

# **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 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

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

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Arnold and Capstick and accepted by the meeting.

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

There were no requests for dispensations

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

Item 8 – Planning – applications S/03/619 (and S/03/454G) Birksholme, Sedbergh – Cllrs Ian McPherson and Atkins

Item 10 – Grant Application – Donation request YDNPA – Cllr Ian McPherson

### **4. Public Participation**

Dr Gina Barney – Sedbergh People's Hall – a letter had previously been circulated to Members in connection with growing concern over misuse of car park at The People's Hall. Sedbergh Parish Council and The People's Hall Committee have joint responsibility for the management of the car park. Dr Barney requested Members to consider the placement of signs reminding people that the car park was for patrons of the People's Hall, Playing Fields/Park and Gym only and not as a general car park for members of the public to use freely over long periods of time. Some verbal requests had already been made to residents and visitors to remove vehicles and improvements in compliance with the parking rules were being made. However, it was felt that clear signage (attached) would help clarify the situation. After some discussion, Cllr Dawson proposed that the signs should first be installed in short format (excluding the reference to the proposed parking charge liability for offenders) for a period of two months, thus allowing the community (and visitors) some adjustment time. After this period, should the problem of unauthorised parking persist, the long version of the sign (including the details of parking charge) should be installed. This was seconded by Cllr Lancaster and agreed by Members.

### **5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council 11<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

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

### **6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

Item 4 – Connecting Cumbria – an event had now been scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

Item 7 –Yorkshire Dales National Park Visitor Centre – Cllr Atkins was able to give a brief update, in that YDNPA were proposing an A1 size Interpretation Board for the Information Centre.

Item 16 – Flood Investigations – Cllr Atkins was able to advise that there were ongoing enquires and reports.

Item 17c – Police Crime Commissioner – Cllr Atkins attended a recent meeting and reported that the wish for increased visible policing was a common feature highlighted amongst Parishes. The importance of receiving feedback on crime investigations was emphasized to the Commissioner.

Item 17 – Cumbria Fire Service – A response had been received in relation to the issue raised by Cllr Dawson, however, it was felt that the Clerk should seek further clarity in regard to lead officers being available for call outs.

Item 17f – Sedbergh Community Trust – It was noted that Members still needed to consider volunteering to become a Trustee and that this item would be on the Agenda in October. Thanks were extended to Cllr Allan for all the time she has already given to The Trust over the past years.

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

Apologies were received from Cllr Nick Cotton and Cllr Mel Mackie. Cllr Lancaster wished to highlight how SPC should be thankful that they continued to have control over their car parks/toilets and market, as this was becoming problematic in other areas.

## **8. Planning**

The attached Planning Report was adopted by Members and the following points were noted in addition.

S/03/272A, Dalesview, Ash Hining Farm, Marthwaite. Cllr Atkins proposed that further discussion in regard to this planning application should be deferred whilst additional information is sought in connection with the proposal and this was agreed by Members.

It was also noted that an informal meeting had recently taken place with the agent representing the owners of Baliol School. Further noted was the application relating to other land at Baliol which would involve the move of two local businesses.

S/03/619 Birksholme, Sedbergh (comments for S/03/454G were also noted at this point). Members discussed this planning application by Sedbergh School for change of use of an existing open field to sports training field including infill of land to level. It was noted by Members that the spoil from the planned Sports Facility at Busk Lane would be the basis for this application. It was resolved to raise no objections, but concern was expressed that careful consideration should be given to any utilities that ran below this area. It was also noted that by moving the spoil this short distance, it would save on a huge amount of traffic inconvenience on Busk Lane. Cllrs Atkins and Ian McPherson left for the duration of this item.

