Members agreed that Sedbergh Parish Council should contribute the sum of £1,000 in addition to making application to the District Council's Locally Important Projects fund. A future meeting will be held to discuss possible options with regard to refurbishing/replacing items at the Park, therefore giving a clearer indication of potential costs.

### **19. Correspondence**

The attached Clerk's Report was considered by the meeting and the following noted:

- a. Tree at Slacks Lane – it was noted that following the fall of the tree at the entrance to Slacks Lane, Howgill, residents have been left with no landline telephones. It was agreed that The Clerk should contact both CCC Highways and BT to establish the delay and request a speedy solution.
- b. Sedbergh CIC – Market Rules – The meeting agreed the Market Rules circulated to Members.
- c. Integrated Care Team (ICC) – Members noted the recent meeting that had been held.
- d. Keep Britain Tidy – Members discussed the recent communication regarding the costs of obtaining further bins around Sedbergh and the potential to relocate existing bins. It was agreed that an approach should be made to Sedbergh School with regard to financing an additional bin in the region of Busk Lane (particularly to address the problem of fouling by dogs in this area) and that SPC could consider relocating an existing bin from elsewhere in the town to a new location on School land. It was suggested that the bin from the bus stop opposite Morphet's Garage could be relocated. Cllr Brooks also suggested the need for a bin at New Bridge, close to the picnic area.
- e. Salt Bins – Residents on Havera have requested a salt/grit bin for Havera. Members agreed that Sedbergh Parish Council should approach SLDC for permission to place a bin on their small area of land at the base of Havera. Members further agreed that SPC should purchase the bin. Residents of Havera have advised that they will spread the salt/grit themselves.

## **Part II**

In accordance with Standing Order 3(d) it was proposed and resolved that the public should be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the financial information to be discussed in relation to the following item:

### **13. Sedbergh Townscape Project**

The meeting noted that discussions had taken place with the contractor appointed by the People's Hall Committee and that a quote had subsequently been received. It was agreed that a decision as to whether or not to accept the quote should await the outcome of an application to the District Council's Locally Important Project fund. The Clerk to the Council was authorised to make such an application.

(Details of the Part II meeting are recorded as a separate confidential minute.)

**15. Date and Time of next meeting –Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7.30pm, the monthly meeting of the Parish Council to be held in the Committee Room of the People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.**