

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in The People's Hall, Sedbergh on 31st March 2011

Present: Councillors Hodge(Chairman), Allan, Atkins, Pearson, Lancaster, Jameson, Thomson and Longlands.

1. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Capstick, McVoy and Sedgwick and were accepted by the meeting.
2. **Declarations of Interest**
Thomson – Personal interest in Queen's Garden. Longlands - Personal interest in Requests for Grants (Sedbergh People's Hall).
3. **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council** held on 24th February 2011 were accepted as a true record after one spelling correction.
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
Reported that the temporary parking restrictions set up at the end of Busk lane during Finkle Street closure had not been successful. Resolved for the Clerk to discuss the matter with the local police.

Also discussed was the general problem of parking in the Town with particular reference to its centre. Resolved for the Clerk to write to K Masser at the County Council to request a site meeting.

5. **Planning**

A written report was adopted by the meeting.

Also reported: -

Application S/03/506 had been received for –“Full planning permission for erection of single storey extension to north west elevation and two storey extension to south east elevation, Crosedale Beck Cottage, Howgill, Sedbergh”.

Resolved - that no objections be raised

that most of the Councils comments on the development briefs for the identified housing sites had been accepted by the YDNP.

That the YDNPA has indicated its agreement to the suggestion that, in future, neighbour notification letters should include advice that details of planning applications (submitted in the Sedbergh Parish area) may be inspected at the Community Office.

6. **Finance**

- a) A report of the audit committee meeting of 29th March was presented to the meeting and accepted.
- b) The meeting agreed the attached requests for payment.
- c) The meeting agreed the finance procedures for the Council.
- d) Reported that: -
consideration of all grant applications had been delayed for a month while criteria were drawn up to guide future decisions.

in future the Council would pay directly for the insurance for the playground and the annual grant would be withdrawn.

the amenities committee would consider the purchase of cleaning materials along with all other costs of the council's new responsibility for the Joss Lane toilets.

7. Requests for Grants

Covered under item 6.

8. Sedbergh United Charities & Widows Hospital

Resolved that Vic Hopkins be nominated as trustee for a further period.

9. Loss of 564X bus service.

Reasons for the withdrawal of the service were distributed before the meeting. Possible options for the future were outlined - these being a seasonal service only, an extension of the Sedbergh to Kendal bus or an arrangement with North Yorkshire Services.

In response to a request from Dent Parish Council for funds for a short term solution it was resolved to offer £250 in light of the financial pressures on the Council.

Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed at the suddenness of the service withdrawal and emphasis placed on the need for a long term solution.

10. Amenities committee

The minutes of the committee were accepted.

Reported that the works in Joss Lane car park had been carried out.

Resolved that a sign should be erected indicating that the car park was run by the Council.

Discussion on the asset register revealed that: -

the general standard of benches and lights was good but ownership of some was in doubt.

the war memorial, fountain and railings along Finkle Street are the property of the Council.

Resolved that a fault reporting system built into the Council's website and the completion of the asset register needed to be carried out by the Clerk.

Considerable disquiet was expressed over the hand over of the management of the toilets in Joss Lane from SLDC. A paper on the future management of the toilets was discussed which included many new initiatives. Resolved that the Clerk write to the local MP to ask if he would support a rate reduction for the toilets.

11. Public participation

Considerable concern was expressed about the cancellation of the last bus service in the day from Kendal to Sedbergh that was an essential service for those working in Kendal. Resolved for the Clerk to write to Mr M Hodgkiss to request a detailed discussion on the matter to see if a satisfactory resolution could be found.

In answer to a question it was confirmed that the Council's website would soon be 'live'.

12. Queen's Garden

An updating verbal report was given by DT.

Reported that: -

the application to Queen Elizabeth II Fields had been made.

Considerable help had been received and further assistance was being sought for the management structure for the future of the Garden.

A proposal was made that the north wall be reconstructed slightly to the south so that access would be possible through the north gates from a footpath. The suggestion was approved. Councillor Thomson requested that the minutes state that though he fully agreed with the proposal he had neither proposed nor encouraged it as such action would benefit his own property.

Approval was sought and granted by the Council for an application to be made to 'Our Green Heritage'.

13. Sedbergh Townscape Initiative

Reported that: -

the final report would soon be available and that consideration was now being given to Urban Practitioners making an application to the HLF subject to funding being available.

The new road name plates will soon be erected.

14. Cumbria in Bloom

Following a request from Cumbria in Bloom it was agreed that a donation would be accepted and that a total sum of £250 would be made available from the Amenities Committee. Robin Pearson has agreed to liaise with Dorothy Blair

15. Purchase of 72 Main Street

An updating verbal report was given by DT.

The Community Trust would on 1st April take over the running of the Community Office and the Charity Shop. It is proposed that the TIC comes under the Trust's management in the autumn of 2011. No changes were being made to the running of the office or shop.

Funds were being sought to purchase the building. A document would be prepared and sent to the YDNP in early May. This would make any offers possible and contain arguments why it should be sold to the Sedbergh Community. The size of any financial offer would be guided by the latest estate agents' valuations.

16. Transfer of Assets From SLDC

- a. The Council agreed to the transfer of the Joss Lane toilets subject to remedial works being carried out and the provision of a suitable transfer document.
- b. The Council agreed to the following resolution on the potential transfer of the Cemetery from SLDC. "The Council wishes to actively explore the transfer from SLDC of a long term interest in Sedbergh Cemetery subject to a full due diligence on an operational and financial appraisal of the Cemetery showing this to be both practical and within the resources of the Council.

17. Correspondence

Correspondence raised was: -

1. A meeting on 5th April for public discussion on Appleby Horse Fair.
2. A letter regarding a walking guide that appeared to be suggesting parking was permitted on private land. Resolved to reply stating the Council concurred with the concern and suggesting that the correct course of action was to contact the publisher.

18. Date and Time of next meeting

7.30 p.m. on Thursday 28th April 2011 at the People's Hall.