

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in The People's Hall, Sedbergh on 8th May 2014

Present: Councillors Hodge (Chair), Atkins, Longlands, Capstick, Pearson and Sedgwick

Following the recent Nomination process for Parish Council Elections, Cllr Pearson and Cllr Jameson have decided to not stand for election this time, formal thanks from the members was given and noted.

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllrs Allan, Thomson, Macpherson and accepted by the meeting.

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations

3. Declarations of Interest:

Cllrs Hodge and Longlands for Item 6 - Planning

4. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held 10th April 2014

The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman Cllr Hodge.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes of 10th April 2014

Item 6 – Queens Gardens – Cllrs Atkins and Thomson have discussed the next steps with Sandy Roy and a further meeting with HLF will be sought.

Item 7a – Killington Wind Farm – The Public Inquiry date has been set for the 23 September 2014 and is due to be held in Kendal.

Item 10 – It is noted that CCC South Lakeland Local Committee Highways have budgeted £25,000 in 2014/2015 for re-flagging on Main Street, Sedbergh.

6. Planning

A written report was adopted by the meeting including the Committee's comments on planning applications. Points to note were as follows;

- a. 85 Main Street, it was noted that the PC had been notified of an amendment to the original plans, not consulted, however it was not contrary with comments issued on the original submission (May and December 2013).
- b. Vacant Premises, Bainbridge Road - Following recent discussions with Garsdale Design in relation to this site, one area for exploration from the owner is the provision of Sheltered Housing. A common view is that there is a need for Sheltered Housing in Sedbergh, however, following a meeting with South Lakes Housing recently at Gladstone House (Item 12 on Agenda) it was noted that there is little demand. In summary it was considered that further clarification would have to be identified and evidenced and it was proposed and agreed that Garsdale Design should be notified of the PC concerns/issues and further work would have to be sought in order to gather evidence of need in the future.
- c. Post Office Yard (Cllrs Hodge and Longlands left the meeting for this decision) – Various issues raised in relation to increased traffic, how the proposal would fit into immediate surroundings, potential of loss of trees and the effects on the amenities of surrounding property. A Local resident also addressed the meeting at this stage highlighting the following areas of concern i) visual impact ii) loss of trees iii) effect on listed buildings in area and conservation area iv) layout and density and v) design, appearance and materials not in keeping. Further discussion then took place between members about setting a precedent for infilling of open spaces in the Town. It was proposed and agreed that an objection would be submitted to YNDPA.

7. Finance

The meeting received the minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 6th May 2014, arising from those minutes, points to note were as follows

Barclaycard application – it was proposed that an application for a Credit card would be pursued for internet purchases; any payments made in this way would be included on the normal monthly summary of payments for approval. It was agreed to proceed with an application.

Bus Shelter – An application will now be made to YDNPA under the terms of the Section 106 Agreement, for reclaim of the funds.

Budget Adjustments – some adjustments will be proposed at a future meeting to take into account the final payments from the last financial year. It was also noted that further clarification over Budget headings and what is to be included in each, along with definition over Income and Expenditure figures would be discussed at a future meeting. The allocation of reserves would also be quantified.

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

The Parish Council Annual Accounts were recommended and approved for adoption. The Annual Accounting Statement and Annual Governance Statement will be proposed in June in preparation for the Audit Return date of the 17th June 2014.

8. Grants

No new applications received.

9. Public Participation

Cllr Westwood on behalf of Cllr Cotton advised that the recent statement made by Cllr Lancaster in relation to Parking Meters being introduced in Sedbergh/Kirkby Lonsdale, was incorrect. Also noted was recent communications between the PCSO's and CCC in relation to the Zebra Crossing on Long Lane and it is understood that an order has been put in place for the road markings in this area to be refreshed in the next four to six weeks. It has been asked if a Crossing Patrol could be considered for this area, but it was noted that none was planned at this time.

John Metcalfe expressed his concern over the Western Dales Bus, the Community Centre, the Volunteer Car Scheme and also the move of the Police Office from its former location at the Fire Station.

