

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in The People's Hall, Sedbergh on 11 September 2014

Present: Councillors Hodge (Chair), Longlands, Capstick, Allan, Dawson, Mary Macpherson, Ian McPherson and Atkins

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lancaster, Brooks and Sedgwick.

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of Interest

4. Police Report

A written report was received by Members. PCSO Coleman attended and answered questions.

5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held 14th August 2014

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

6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 10th July 2014

Item 8d – Killington Anemometer Mast, it was noted that all Parish Councils that have made representations have opposed the application for the retention of the mast.

7. Report from District/County Council

Cllr Westwood reported that the opening of former Udales site has incurred a delay due to an electrical fault. It was noted that any enquires about the site should be directed to Clawthorpe Hall Business Centre. Cllr Westwood further advised that the site could potentially become a hub for training where national courses, for example, could be streamed locally.

Cllr Atkins highlighted the need for a fascia on the building, Cllr Westwood advised this has previously been raised.

8. Planning

A written report was adopted by the meeting including the Committee's comments on planning applications. Points to note were as follows;

- a. 7 – 8 Bainbridge Court – planning permission for erection of single storey extension, with 10 No. 2.4kW PV panels fixed to new zinc roof – objection, see Planning Report for full details.
- b. Housing Needs Survey – following an approach to YDNPA, we have been advised that due to continuing budget cuts within YDNPA, there is no funding available. It was further noted that the Authority is undertaking a review of the viability of the allocated sites and the definition of 'local occupancy'. The meeting agreed not to pursue the matter further at this time.

9. Finance

The meeting received the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resource Committee held on the 9th September 2014. Arising from those minutes, points to note were as follows

Item 9 - Cycle stands – There is only one contractor in the local area on the Cumbria Highways 'Approved List of Contractors' and it was agreed to approve and appoint. A Section 171 Application has now been made to Cumbria Highways.

Finance Cont/d - Item 10 – Financial Regulations – the Committee had made a start on the review and further discussions with continue at future meetings.

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

10. Grants

There were no new Grant applications received.

11. Public Participation

Susan Garnett - The Town Twinning is due to celebrate its 10 year anniversary on 27th May 2015 and it is hoped that a trip will be organised to Zrece to sign an official renewal. It was also noted that a group of young people from Zrece are due to visit Sedbergh next summer (late June/early July) and a series of activities would be organised. The Council was asked to support the celebrations and Cllr Hodge expressed formal thanks, on behalf of the PC, with regard to the endeavours of Sedbergh Town Twinning.

John Metcalfe – Speedwatch. Mr Metcalfe again expressed his opinion that there was a lack of information surrounding the Scheme. Cllr Hodge updated him on feedback received from Michael Roberts, the Police Volunteer coordinating the group, in that a further article was due to be published in the October Lookaround. If, after this article it was understood that there was confusion over the initiative to raise awareness of speeding in the town, a further Public meeting could be considered in the future. Mr Metcalfe also asked if the PC could liaise with the Western Dales Bus, over any potential to run a shuttle bus between Thorns Bank and the Health Centre.

Mr D Harrison – Use of Mobile phones whilst driving, Mr Harrison wished to express his opinion that the use of mobile phones whilst driving was more important than the issue of speeding and that he had spotted several people driving whilst using their phone recently. Cllr Hodge acknowledged this and advised it was a police matter.

12. Amenities Committee

There were no minutes available from the meeting held on 3rd September 2014 and it was agreed that the PC will await formal minutes and update at the October meeting. However, in the interim a verbal update was given by Cllr Longlands.

It was advised that discussions had taken place around the proposal of Honesty Boxes in the toilets on Main Street and that prices were to be sought for these. It was noted that Cllr Atkins does not agree with this proposal. The tender relating to the benches near the Tennis Club had been issued by the Clerk.

13. Sedbergh Townscape Project

An updating report was received by the Council.

