

# THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in The People's Hall, Sedbergh on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Present: Councillors Hodge (Chair), Longlands, Capstick, Allan, Dawson, Mary Macpherson, Lancaster, Brooks, Sedgwick and Atkins

### 1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllr Ian McPherson

### 2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations

### 3. Declarations of Interest

Item 8 – Planning, Cllrs Hodge and Longlands in respect of S/03/316D – Post Office Yard

Item 8 – Planning, Cllr Atkins in respect of Killington Anemometer Mast

Item 8 – Planning, Cllr Dawson in respect of the Draft Yorkshire Dales Local Plan

### 4. Police Report

A written report was received by Members.

### 5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014

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

### 6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Item 11 – Public Participation, Mr John Metcalfe and The Western Dales Bus have exchanged contact details

Item 16 – First Responders, a successful first meeting was held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Item 17 (f) – Baliol School, The Methodist Housing Association is a national organisation and is not part of Churches Together in Sedbergh. On a separate matter, Cllr Lancaster suggested that the PC approach Cllr Blackie at Hawes for a further approach to North Yorks CC regarding the current neglected condition of the site and the Council's future plans.

Item 17 (h) – Skate Park, discussions are now taking place over the proposal with the CIO

Item 17 (i) – Langston Fell, YDNPA/CCC Highways, both state they have no funds available to level the car parking area. It was agreed that a further approach be forwarded to CCC Highways in relation to the dangerous nature of the severely eroded carriageway edge, of the main road, giving shared access to Danny Bridge and the car park.

### 7. Report from District/County Council

Cllr Westwood reported on the Recycling area on Joss Lane car park. SLDC has begun replacement due to the disrepair of the existing metal containers. The new plastic containers are safer to exchange and because compacting vehicles are now used to empty they use fewer vehicles. Any feedback for the new style of bins would be welcomed. It was noted that further clarification should be sought from SLDC as to what is allowed to be recycled in the 'plastic carrier bags' only wheelie bins.

### 8. Planning

A written report was adopted by the meeting including the Committee's comments on planning applications, however, the following application was considered by the full Council.

Cllrs Hodge and Longlands left the room while the application for Post Office Yard - S/03/316D was discussed. Whilst Members acknowledged that the amended plans represented an improvement in terms of design and materials, it was still felt that two of the original reasons for objection were substantial and should be sustained. It was agreed to submit an objection.

The following points were also noted.

- a. Anemometer Mast, Killington – it was resolved by SLDC Planning Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> September to refuse permission for the retention of the mast and to take appropriate enforcement action to secure its removal.
- b. Draft Yorkshire Dales Local Plan – a new plan has been submitted to explain the Council's suggestion for a possible business site.

## **9. Finance**

The meeting received the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resource Committee held on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Arising from those minutes, points to note were as follows

- Item 4 - Cycle stands – See report from STP, a further quote is to be secured for a comparison.  
Item 5 – Car Park Income – it was noted that an increase had been seen from the previous year which could be attributed to the extended period of good weather over the summer, but also from the increased numbers seen during Sheepfest.  
Item 6 – Budget holders are requested to submit their requirements for 2015/16.

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

## **10. Grants**

A grant application had been received from South Lakes CAB for £250.00 and this was agreed. It was then proposed by Cllr Macpherson to increase the amount to £500 and seconded by Cllr Allan in view of the excellent work they do and the support they give. The meeting agreed to award £500.00.

## **11. Public Participation**

Michael Roberts – Police Support volunteer and former Special Constable. Following concerns expressed by members of the public previously, Michael Roberts attended to clarify the aim of the Speedwatch Project, which is to make Sedbergh a safer place by reducing speed on our roads to help reduce accidents. He has found it very upsetting that a member of the project recently felt he had to resign due to pressure from individuals in the town. Endmoor have been running a similar project for several months now and the community there is very supportive of the initiative. From the hundreds of letters now issued by Mr Roberts to motorists exceeding the speed limit, there has only been one repeat offender. Mr John Metcalfe and Mr Dickie Harrison continued to express their opinion that they see it as neighbours spying on neighbours. Cllr Hodge wished to note, on behalf of a unanimous PC, that anything that helps to reduce speeding in Sedbergh should be welcomed and took the opportunity to thank Mr Roberts and the Volunteers for their efforts. Further asking all Councillors to show their support for this initiative and spread the word of its aims.

## **12. Amenities Committee**

The report of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014 was adopted by the Council

A written report of the meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014 was received by the meeting and the following points were noted.

Item 5 – Playing Field Boundary – Cllr Longlands is to meet with some contractors to discuss the concrete fencing. The issue of incorporating a footpath within the field as part of any replacement boundary wall or fence was muted and Cllr Lancaster advised he would pursue possibilities for funding.

