

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in the Committee Room of the People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh at 7.30pm on Thursday 11th October 2018

Present: Councillors Lancaster, McPherson, Arnold, Brooks, Capstick, Longlands, Bromley, Cowperthwaite, Welti and Sedgwick (One vacancy)

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

5. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 13th September 2018

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Lancaster.

6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 13th September 2018

Item 4 – Farfield Mill, Members were encouraged by the amount of funds raised so far, in the bid for Farfield Mill to become a Benefic Community Society. Members also noted that there was a Question and Answer session scheduled later this month, at the People's Hall, to continue to raise awareness of the Let's Share Farfield Campaign.

Item 8 – Highways – A quote had now been received in relation to the proposed Hedge Cutting on the Dent road (from Millthrop Bridge). Members noted the price and it was agreed that the works should be completed as soon as practicable. Cllr Lancaster was able to advise, that he hoped to utilize District Council allowance monies to reimburse the associated costs for this trial.

7. Report from District/County Council

Apologies were received from CCC Cllr Cotton and DC Cllr Mitchell. Cllr Sheila Capstick was able to advise over concern in neighbouring parishes over Ash dieback, also noting that Rhododendrons can host the disease. Cllr Capstick was also able to advise on the current Fells and Dales, LEADER program, noting that an event was due to be hosted in Sedbergh later this month for local farmers interested in diversifying and supporting employment.

8. Highways Matters

Cllr Lancaster reported a series of manhole covers on the Cautley road, close to St Mark's Church. Flooding was also noted at Croasdale Beck, Howgill Lane and the continued flooding at Toll Bar straight during bouts of heavy rain, as well as flooding across the road at Howgill Lane, close to the play park. Cllr McPherson was able to update Members regarding a recent incident on Bainbridge Road, where an HGV had attempted to use the road whilst using SatNav. This had resulted in severe damage to a car and walls. Members agreed, that The Clerk should write to CCC and request that an 'unsuitable for HGV sign be installed to prevent a further occurrence. Members further requested that SPC seek CCC's views on considering Bainbridge Road for one-way traffic in the future.

9. Planning

The attached Planning minutes were received by the meeting. In particular, Members additionally noted the recent approval made at YDNPA full planning committee in relation to S/03/658 – Hebblethwaite Hall Farm.

10. Finance

- a) The attached Policy and Resource minutes and papers were received by the meeting and all routine requests for payments were approved.
- b) Additionally, payment for the delayed WaterPlus invoice was authorised - £1341.46 following a satisfactory explanation of costs from WaterPlus and payment for Sports Surfacing Solutions - £38040.00 for their initial payment for works at the Tennis Courts. This was authorised following completion of the majority of the works. Cheques for both were, therefore, approved for signature at the meeting.
- c) Annual Audit 2017/2018 – The Notice of Conclusion and observations for the Annual Audit by PFK was received and approved by Members.

11. Grants

There were no Grant applications received.

12. Amenities Committee

The attached Amenities minutes were received by the meeting. Of particular note was a report of a fallen small tree among the hedge bordering the rear of Highfield road, Cllr Longlands and Capstick will report further in due course. In addition, the Clerk had subsequently received notice that a branch had fallen from a tree on the Woodside Avenue boundary some weeks ago. Cllr Capstick and Longlands had attended the address and observed that this tree should be included in any Tree Survey as soon as practicable (see Item 14 – Queen’s Garden).

13. Maryfell playpark and parking

SLDC has recently verbally advised that the minimum project funds had now been accumulated and they hope, therefore, to proceed with the project over the winter. It is likely that an open Tender event will take place in due course, with a further meeting with interested parties, being held in early 2019 to discuss the project going forward. In respect of parking at Maryfell, the Clerk was able to advise that SLH had recently visited Maryfell with their Architect and a proposed plan to improve parking would be forthcoming to Members for comment. A local drop in event will also be arranged for residents in the area to discuss.

14. Queen’s Garden

Cllr Lancaster and McPherson advised that a meeting of the QG Committee would be convened as soon as practicable to discuss the planned risk assessment of the Trees in the Garden. Two quotes had now been received and the Clerk hoped to obtain a third as soon as possible. Members agreed to delegate authority to the Committee to engage with a survey in due course, also being mindful that the tree at the playing field should be surveyed at the same time and as soon as practicable. It was further noted that works were progressing well on the reconstruction of The Bowling Green wall.

15. Tennis Courts

Members noted that works were substantially completed and wished to express formal thanks to The Tennis Club for all their efforts toward this project. Noting that the newly refurbished courts were an asset to the Town. The initial payment to Sports Surfacing Solutions would now be made, and the claim form to Sport England would be submitted. Members noted that no further progress had been made in relation to the proposed sub lease and it was agreed that SPC should seek an update from the Tennis Club.

16. Joss Lane car park

Members noted that a recent Capital Growth Bid application with SLDC had been unsuccessful, however, a LIP application could be made toward any future project. Cllr Lancaster and Arnold agreed to discuss this further and report to a future meeting

17. Loftus Hill car park

Members noted that an update was awaited from Sedbergh School in relation to the lease. Members also discussed the consideration of any potential resurface that may be required here in the future, and that Members should be mindful of any cost implications for resurfacing works on any lease agreed. It was acknowledged that a general price for any potential resurfacing had been received and that, perhaps, any proposed future works at Joss Lane car park, could be considered alongside.

18. Sedbergh CIC – Director Nominee

Members noted the recent response from Sedbergh CIC in relation to attending meetings as a proxy of the nominated official. Members requested a copy of their constitution for reference and further discussion at a future meeting.

19. Correspondence

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

- i) RBL – Cllr Lancaster confirmed attendance at the Remembrance Service in November.
- ii) YDNPA – A copy of the Community Use Agreement for the Sedbergh School Hirst Centre was circulated for information.
- iii) Notice of Casual Vacancy – The Clerk was able to confirm that SLDC had acknowledged the vacancy and the current 14-day period of notice would expire on 15th October 2018.
- iv) YDNPA Parish Forum – the scheduled forum meetings were cancelled due to low forecasted attendance. Members were invited to respond further to YDNPA with questions for future meetings.
- v) Community Resilience event – Members noted a scheduled Cumbria Resilience event later in October. Members agreed that SPC's plan should be reviewed and placed on the Agenda for November.
- vi) SLH – Independent Living Scheme – members noted the circulated information provided by SLH and their offer of attendance at a future meeting. However, the literature provided was deemed very informative and requirement for attendance was, therefore, unnecessary.
- vii) YDNPA – Information received in regard to planned Natural Flood Management scheme in Sedbergh., including leaky woody dams, gapping and hedge laying improvements.

20. Date and Time of next meeting - Thursday 8th November 2018 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room, People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.