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. An invoice is still awaited, in order that a Section 106 claim can be made to YDNPA before the deadline later this year. Cllr Capstick, noted that he had seen the difficulties experienced by a resident accessing Pippin Cottage.

14. Queens Gardens

The minutes of the meeting of the Queens Gardens Committee held on 19th August 2014 were received by the Council. It had been agreed that the area overlooking the Bowling Green should be cleared/tidied and the grass cut. There were ongoing discussions about the proposals for a future management programme for the garden.

The recommendations contained in Part 2 of the minutes (considered in confidence without the public present) were accepted by the meeting.

15. Update from LAP

Healthwatch Cumbria - Cllr Hodge gave an update relating to Healthwatch Cumbria, advising that it was a statutory body, responsible for gathering patient views and feeding back the collective opinions on quality of Health Services. It was noted that they are hoping to attend the market on the first Wednesday of October to promote their services and remit.

It was noted by Cllr Ian McPherson that Health Service transport is the current focal point for the DITA (Dales Integrated Transport Alliance) local Steering Group.

16. First Responders

Further to Dent First Responders speaking to the PC some time ago about the geographical area covered by their volunteers (which currently includes Sedbergh), it had been agreed to look in to the potential for developing First Responders in Sedbergh. The CIO have taken on further investigations for this and have arranged a meeting in the People's Hall on Tuesday 7th October at 7.00pm, to gauge public views and backing.

17 Correspondence

The attached Clerk's Report was considered by the meeting

- a. Row Lane – Cllr Ian McPherson gave an update from YDNPA in relation to maintenance of Row Lane, advising that CCC Highways potentially had responsibility. However, it was also noted that the land owners were responsible for the overgrown hedges. It was further discussed that the hedges on the Garsdale Road, to Moss Corner, were also significantly overgrown. The Clerk is to send a follow up to the previous correspondence to CCC Highways, seeking a response as soon as possible. Landowners may also be contacted.
- b. Bus Route 564 – A meeting is due to be held in Sedbergh on the 25th September in connection with the bus route, Cllrs Ian McPherson, Allan, Atkins and Mary Macpherson will attend.
- c. Environment Agency – it was agreed that the PC should accept their offer to attend a meeting and discuss concerns over the potential of 'flash flooding'.
- d. T Dodgson – points raised by Mr Dodgson were noted. In particular the comment relating to the Bus Stop on the Main Street. The location of the bus stop has been discussed many times before and it has been decided that there is no other suitable site.
- e. T Hoff – Electric car charging point – request for information relating to a potential charging point will be forwarded to DITA.
- f. Baliol School – Following communication by the Clerk, the PC has been advised by North Yorkshire CC that the site is still for sale and there may be consideration to separate the site in the future (due to the dwellings). Cllr Ian McPherson also noted that an approach had been made by the Methodist Housing Association and early discussions were taking place. It was noted that the site continues to deteriorate.
- g. Speedwatch – it was noted with regret, that a member of the group had felt the need to step down from volunteering following the attitude and wrath received from local individuals opposed to the scheme.
- h. Tim Farron – following recent Summer Surgeries in the Town, a formal request has been made by a group of young people in relation to the potential for a purpose built area for a skate/bike park. Cllr Hodge noted that this idea was already currently being investigated by the CIO following a survey of young people and it was agreed that the correspondence should be passed to the CIO for their follow up.
- i. Common Land – Langston Fell, a letter had been received from PCSO Coleman in relation to the current state of the car parking area off Langston Fell and, in addition, proposing a warning sign for the blind summit. It was agreed that as the entrance on to the area shared a common access with the road to Danny Bridge, a letter should be issued to CCC Highways seeking their intervention. It was noted, that a local contractor had been involved, voluntarily, in leveling the area several years ago.

14. Date and Time of next meetings Parish Council Meeting, Thursday 9th October 2014 at 7.30 pm - People's Hall Committee Room.