

# THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in The People's Hall, Sedbergh on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Present: Councillors Jameson(Chairman), Atkins, Thomson, Longlands, Capstick and Pearson.

### 1. **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Hodge, McVoy, Lancaster, Allan and Sedgwick and were accepted by the meeting.

### 2. **Declarations of Interest:**

Thomson – Personal interest in Queen's Garden (item 9)

Atkins – Personal interest in the Loftus Hill scheme (Item 4)

### 3. **Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council** held on 26<sup>th</sup> May and 9<sup>th</sup> June were accepted as a true record.

### 4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- a. It was reported that a web site working group is to be set up to consider alternative cheaper methods of hosting and future development. Councillors were again asked for any ideas for further development and how the PC website can fit in with the Community site.
- b. Re item 12 a meeting has been held with Sedbergh School and Cumbria Highways have agreed to extend the Loftus Hill Scheme to include the widening of the footway. Details of road markings indicating crossing points have also been agreed in principle and highways will now prepare a scheme for public consultation.
- c. Item 13 on meeting dates has been carried forward to a future meeting.

### 5. **Planning**

- a. A written report was adopted by the meeting including the committee's recommendation for comments on planning applications.
- b. It was agreed that in future the Planning Committee should have delegated power to respond to any planning applications. However any Councillor may request that a planning application is heard by full council and the committee will bring any contentious applications to full council. Meetings will no longer be on a fixed date to allow the committee flexibility to respond to applications as they arise.

### 6. **Finance**

- a. A report of the audit committee meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> June was presented to the meeting and accepted. All spending committees/groups will now include budget monitoring on their agendas and the Clerk will supply financial information if requested.
- b. The meeting agreed the attached requests for payment.

### 7. **Public Participation**

This item was held after item 10 and the debate concerned that item.

## **8. Amenities committee**

- a. The June minutes of the committee were reported to the meeting.
- b. Matters regarding the cleaning of the Toilets have now been resolved and a new contract with the cleaners agreed. The Clerk is to contact SLDC to ascertain when the agreed work on the toilets is to be carried out.
- c. It was reported that the payment of rates on the toilets has been raised with local and national government but without success. Rates could be reduced by 80% if the toilets were run by a charity and this is to be considered. The Clerk was asked to look into the possibility of appealing against the current rates.

## **9. Queen's Garden**

DT reported that arrangements were now in place for the garden to be managed on a low key basis until the possibility of grants was ascertained. Two grant applications were being progressed and a third would be if the memorial became listed. Agreed that the item be excluded from the agenda until DT requested its inclusion.

## **10. Purchase of 72 Main Street**

DT updated the meeting with current and planned action to try to retain 72, Main Street for community and TIC use.

The building will shortly be advertised for sale and the YDNPA will consider any bids received at their December meeting.

An action plan had been prepared that aims to keep the right balance of informing Members of the YDNPA but not upsetting them. Throughout the six month period individuals and organisations will be encouraged to press for the building to remain in public ownership. Two events were highlighted. One was the objections to the sale of the open space just west of the building and the other was the invitation to Members of the Authority to visit the Community Centre and the TIC on 6 September.

## **11. Transfer of Assets From SLDC**

- a. The bid for Joss Lane Car Park should now be considered at the SLDC Cabinet meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July following a presentation to cabinet by HH & JA.
- b. There was a discussion as to the possible problems of parking enforcement should the PC take over Joss Lane Car Park.
- c. There has been no further progress on the new leases for the Tennis Club and fishing rights. The Clerk is to chase SLDC. A discussion was had regarding how responsibility for these newly acquired assets should be managed going forward and it was agreed that this should be an agenda item at the next meeting.

## **12. Correspondence**

- a. A list of correspondence was considered by the meeting
- b. A letter from Peter Swift has been received complaining about the blocking of the footway in Main Street by the van from Powell's. It was agreed a letter should be sent to Martin Powell asking him to stop this practice and that letters also be sent to SLDC and CCC regarding the issue.
- c. A letter from Sedbergh School giving notice to quit Loftus Hill Car Park on the expiry of the lease on 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2012 was reported along with a response from the Clerk. The Clerk was asked to follow up this letter in order to get a response prior to the July Council meeting so that sufficient time is available to make a decision about the issue of annual car park passes. It was also agreed that HH should write to the Head and Bursar to ask for a meeting to discuss the implications for the town. DT to draft a letter.

## **13. Date and Time of next meeting**

7.30 p.m. on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at the People's Hall.