## **9. Finance**

a) The meeting received the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and following the recommendation it was agreed that SPC should ask Sedbergh CIC if they would be able to accommodate the issuing of weekly permits. It was further noted that the notion of an area permit (to include Kirkby Lonsdale and Dent) should be taken forward to the LAP. Also discussed was the possibility of the early replacement of the car park ticket machines rather than as part of the anticipated refurbishment of Joss Lane Car park, as the machines were in a bad state of repair and were often the first impression of Sedbergh by visitors. New machines would also, perhaps, be able to issue weekly tickets automatically and would include the provision of card payment.

b) The Council agreed a list of payments presented at the meeting. Also noted on the Financial Summary was the bulk income for Joss Lane Car Park, this would be rectified to include Parking Permits at a later date. The bulk amounts had been paid in (whilst the post office was closed) on a Quick Deposit Scheme with the NatWest Bank. Members wished to thank Cllr Allan for her additional collection and deposit of monies at this time.

## **10. Grants**

YDNPA – A donation request for the replacement footbridge at Birks Mill had been received. Members noted the recommendation by the P&R Committee and Cllr Ian McPherson was able to update Members further with anticipated costs/monies already received. Members agreed the Donation recommended by P&R (£500) in principle, but that confirmation should be sought on the current breakdown and shortfall (if any) for the project. The Clerk should write to YDNPA requesting such details so as to enable further consideration at the meeting in October. Cllr Ian McPherson did not vote.

## **11. Amenities Committee**

The minutes were received by the Council and accepted at the meeting. It was noted that the camera investigations had now taken place at the playing fields and the associated excavations had now been back filled with gravel to assist drainage. No blockages had been detected and the Committee would have to consider what (if any) further actions could be taken. A meeting with the Sedbergh Wanderers Football Club was proposed for November to discuss further.

Cllr Lancaster altered the meeting to the likelihood that the hedge at Ghyllas picnic site would need to be re-laid in the next 12-24 months.

## **12. Sedbergh Townscape Project**

An updating report was received by the Council and accepted. It was noted that representatives from SPC and The People's Hall Committee had recently met with CCC Highways to discuss the proposed boundary wall and access improvements and that confirmation had been received that Section 184 procedures were not required.

In addition, Members discussed the ongoing issue of signs (mini roundabout sign missing at Back Lane and the faded one way sign at Main Street (Junct with Joss Lane) which have been highlighted several times before. Cllr Brooks also wished to raise the indistinct nature of the crossing on Long Lane, and this would be additionally noted.

## **13. Queens Garden**

The attached report was received by Members in relation to the recent meeting with Hilary Taylor Associates. It was agreed by Members that Hilary Taylor Associates should progress and prepare a report to support an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. Such a report would include a preliminary arboricultural survey of the gardens. Members also discussed the aspiration to move the front wall of the Garden back from the Main Road, however, it was noted that this would probably have to be a consideration for the future and not form part of the proposed application to the HLF. Members also agreed to commission a digital survey plan of the gardens. Problems relating to the overgrown trees and shrubs on the boundary of the gardens with the properties on Queens Drive were discussed. It was agreed that the gardener employed by the Council be approached with a view to reaching agreement to extend the hours worked for a temporary three month period in order that necessary vegetation clearing work (and other tasks) be undertaken. The Queen's Garden Committee would meet soon to progress these matters.

## **14. Correspondence**

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

- a. Police Report – an updating report was circulated to Members.
- b. SLDC – Maryfell Park – continued correspondence with SLDC with regard to the current state of repair of the park.
- c. Queen's Garden Music Event – it was noted that a resident had expressed their concern over the proposed event and it was agreed that Cllr Atkins would, if necessary, contact the resident directly following an initial response from the Clerk.
- d. Gala Committee – Cllr Brooks wished to advise Members that the Gala Committee was on the verge of folding due to lack of numbers.

Cllr Mary Macpherson, at this point, tendered her resignation from Sedbergh Parish Council due to her forthcoming relocation away from Sedbergh. Members expressed their thanks to Mary for her much valued contribution to Sedbergh Parish Council over the years.

**15. Date and Time of next meetings –Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 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**

