

Minutes of the Meeting of Sedbergh Parish Council Policy & Resource Committee

Held in the Parish Room at 72a Main Street at 10.00 am on Tuesday 6th October 2015

Present:

Cllrs Atkins, Allan, Lancaster, Macpherson and the Clerk Miss Hassam

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Declaration of Interests

None

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 8th September 2015 were agreed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Item 4 – Recycling at Spar, presently awaiting an update from SLDC in regard to a relocation date.

Item 6 – Joss Lane car park, further to ongoing discussions relating to the future resurfacing/improvement of the car park, it was agreed to seek the views of the Amenities Committee on a potential timescale for such works. It was further noted that due to the likely scale of these future works, SPC would have to consider engaging a professional surveyor/architect to design any new layout, to specify construction and drainage details, maximising space etc, also incorporating any other ongoing initiatives, such as replacement parking machines and improved market layout. SPC would also need to give regard to statutory obligations in relation to tendering and awarding a contract for works of this financial magnitude.

5. Financial Summary and Bank Reconciliation

The Financial Summary was presented to the meeting and payments were agreed. It was recommended and approved to make the payment of the £60.00 fee to YDNPA in relation to the planning enquiry for the proposed BMX/Skate Park and that a response should be received by 9th October 2015. It was also noted that we had now received a response from Environmental Health Department of SLDC which will be reported at the full PC meeting. In addition it was noted that the final instalment of the Precept had been received and that payment from the NatWest mobile bank had also been received, along with the permit income from WDB. It was further noted that the Car Park summary indicated no significant increase in income associated with Sheepfest this year. (The meeting noted that, following the award of a grant for Sheepfest earlier this year, the Council had indicated that there was no commitment by SPC to provide further grant assistance for the event in future).

The Bank Reconciliation for September was checked and found to be correct.

6. Income and Expenditure 2015-2016

Income and expenditures were reviewed; it was noted a draft budget for 2016/2017 would be discussed in November in preparation for Precept requirements and a projected out turn for 2015/2016 would also be completed. It was also noted that the correct Precept figure had been updated on the current budget.

- i) Annual return to SLDC for Joss Lane Car Park – the annual project statement for income and expenditures in 2014/2015 was discussed and it was agreed to submit the attached statement, in accordance with our lease agreement.

7. Budget – future expenditure requirements

The current budget was discussed along with any potential virements for this year in regard to the maintenance that had been required to the wall at Queen's Gardens. It was also agreed that consideration would need to be given to increasing certain budgets in future years, in particular, Queen's Gardens. Also discussed were the desirability of creating a provisional Training budget and the future works required at Joss Lane car park. In addition, the clerk should seek clarity on the definition of Section 137 Grants.

8. Grant Applications

- i) Request for donation toward the cost of replacing the brown 'Western Dales' signs – SLDC have made a request to SPC to give a financial contribution towards the replacement of the current motorway signs. A number of issues were raised and discussed by members and it was agreed that given the nature of the enquiry and the uncertainty regarding YDNPA boundary/name changes, this request should be referred to the full council meeting on 8th October 2015 without a recommendation.

9) External Audit Annual return and procedure for 2015-2016

It was noted that the Annual Return had now been completed by the external Auditor. There had been no matters that required attention and it was agreed to recommend approval and acceptance of the report at full council on 8th October 2015. Further noted is the change to regulations surrounding the provision of electors' rights in 2016 and the extended period for which any future reports would have to be available for inspection. This will be increased from 14 working days to 30 and must include the period between 1st to 14th July inclusively. This would need to be considered when agreeing submission dates in 2016. It was also agreed to continue to engage the current Internal Auditor, with a periodic review in future years.

10) Date for next meeting

Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 10.00 am in the Parish Council Office at 72 Main Street, Sedbergh.