

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in
The People's Hall, Sedbergh on 31st May 2012

Present: Councillors Hodge, Longlands, Atkins, Thomson, Jameson, Allan, McVoy, Lancaster and Pearson

1. Apologies:

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

2. Declarations of Interest:

All Councillors apart from Cllr Pearson declared a personal interest in item 7 (Planning)

3. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26th April 2012

These were agreed as a correct record.

4. The meeting received presentations from Banks Renewables and FELLO regarding the proposed wind farm at Killington.

5. Retirement of Alan Fell

A letter was read out inviting members of the Parish Council to a BBQ to mark the retirement of the Rev Fell on 17th June. It was agreed that Cllrs McVoy and Lancaster would represent the Council and that the Council would make a £25 donation to the retirement fund.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Issues relating to the maintenance of the river bank were discussed with particular reference to invasive species. It was agreed that it needed a wider geographical approach than just Sedbergh and problems higher up the river system would need to be addressed first. It was agreed that Cllrs Lancaster, Atkins and Jameson would meet initially with the National Park Ranger to see how matters might be progressed.

7. Planning

- a. A written report was adopted by the meeting including the Committee's comments on planning applications.
- b. The following applications were considered by the meeting:
S/03/113B – Change of use from shop to dental practice at 43-47, Main Street. It was proposed by KL and seconded by JA that with some reservations the application should be supported subject to the final drawings for the improvements to the shop front being referred back to the PC for comment and that the Section 106 agreement for occupation of the premises by Spar for two years is not discharged until the proposed dental surgery is contractually committed. The resolution was passed by 6 to 1 with one abstention.

SL/2012/0444 - Erection of 80m high wind monitoring mast north of Killington Lake. It was resolved that the Council would not object to, nor would it support, the application. However in the course of the discussion concern was expressed that the mast would have detrimental effect on the quality and character of the area and the need for the mast to be in place for three years was also questioned.

(SL/2012/0444/EIA-12-07) Proposed Scoping report for Killington Wind Farm - the Council considered this to be an essentially technical matter for agreement between the planning authority and the applicant and it was agreed that the Council would make no specific comments. It was noted that the proposed assessment of visual effects will extend for a distance of 30 km

8. Finance

- a. A report of the Audit Committee meeting of 29th May was presented to the meeting and accepted. It was agreed that a group consisting of Cllrs Atkins and Jameson and the Clerk in liaison with officials from the Tennis Club, should produce a paper on the future responsibilities for and operation of the site (including the car park) which would include costings for any work involved.
- b. The meeting agreed the attached requests for payment.
- c. The meeting resolved to adopt the attached Annual Accounting Statement.
- d. The meeting resolved to adopt the attached Annual Governance Statement

9. Grant applications

There were no grant applications

10. Public Participation (This item took place prior to item 7 – Planning)

Ian Dawson informed the meeting that the Dental Practice had received the status of a training practice which has resulted in them being able to take on extra National Health patients. He indicated that the proposed move to Main Street would help to maintain this status in the future.

11. Amenities Committee

- a. The minutes of the meeting dated 9th May were accepted by the meeting.
- b. It was agreed in principle that the PC should accede to a request by the Playground Committee that it should take over financial & operational responsibility as the committee wishes to disband. SL & CER will liaise with the committee for the handover and put in place arrangements for future maintenance. A reserve will be created in the accounts equal to any funds passed over by the committee. It was noted that it would be desirable if the committee could be reformed at a future date in order to access grant funding. This could happen through the Community Trust after it has been reformed.
- c. A number of complaints have been received regarding the new seating at the Dalesman Inn which creates difficulty for pedestrians. It was agreed that the Chairman should write to the owners of the Inn and would also ascertain if the Land Registry is able to clarify the relationship between the privately owned forecourt and the public highway.
- d. A discussion took place regarding the placing of notices on cars parking in the long bays at Joss Lane Car Park and it was agreed that this should be done for a trial period.

12. Sedbergh Townscape Project

Cllr Atkins gave brief report confirming that ideas for the revamping of Joss Lane Car Park are being progressed by Des Metcalf.

13. Loftus Hill Car Park

Negotiations are continuing to make progress. A joint statement from the School and the negotiating group was read out confirming that the current lease will be extended beyond 30th June 2012 when it is due to expire. This is to be published in the June edition of the Lookaround

14. Shop Front Scheme

A total of six applications have now been received. It was not therefore felt that there was any need at this stage to further promote the scheme

15. Jubilee Arrangements

Cllr McVoy gave a brief report and circulated the leaflet giving details of Jubilee Events.

16. Correspondence

A list of correspondence was considered by the meeting.

17. Date and Time of next meeting

7.30 pm on Thursday 28th June 2012 at the People's Hall