

# THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in The People's Hall, Sedbergh on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Present: Councillors Hodge, Longlands, Atkins, Capstick, Allan, Lancaster, Macpherson, Sedgwick and Thomson.

### 1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllrs Pearson and Jameson and were accepted by the meeting.

### 2. Requests for Dispensations

Dispensation requests in respect of voting to set the Precept had been received from Cllrs Hodge, Longlands, Atkins, Capstick, Allan, Lancaster, Macpherson, Jameson, Pearson and Thomson. These were granted by the Clerk.

### 3. Declarations of Interest:

Interests were declared in respect of The People's Hall discussion by Cllrs Hodge and Longlands.

### 4. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2012

These were agreed as a correct record.

### 5. Matters arising from the Minutes of 25<sup>th</sup> October

- a. Cllr Lancaster reported progress on Highway improvements with 6 km of surface dressing on Howgill Lane underway and work on Hebblethwaite Lane due to start early in the new year.
- b. It was reported that that LAP had not received our list of Highway priorities. This was rectified at the LAP meeting.
- c. Cllr Longlands confirmed that Christmas lights had been purchased.
- d. It was reported that the YDNPA Planning Forum had been postponed until 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.
- e. It was noted that the Camper Van in Joss Lane Car Park has been moved recently. The position will be monitored.

### 6. Broadband Presentation from Dave Collier

- a. A paper had been circulated prior to the meeting and this was explained in more detail to the meeting.
- b. It was reported that two Directors of the Fibre GarDen Co had resigned.
- c. The presentation included a request for support for the Fibre GarDen project. The meeting noted the likely difficulties in laying fibre optic cables in the town and the meeting, whilst supportive of the initiative, indicated that it would be difficult for the Parish Council, with limited financial and personnel resources, to take on a significant role.

### 7. Planning

- a. A written report was adopted by the meeting including the Committee's comments on planning applications.
- b. The meeting agreed to the YDNPA cascade proposals in respect of the Guldrey Depot development but noted that Firbank should be included as an 'adjoining parish'.
- c. The meeting agreed the attached further response to the planning consent for 83 Main Street. Cllr Lancaster also regretted the fact that the planning committee appear not now to make site visits as a matter of policy
- d. The meeting considered SLDC application **SL/2012/0845** for the siting of three wind turbines at Killington Lake and the attached report. Members were given the opportunity to comment and

contributions by members of the public, including a representative of the applicant company, were made. In considering the application members acknowledged that national policy presumes in favour of sustainable development generally and encourages the development of renewable energy generation in particular. However, in relation to this specific proposal at Killington, the Council resolved, with one abstention that it is strongly of the view that the adverse environmental impacts would be so substantial and incapable of mitigation that the application should be refused. It was agreed that a letter of objection reflecting the discussion and resolution would be delegated to the Chairman and to Chairman of the Planning Committee.

## **8. Yorkshire Dales National Park Consultation**

The meeting received a paper on the subject and following a short discussion, it was agreed that the matter needed more attention than could be given at the meeting and that a special meeting of the Planning Committee would therefore be called (at which any member of the Council could attend).

## **9. Finance**

- a. The meeting received a report of the meeting of the Audit Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012.
- b. The attached requests for payments were agreed.
- c. The attached amendments to Standing orders were agreed in relation to the new code of conduct.
- d. It was resolved that the council would increase the precept for the year 2013/14 by 2.6% being the increase in RPI for the period Sept 2011-Sept 2012.

## **10. Grants**

It was noted that the grant application from Farfield Mill has not been resubmitted

It was agreed to make a grant of £100 to the NW Air Ambulance

It was noted that a communication has been received from the People's Hall Management Committee indicating that they would shortly be wanting the £25,000 currently held in reserve and asking for a further £13,200 for works to support the first phase of redevelopment. As this was received too late for a resolution to be included in the agenda the meeting agreed with the observations of the Audit Committee included in the minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012.

## **11. Public Participation**

Evelyn Westwood gave an update on the position with Udales. A grant of £40,000 is expected to be confirmed by mid December which together with matched funding from the owners will pay for the first phase in bringing the building back into use as a local business network hub.

The new business network hub will help to deliver business support, network opportunities and retail space in Sedbergh. The site will introduce a multi-use room for client meetings, advice/mentoring, hot-desking, networking, remote learning and training. The site will be co-managed with one of the other Rural Network Hubs in Clawthorpe and Ulverston.

Further phases will produce three flats and two townhouses subject to planning permission.

District Cllr Westwood was warmly thanked for her work on this much needed project.

## **12. Amenities Committee**

- a. A written report of the November meeting was adopted by the meeting.
- b. The issue of 'Poop' bins was discussed and it was agreed that apart from the capital cost it would be difficult to get them emptied and therefore the idea would not be progressed
- c. Jane Beverland has kindly made a £200 donation towards the cost of refurbishment of benches and the PC has agreed to a commemorative plaque for her parents,
- d. Sedbergh School have closed the pedestrian gaps in the wall between Loftus Hill Car Park and the former health centre and are to repair the stone entrance pillar and retaining wall on the north side of the car park.

- e. Agreement was given for the erection of a temporary climbing wall in Joss Lane Car Park

### **13. Sedbergh Townscape Project**

- a. A written report was accepted by the meeting
- b. It was noted that the professional report on the condition of the fountain would be available shortly and it was agreed that the Clerk be authorized to consult on the report and arrange tenders for the work involved.
- c. The meeting agreed a new Sedbergh logo which will be used initially on the new sign at the entrance to Main Street. It was also agreed that the Clerk be authorized to place the order for the new sign when the design has been finalized.
- d. A verbal report of a meeting with Cumbria Highways was given. The sign decluttering project is to start shortly and a design has now been agreed for the Main Street narrows project. This should be fully financed with Sect 106 monies from the Spar development and following public consultation should be started early in 2013. The meeting expressed its thanks to Cumbria Highways officers for their efforts in progressing these projects.

### **14. Joss Lane Car Park**

The engrossed lease has now been received from SLDC and the meeting resolved that it should be executed by Cllrs Hodge & Lancaster.

### **15. Proposed SLDC Land Disposals**

NPS have supplied plans of all land that might be involved in Sedbergh. A group of councillors have studied this and the meeting agreed their proposed response. It was agreed that in respect of two of the plots at Havera the PC would offer to take them over at nil consideration.

### **16. Correspondence**

The attached Clerks Report was considered by the meeting and the following agreed:

- a. Tenders have been received for the tennis club car park. As they vary significantly a holding reply will be sent and further work carried out to refine the details of the project. Also District Cllr Westwood will make enquiries regarding the availability of the new homes bonus to help fund the project and the PC will contact the Tennis Club to discuss the practicalities of running the Car Park once it has been resurfaced.
- b. It was agreed that Cllr Allan would contact all businesses that have outstanding shop front grants to see how they are progressing.
- c. It was agreed that Cllr Atkins and Thomson would put in a preapplication for Queens Gardens from the Parks for People – Heritage Lottery Fund programme.
- d. d. It was agreed that the DITA notice board should be sited on the south wall of the garden adjacent to 72 Main Street.
- e. It was noted that complaints about highways/street lighting should be made to the highways hotline on 08456096609.
- f. It was agreed that the office at 72a Main Street can be kept unlocked as the front door will always be locked and there are items in the office which should be available for public viewing.

### **17. Meeting Dates**

The attached schedule of meeting dates for 2013 was agreed.

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

7.30 pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at the People's Hall