

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in
The People's Hall, Sedbergh on 23rd February 2012

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

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jameson, Sedgwick and Lancaster and were accepted by the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest: None

3. Local Police Liaison

PCSO Karen Dakin addressed the meeting and gave a brief synopsis of police priorities and crime in the area. She also confirmed that a sale has been agreed for the former police station prior to auction and gave contact details regarding the preservation of the plaque. PCSO Rachel Thomas has now left the force and there will not be a replacement until October.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 26th January 2012

These were agreed as a correct record.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Item 11 – It was noted that a new charitable organization with trading powers will be set up and it is this organization that will purchase 72 Main Street from the White Knights

6.Planning

A written report was adopted by the meeting including the committee's comments on planning applications.

It was agreed that, following letters received from residents of Queens Drive, the Planning Authority should be contacted again regarding application Application S/03/519 - Proposed telecommunications tower and clarification requested that the technical issues have been fully explored.

It was noted that the planning authority have not yet discharged condition 21 of the decision relating to the Auction Mart Development. This concerns the provision of waste recycling facilities.

7. Finance

- a. Reports of the audit committee meetings of 14th & 21st February were presented to the meeting and accepted.
- b. The meeting agreed the attached requests for payment
- c. The meeting agreed the attached budget. This included a decision not to reopen Loftus Hill Toilets and to put into reserve £5,000p.a. for up to four years towards the funding of the purchase of 72 Main Street

8. Grant applications

An application for £400 from Sedbergh Community Office for the promotion of the Wednesday Market was agreed

9. Public Participation

The meeting welcomed students from Settlebeck High School and answered questions from them

10. Amenities Committee

No report was submitted

11. Purchase of 72 Main Street

It was reported that the purchase is now proceeding and documents have now been received from Solicitors acting for YDNPA

12. Acquisition of Joss Lane Car Park from SLDC

Heads of terms have been received from NPS on behalf of SLDC which reduced the lease term from the previously offered 99 yrs to 35 yrs. There is also a requirement that the P.C. submit an annual return showing the surplus from the Car park and the amount spent on qualifying projects.

Whilst this is considered unsatisfactory as it is not in accord with original cabinet decision of SLDC, it was recommended that it should be accepted as it is considered still workable in respect of grant applications etc and would avoid further delays. SLDC have also confirmed that the new lease will be dated from 1st April and no further rent will therefore be due. The Heads of Terms were accepted by the meeting with one abstention

13. Sedbergh Townscape Project

- a. The attached report giving details of the STP meeting held on Feb 15th were accepted by the meeting.
- b. The members agreed a scheme to replace the parking restriction signs outside the church

14. Loftus Hill Car Park

A further meeting has been held without making any significant progress. Representatives of the PC are meeting with the school next week and this will be followed by a full meeting of the group of interested parties.

15. Future Arrangements with Sports Clubs

It was agreed that the consultation document was a good start in addressing this issue. In order to progress matters copies of all existing leases/ agreements with sports clubs are to be considered to see how they relate to current relationships and if they need altering for the future

16. Jubilee Arrangements

Cllr McVoy gave an update on the work of the Jubilee Event Co-ordinating Committee. The Street party in Finkle Street is now set to go ahead at 2pm on 4th June and a number of other events are being organized. A letter is being sent to local clubs and organizations inviting representatives to future meetings. Word is awaited from Cumbria Highways as to the procedure for road closure applications.

17. Correspondence

A list of correspondence was considered by the meeting.

The meeting considered an email from District Cllr Ian McPherson suggesting the P.C. should debate the issue of Radioactive Waste in West Cumbria. However it was felt that this was a matter for West Cumbria and should not therefore be put on a future agenda for debate

18. Date and Time of next meeting

7.30 pm on Thursday 29th March 2012 at the People's Hall

Report to Sedbergh Parish Council Meeting – 23 February 2012

Sedbergh Townscape Project

A further meeting of the Project Board took place on 15 February.

The main purpose of the meeting was to review progress to date and to agree on the next steps. A useful discussion took place on a range of matters, including recent English Heritage designations, street and highway signs, possible means of improving pedestrian safety adjacent to No. 10 Main Street, parking issues, and progress on a DEFRA 'Rural Growth Network' grant in relation to the Community Office building.

The Final Report of the Project (May 2011) recommended a number of proposals to improve the appearance of the town and to promote business and trade, including a scheme for re-forming the garden area adjacent to 72 Main Street at street level to create a more accessible area for all. This would not only provide an attractive open space but act as a pedestrian 'refuge' and a traffic-free space for community events and possibly market stalls. The proposal would improve the setting of the Community Office and Information Centre and better integrate Joss Lane car park and Main Street. The scheme would also incorporate improvements to the appearance of the car park by the introduction of some landscaping, screening of the recycling containers, better surfacing, signs and lighting.

However, the scheme is only presented in outline form in the Final Report and, in order to undertake meaningful consultation and (hopefully gain public support), a more detailed layout plan and good quality perspective drawings are required. The Project Board, at its meeting of 15 February, therefore, agreed that funding be sought to engage an architect/urban designer for this purpose. It is estimated that professional fees would be approximately £2,000. It is anticipated that such funding will come from external sources.

In the meantime, the Highway Authority will arrange for the removal of the unsightly 'Restricted Zone' signs and will confirm which other redundant signs and poles may be removed (and others repaired or replaced). The Authority is also looking in detail at the 'footway problem' adjacent to 10 Main Street.

Discussions will also take place with the YDNPA and other interested parties, including the Chamber of Trade & Business, regarding the design and content of a new 'welcome' sign at the entrance to Main Street (replacing the 'Restricted Zone' signs).

SEDBERGH PARISH COUNCIL – 23 February 2012

Parking in front of St Andrews Church & Market Days

The two existing signs on the Church railings are in poor condition and faded:



The market stall holder has experienced difficulty on recent occasions due to cars being parked on the area adjacent to the library early on Wednesday mornings (or perhaps left there overnight).

Following discussion at the Amenities Committee, it is suggested that these two signs are replaced with a single sign along these lines:

**Parking permitted 1 hour
(no return in 2 hours).**

**No parking on Wednesday
between 5.30am and
4.0pm(Market Day)**

The sign would measure 300mm x 200mm (slightly larger than one of the existing signs) with black lettering on a white background and would be printed on aluminium. A quotation has been received from Raven Graphics of £27.00 for the supply of such a sign.

St Andrews PCC has been approached to seek permission, should the PC wish to proceed with this proposal.