

# **THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in  
The People's Hall, Sedbergh on 29 September 2011

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

## **1. Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Atkins, Capstick. and McVoy and were accepted by the meeting.

**2. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Thomson – personal and prejudicial for item 7.

**3. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26 August.** A number of changes had been requested prior to the meeting. Resolved that the clerk make the changes and that the September minutes be agreed at the October meeting

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

- a. Police building – The Council was updated on the sale of the police building in Sedbergh. Discussions were taking place with the intention of securing the building for community use.
- b. Reported that the Community Trust was considering its reply to the request to take over the Joss Lane toilets. Requests were made for a full discussion in Council before much further progress was made on this matter.
- c. Reported that there was no reply yet from SLDC about cleaning of the cemetery toilets
- d. Reported that a grant application for further support for Sedbergh's websites would be made in due course.
- e. Concern was expressed over the poor state of the paths due to litter and strong weeds. Resolved to wait until the results of the recent spraying before taking further action.

## **5. Planning**

- a. A verbal report was received by the meeting, which included the committee's comments on planning applications. The planning committee had no objections to applications at 30 Woodside, Marshall House and 2 Fairholme. Concern was expressed at the Lupton Yard application and it was reported that SL had written to the planning authority asking about the long term provision of classroom accommodation at Sedbergh Junior School. Applications had been granted at 40 Guldrey Lane and 1 Woodside Avenue.
- b. The meeting was advised of a recent application at the Cumbria County Council site at Guldrey. Considerable discussion was held on the balance of housing and industrial units in the parish. All councilors were requested to view this application and comment to the chairman of the planning committee before 5 October.

## **6. Finance**

- a. The audit committee had not met as it was not quorate. Two members had studied the list of payments and the financial reconciliation and considered them to be accurate. The meeting approved the payments outstanding.
- b. Discussion was held on the criteria for future grants from the Council. It was felt that the Council should give to organizations which had a civic purpose and to groups needing support for applications to other sources of funding.

## **7. Grant applications**

The following grants were awarded to applications previously received: -

Canoe club	£500 – to be spent by 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2012
Squash club	£500 – to be spent by 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2012
Community Office	£1,200
Peoples Hall	£500
Highlights	£300
Chamber of Trade.	£250

The following applications were postponed for a later decision: -

Book Town Limited  
Playground

## **8. Public participation**

Details of the 'shop front improvement scheme' being run by SLDC were reported to the meeting by South Lakeland District Councillor Mrs E Westwood. SLDC would make available up to £2,500 for 10 business fronts to be updated. After discussion Mrs Westwood agreed to ask SLDC if they would consider switching the money towards expenditure on the Sedbergh Townscape project. If not the scheme would be publicized locally and the application forms held in the Community Office.

## **9. Amenities Committee**

The September minutes of the committee were discussed. The committee reported that they saw no reason to change the policy on closing the toilets in the evenings. The difficult relationship with the football club was raised and it was resolved that the Parish Council Chairman and members of the amenities committee would meet with the football club representatives. It was reported that the new coach bay signs would shortly be erected.

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

Reported that: -

137 objections to the sale of the 'open space' had been received by the Park and that these appeared to have influenced the Members of the Authority.

Cllrs Hodge and Thomson had met the Chairman and Chief Executive of YDNP at Dent show and had useful discussions.

The open afternoon at the Community centre, TIC and charity shop had been a success with seven Members of the Park's Authority attending, one of whom was the chairman.

At the meeting of the Authority on 13<sup>th</sup> September the decision on the open space was delayed until the December meeting. It was noticeable that a sea change had occurred in Members attitude towards the sale of the building for community use since their last meeting.

There would be further articles in Lookaround in October and November asking residents of Sedbergh and the surrounding area to object to the sale other than for community use and other organizations would be requested by the Parish Council to support the cause by writing to the YDNP.

## **11. Acquisition of Assets from SLDC**

a. Joss Lane Car Park – Reported that SLDC were insisting on some kind of profit share the details of which were explained and approved.

Reported that a refund was due from SLDC due to incorrect rating assessment on Joss Lane car park since 2010.

Reported that the transfer of other assets was proceeding.

### **12. Loftus Hill Car Park**

Reported that many in the town had written to Sedbergh School about the loss of Loftus Hill car park. Parish, district and county councilors representing the Sedbergh area are to be invited to a meeting with the School for further discussions.

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

Reported that the 'narrows' project had been submitted.

### **14. Queens Gardens**

Reported that sadly the application to the Our Green Heritage programme was only considered as medium priority and hence the application would not receive funding.

### **15. Highways**

Reported that Parish Councils should provide information on road works required to the LAP. Resolved for Cllr Jameson to ascertain the exact system for this scheme.

Resolved that Cllr Atkins be asked to progress any necessary action on the Loftus Hill project.

### **16. Correspondence**

A list of correspondence was considered by the meeting. Cllr Thomson agreed to reply to the e-mail on tree planting for the Jubilee.

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

7.30 p.m. on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at the People's Hall