

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in The People's Hall, Sedbergh at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th January 2016

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

PART I

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Ian McPherson

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations

3. Declarations of Interest

Item 8 - Planning – Cllr Longlands

4. Police Report

There was no updating report this month. It was acknowledged that further to the recent restructuring at Cumbria Constabulary, PCSO's would often be unavailable for Parish Council meetings, but that anything significant would be passed on where possible.

5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council 10th December 2015

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

6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 10th December 2015

Item 5 – Settlebeck School – Settlebeck School's Head of PE, Lynsey Goodyear, will forward further information to SPC in regard to their proposed pre-planning enquiry for a 3G pitch in due course.

Item 7 – Website – Following the meeting held on 15th December 2015, in relation to the proposal for Sedbergh PC to move their website to Sedbergh.org.uk, it was recommended by the working group that a quote received for the design work be accepted and was agreed for approval. It was further agreed that the notion of SPC paying for its own server would be discussed with the Chamber of Trade (who currently host Sedbergh.org.uk) when they meet on 18 January 2016. Conclusions from this meeting would be reported at a future meeting for final approval.

Item 12 – Public Participation – Following issues highlighted by members of the public in December, regarding the flooding at Guldrey, a multi agency meeting is scheduled for 19th January 2016. Cllrs Longlands, Atkins and Capstick hoped to attend along with representation from residents at Guldrey. Cllr Atkins also advised that CCC Councillor Nick Cotton is due on 20th January 2016 to discuss this and various other issues of damage/flooding in the area. It was noted that the footbridge at Howgill/Firbank should be highlighted, along with Straight Bridge (where members of the public have offered to do the work) and the culvert that has recently been replaced close to Blands Gill Farm, Howgill, Plank Bridge at Birks and the footpath erosion at Lockbank. Also noted were the raised and dangerous covers in the highway at Ridge House on the Cautley Road.

7. Report from District/County Council

Apologies were received from Cllr Nick Cotton.

Cllr Mel Mackie acknowledged the Bailey Bridge that was now in place at Middleton Hall was a relief for anyone wishing to travel to Kirkby Lonsdale. He was concerned to see if household waste collections had now resolved and Members reported that they had received no new complaints. It was noted that the Glass Recycling container at Joss Lane had been overflowing for some time; this has been reported to SLDC.

It was further noted that perhaps when residents see that the container is full, they take their recycling home until next time, also noting that there was still curb side recycling for glass.

8. Planning

A written report was adopted by the meeting. Points to note were as follows:

The variation on Condition 2 of the Planning Permission at Highfield Villas (to convert a garage to a dwelling) and the approval of the bunk barn proposed at Old Spout Barn, Dowbiggin.

9. Finance

The meeting received the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resource Committee held on the 12th January 2016. Arising from those minutes, points to note were as follows.

- a) Item 6 – Income and Expenditure – Market SLA – it was agreed that when a meeting was arranged with the CIC to discuss this, a member of the Amenities Committee should attend.
- b) Item 7 – Budget and Precept – The final Budget was agreed and recommended for approval and it was resolved, therefore, to request a Precept payment of £34,540.45 from SLDC to meet expenses included in the Budget for 2016/2017.

The Council agreed a list of payments submitted to the meeting.

11. Grants

There were no Grant applications received.

11. Public Participation

Mr John Metcalfe again wished to highlight the finances of the Western Dales Bus, also now asking why there was no service from Howgill, Firbank etc. SPC had previously recommended that Mr Metcalfe contact the Western Dales Bus directly but he asked that SPC should do this on his behalf. Members again agreed that if he wished to make further enquiry about this, he should do so directly, or attend the Western Dales Bus AGM. Members also advised that the Western Dales Bus existed due to volunteers and was being run on routes that were not commercially viable otherwise. It was reaffirmed that the Council's award of a grant would be accompanied by a note expressing the Council's concern that WDB take all reasonable steps to avoid competing with commercial operators.

12. Amenities Committee

A report was received and accepted. It was noted that there had been flooding on Joss Lane car park and a local contractor had been contacted to investigate and clear the drains close to the recycling area. Cllr Arnold was thanked by Members for clearing large amounts of leaf debris from Loftus Hill car park. In connection with street lighting, it was agreed that Cllr Lancaster could raise the issue of slow acknowledgement from CCC when reporting lights that were unlit/problematic.

13. Sedbergh Townscape Project

An updating report was received by the Council and accepted. It was agreed that the Clerk should now seek tenders for the erection of the screening fence needed at SPAR for the recycling area. The fencing was part of the original planning permission; SLDC had confirmed that the containers were being utilised; the Clerk was further liaising with SPAR. Discussions over the proposed boundary wall and access at the People's Hall were discussed under Part II.

14. Queens Garden

Correspondence had been received from Mr M Hinson in relation to ongoing works at the Gardens and also from a resident in relation to overgrowing shrubs. It was agreed that members of Queen's Gardens Committee would arrange a meeting as soon as possible to discuss the ongoing issues and the proposed Public Meeting to discuss the future of the gardens.

15. Parish Council Award Scheme

There was nothing new to report.

16. Fibre GarDen - update

It was noted that there was an emergency meeting being held to discuss the future of Fibre GarDen, Cllr Lancaster would update at the meeting in February any significant outcome.

17. Town Notice Boards (deferred from December meeting)

The issue of untidy/unkept notice boards about town had been raised by a resident. Sedbergh CIC had also raised the idea of a larger fixed board on the wall at 72 Main Street. It was also noted that posters were often placed on lamp posts and not removed. It was agreed that the notice board located at the side of Brown's of Sedbergh was in very poor conditions and untidy and the Clerk should write to the owner of the building to ask if this could now be removed and the exposed wall made good/painted to match. It was further agreed that the SPC notice board should be refurbished and that general information at this location, should move to the new board at the Information Centre. Also noted, that as part of the garden enhancement scheme at 72 Main Street, there were funds still available for a replacement notice/information board for Sedbergh following the removal of the old one. Members were asked to consider ideas for a future meeting as to what should be put on this board and where it would be best located.

18. Correspondence

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

- a. Buckingham Palace Garden Party nominations – A nomination was agreed by members for services to Sedbergh.
- b. Consultation on Extra Care Housing/Supported Housing – it was agreed that SPC should highlight that it has previously been identified as a proposed site for such housing. Discussions arose around the need for supported extra care housing in the area and Cllr Mary Macpherson expressed her concern over the ongoing issue of care for the elderly.
- c. A nomination for New Years Honours List 2017 – A nomination was agreed by members for services to the community.
- d. YDNPA – Parish Forum Meeting 23rd March 2016 – Cllr Lancaster agreed to attend.

19. Date and Time of next monthly meeting – 7.30pm Thursday 11th February 2016 in the Committee Room of the People's Hall.

Part II

It was resolved and agreed that the public should be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the financial information to be discussed.

13. Sedbergh Townscape Project

The meeting considered a letter received from Garsdale Design in response to the Council's invitation to undertake work in connection with the proposed boundary wall and access improvements at the People's Hall, Sedbergh. The meeting agreed that Garsdale Design be engaged to prepare the necessary drawings, and undertake the associated work as detailed in the letter, for the sum quoted.