

# 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 11<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Present: Councillors Atkins (Chair), Allan, Mary Macpherson, Capstick, Ian McPherson, Longlands, Dawson and Sedgwick.

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Brooks, Arnold and Lancaster 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. Phil Ruston – Connecting Cumbria

Members welcomed Phil Ruston. Connecting Cumbria (<http://www.connectingcumbria.org.uk/>) is a project to improve access to superfast broadband. 'It is their aspiration that 95% of homes and businesses in the county will be able to access superfast broadband by mid-2018' with their ultimate goal being 96/97%. 'Connecting Cumbria is a partnership between Cumbria County Council and BT that hopes boost the local economy by supporting the creation and protection of jobs over the next few years and is funded by Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK), Cumbria County Council and BT'. Phil was able to advise Members that he hopes to run a Digital Inclusion event in Sedbergh soon and would welcome assistance from any member of the community in circulating this information more widely. The event would assist personal and business users and would aim to dispel any myths around superfast broadband and give customers further insight into potential benefits. The meeting thanked Mr. Ruston for his presentation and assistance with members' questions and agreed to provide him with contact details for the 'Lookaround', the People's Hall and the Information Centre Manager to facilitate arrangements for the proposed Digital Inclusion event.

### 5. Public Participation

There were no Members of the Public present at the meeting.

### 6. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016

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

### 7. Matters arising from the Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Item 5 – South Lakes Housing – SPC has been approached to provide details of residents willing to assist in a possible a case study for the Starts at Home campaign. They have also advised that they are considering the potential for private hire of the communal lounge at Gladstone House and that they hope to run an Information Coffee morning soon to allow residents the opportunity to ask further questions. This follows the recent announcement concerning sheltered housing/communal lounges.

Item 6 – Joss Lane Car park – Members were advised that the Clerk is in further communication with CCC regarding the availability of technical advice on the planned resurfacing/improvement works.

Item 11 – Sedbergh in Bloom – Members agreed that one of the planters could perhaps be considered for outside the toilets on Main Street.

Item 16 – Yorkshire Dales National Park Visitor Centre – Cllr McPherson was able to give an update following a recent meeting with YDNPA and advised that there was agreement in principle for an interpretative panel/display to be placed in Sedbergh at the Information Centre (72 Main Street) and that this would be considered further in September with a potential inception in April 2017.

### 8. Report from District/County Council

Apologies were received from Cllr Nick Cotton and Cllr Mel Mackie.

## **9. Planning**

The attached Planning Report was adopted by Members and it was noted that the Yorkshire Dales Local Plan will undergo a further six week consultation period in September /October following further modifications.

## **10. Finance**

- a) The meeting received the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2016 and following the recommendation, Members agreed to approve the conclusion of the Annual Return 2015/2016.
- b) The Council agreed a list of payments presented at the meeting.

## **11. Grants**

There were no Grant applications.

## **12. Amenities Committee**

A verbal report was given to Members following their recent meeting (minutes from this meeting and the July meeting would be circulated in due course). It was noted that the donation boxes for the toilets at Main Street had now been received. It was agreed that the Policy & Resources Committee and the Amenities Committee would continue to review arrangements for the collection of the donations received. Further noted was the request for YDNPA's Tree Officer to attend the site at the river Rawthey to investigate trees that may require attention in the interests of public safety. Finally it was noted that Sedbergh Wanderers Football Club was concerned about the lower corner of the pitch, which was no longer draining adequately. It was therefore agreed that, subsequent to the recent investigation which could not take place fully due to blockages, further works should now take place to allow the contractor to address the problem. Members noted that this would probably involve digging up areas of the field to obtain access to the drains and, if so, it was agreed that it would be appropriate for the excavated areas to be part filled with sand/gravel to assist with drainage generally.

## **13. Sedbergh Townscape Project**

An updating report was received by the Council and accepted. It was noted that, following agreement with the People's Hall Committee with regard to the proposed boundary/entrance improvements, the YDNPA had confirmed that the works amounted to permitted development and CCC Highways have now been approached for their comments. Cllr Longlands also raised the notion of allowing for a bike stand in the improvements and it was agreed that this could be beneficial close to the entrance of the play area.

## **14. Queens Garden**

The attached report was received by Members and it was noted that all the gates were now back in place. It was further noted that the Music Event planned for September would now be deferred until spring 2017. Cllr Macpherson asked the committee to consider any proposed date around this time carefully having regard to the possibility of disturbance to nesting birds.

## **15. Vision Statement**

The final version of the 'Vision Statement for Sedbergh' was approved by Members and would be available on the Parish Council website.

## **16. Sedbergh Flood Investigation Report (draft)**

It was noted that some Members had attended the recent presentation by CCC to residents in connection with the draft report for Sedbergh following the floods in December.

## **17. Correspondence**

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

- a. UK Cycling Event – a charity bike ride will pass through the town on 15<sup>th</sup> September and a small area on Joss Lane car park would be made available for their water/refresh stop (approx 2-4pm).

- b. Post Office Closure – it was noted that a shuttle bus to Kendal was now going to be in place during the planned refurbishment of the Sedbergh branch.
- c. Cumbria Victims Charitable Trust – a request for donations had been received and it was agreed that further information should be sought. Noted during this item was the visit by the Police and Crime Commissioner planned later this month, Cllr Atkins would be in attendance.  
It was further noted at this point, by Cllr Dawson, the current concerns in the town relating to the retained Fire Service in Sedbergh, in that the crew were not always available for emergency call outs due to contractual arrangements. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact CCC for further clarity.
- d. Kerbside Recycling - plastic/cardboard would roll out in Sedbergh on 24/25 August.
- e. Maryfell Playground – the Clerk was in communication with SLDC regarding the playground following issues raised by a resident.
- f. Sedbergh Community Trust – following recent contact from the Trust in regard to the wording on the Grant Application Guidance notes, it was agreed that SPC would keep their existing wording. Members were also asked by the Trust to consider volunteering as a Trustee (in an individual capacity), such appointments to be made at the Trust's AGM to be held on 10 October this year.
- g. Milthrop Bridge – it was noted that a member of the public was concerned about safety at the bridge, however, the Clerk was able to confirm that it has previously been inspected by CCC following the damage sustained in December.
- h. Police Report – an updating report was circulated to Members.

**19. Date and Time of next meetings –Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016 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**