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

An updating report was received by the Council.

14<sup>th</sup> October 2014, Cllr Atkins is to attend. A LAP meeting has been arranged with representation from CCC Highways.

Footway Widening, Main Street, the PC is still awaiting communication from CCC Highways in response to its letter previously issued to them regarding the possible modifications. The invoice also remains outstanding.

Provision of Cycle Stands, the PC has now approached a further contractor for a quote in order that a comparison can be made. This is to be progressed immediately due to the time constraints of the Tour de France Parish Council Grant Scheme.

Joss Lane Car park/garden of 72 Main Street, a formal pre-application enquiry has now been forwarded to HLF, pending a response it was agreed that due to the concerns over the loose sections of wall and a sum of £100 should be allocated to patch the most severely affected areas and further consider any safety fencing/notices required.

### **14. Queens Gardens**

A meeting is scheduled shortly with the YDNPA's Conservation and Wildlife Officer to discuss ground clearance proposals.

### **15. The People's Hall**

It has recently been recommended to formalise the requested extension of the footprint of the lease for the People's Hall. The attached plan, showing the boundary of the land incorporating the existing leased area and the additional area to be included, was presented at the meeting. This was agreed by the members and it was resolved that Cllr Atkins and Cllr Lancaster be authorised to execute on behalf of the Council a supplementary lease in respect of the additional area to be added to that leased to Sedbergh People's Hall Committee under leases dated 12<sup>th</sup> December 1956 and 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1985 of the land owned by Sedbergh Parish Council at Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.

### **16. Transport 564/502 and Post 16**

Following meetings held with CCC Transport Team and Cllr Nick Cotton, Cllr Mary McPherson gave a report from the meeting. Commencing in November 2014 the Grand Prix service 564 will cease. A new term time only service, the 502, will begin. This bus has been largely subsidised by Post 16 Education providers in Kendal. If the community is to continue with an increased service, it will largely have to find its own solutions. It was agreed that a letter of support should be issued to the three other Parishes affected by the withdrawal of the 502, Ravenstonedale, Brough and Kirkby Stephen.

In relation to Post 16 Transport provision, further talks and discussions are ongoing at local and national level. To summarise, it is now compulsory to remain in education, whether vocational or educational to the age of 18, but there will be no provision of transport for students. Although the 502 service has been established for this year to Kendal, there is no guarantee of its continuation.

Presently there is no planned provision for Kirkby Lonsdale from September 2015, leaving it necessary for parents/carers to transport them. Sedbergh is one of only four towns in Cumbria that has no provision of Post 16 education or access to transport to get them to their place of study/training. Whilst awaiting further meetings/discussions, the meeting agreed to submit a formal question to CCC in order that it should be addressed by the Council's Cabinet.

### **17 Correspondence**

The attached Clerk's Report was considered by the meeting

- a. Row Lane – We are still waiting for a response to the previous correspondence sent to CCC
- b. Web Team – Interviews for the recent tender for the Sedbergh.org.uk site are due to take place next week. Ongoing discussions continue over who should be the overarching body, considering VAT reclaim potential etc. The meeting agreed that the Parish Council might assume this role, if necessary.
- c. Fouling by Dogs – Vicarage Lane, an approach has now been made to the PCSO's seeking support for this issue.

- d. Sedbergh Bowling Club – correspondence received in relation to securing a more permanent structure to the BBQ area and damage to boundary wall. The meeting agreed to the Club undertaking roofing work to the building on behalf of the Council. Amenities Committee will consider the damaged wall.
- e. Streetlighting – correspondence received in relation to lights currently attached to telegraph poles. SLDC requires confirmation from Sedbergh PC in relation to the first light to be affected at Loftus Manor. They are seeking commitment of a maximum of £750 (50%) towards any planned replacement. To be referred to Amenities Committee for detailed consideration.
- f. Parish Hand-push Bier – correspondence received in relation to the Bier and what the PC’s intentions are with regard to its future. Agree to approach local funeral director to discuss options of restoration of the bier whilst remaining the property of Sedbergh PC.
- g. Parish Council Award Scheme – communication has recently been received from CALC in connection with the new Award Scheme. One point to note, to achieve standard, is the induction of Staff and new Councillors. It was agreed that this should be considered further by the Policy & Resource Committee. Linking to this it was agreed that a workshop should be arranged for all Councilors to discuss a Vision for Sedbergh, this is an ongoing document presently being drawn up by representatives from the Sedbergh & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce and others.

**18. Date and Time of next meetings** Parish Council Meeting, Thursday 13th November 2014 at 7.30 pm - People’s Hall Committee Room.