- a) Volunteer Car Services - Mr Metcalfe considered that this is in direct competition with commercial operators and questioned who regulates these and, for example, who moderates the Volunteer Car Scheme?
- b) Western Dales Bus - some areas of concern were identified and a reply from the Western Dales bus was circulated in response. It was noted that the Western Dales Bus was set up to bridge the shortfall in public transport to Dent station and was to cover areas that were not commercially viable and did not wish to be in competition with local commercial operators. It was recommended that a meeting between interested parties should be held to discuss areas of concern.
- c) Community Centre - the Western Dales bus uses this telephone number on their literature and their bus. It also has information for the Volunteer Car Scheme. It was noted that as DITA (Dales Integrated Transport Alliance) had given funding for a Transport Hub (based in the Information Centre), part of this remit was to support local community initiatives relating to transport.
- d) Police Office – Mr Metcalfe was concerned that the Police Vehicle was less visible based in Joss Lane Car Park.

Representation was made from a group of Back Lane residents in connection with a letter forwarded to District Councillors and copied to the PC (circulated as correspondence). Dr Leigh and other members spoke of their concerns, including

- a) Speed of vehicles on Back Lane and the proximity of local schools with many children using the route daily.
- b) The position of the Zebra Crossing when approaching from Long Lane
- c) The route being busy as one of a few west to east trunk roads
- d) Road Traffic Incidents that have occurred

Sedbergh Townscape Project had discussed many of these issues at length previously and the need for traffic calming was already identified. The project had already brought about the pavement widening scheme on Main Street which is due to commence on 19th May 2014. It was agreed that the Sedbergh PC should open discussions with CCC Highways over the potential for a 20 mph zone in Sedbergh and investigate the practicalities and issues of enforcement. Links have already been made with the Community Speed watch Scheme and it was suggested that there could be a need for a survey of speeds to be carried out.

10. Amenities Committee

A written report of the meeting held on the 30th April was received by the meeting and the following points were noted.

Item 4 – Budget – some discussion over budget for 2014-15, identified to Audit Committee for further discussion.

Item 7 – The drains on Joss Lane Car Park have now been cleared.

Item 9 – Main Street Toilet, shutters – some further works needed to make good the surrounds to the new doors.

11. Sedbergh Townscape Project

- a. Bus Shelter, arrangements for reclaim of funds (as noted under item 7 Finance).
- b. Cycle Stand, a licence application has been submitted to CCC in relation to the positioning of the stands along Main Street.
- c. Ongoing steps being taken in relation to the open space proposal adjacent to Number 72 Main Street.

12. Gladstone House

Please see item under Item 6 – Planning

13. People's Hall

The People's Hall Committee, in association with the Pulse Community Gym, reported their recent success in being awarded just short of £40,000 from Sport England as a contribution towards building a gym in Sedbergh. They propose to build the Gym at the rear of the People's Hall and permission for increasing the footprint of the land leased from the PC is sought to accommodate the proposed extension. This proposal was agreed in principle and authority was delegated to the Clerk to undertake the necessary procedures for amending the lease for the increased boundary proposed. It was also agreed that any work due to be considered in relation to the boundary wall at the front of the People's Hall would be delayed until after the necessary works for the completion of Gym have been carried out, this was due to the likely access route being required to the site.

14. Correspondence

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

- a. Cumbria in Bloom, a letter has been received in relation to the recent £400.00 grant awarded. It was agreed that the clerk should reply in conjunction with the previous decision made and minuted.
- b. Sedbergh United Charities, request for new trustees to be nominated. Agreed to defer decision until after local election date confirming Parish Council members.
- c. Parking on Pavements, concern expressed over vehicles parking on Pavements, PCSO's have been passed information for follow up.
- d. Road Surface A684, following further incidents on this stretch of road, have we had any update on proposed resurface date?
- e. Bainbridge Court, YDNPA planning committee is due to meet in connection with the decision over installation of UPVC windows at Bainbridge Court. Agreed that it was not necessary for the PC to make representations at the planning committee meeting but that clarification would be sought regarding the Authority's application of its policies having regard to a recent decision notice for another site in Bainbridge Road where the use of traditional materials was stipulated.
- f. Broadband Champions, it has been brought to the attention of the PC that a letter had been drafted, in relation to the Killington Wind Farm planning application, supporting the application. The letter included environmental comments that appeared to extend beyond the remit of the Broadband Champions and it was agreed that, if necessary, a letter should be issued from the PC stating their dissociation from such comments.

14. Date and Time of next meetings

7.30 pm on Thursday 5th June 2014 Annual Meeting of the Parish, followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting

7.30 pm on Thursday 12th June 2014 ordinary monthly Parish Council Meeting