

# **THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH**

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held at the Committee Room, People's Hall, Sedbergh at 7.30pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

Present: Councillors Atkins (Chair), Lancaster, Longlands, Dawson, McPherson, Arnold, Brooks, Capstick and Sedgwick.

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Allan and accepted by the meeting.

### **2. Requests for Dispensations**

There were no requests for dispensations

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Atkins and McPherson for Item 9, Planning.

### **4. Public Participation**

Garth Steadman attended the meeting to express his disappointment at the recent news regarding the suspension of the Gala for two years. He wished to ask Members of the Council if they would consider, in principle, the use of the playing field at the People's Hall for a smaller scale Gala, if he was able to gain enough support for the notion. Members agreed to the request, however, highlighted the lack of volunteers that had been willing to come forward last year when the existing Gala Committee had made pleas for help. On a separate issue of fill material being held at Straight Bridge layby for some time (see also Amenities), John Woof apologised to the Council and explained the delay in its removal.

### **5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

The minutes were subject to a minor amendment agreed by Members, Item 19 d – Keep Britain Tidy and would be signed by the Chair, Cllr Atkins following update by the Clerk.

### **6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

Item 4 - Public Participation – it was noted that SLDC had submitted a holding objection to the proposed removal of telephone kiosks to enable further public consultation to take place.

Item 8 – Report from District/County Councillor – it was noted that B4RN were due to make a presentation at the forthcoming Chamber of Trade meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

Item 16 – Sedbergh War Memorial – it was noted that Parkin and Jackson were unable to carry out the repair work and the Clerk had subsequently contacted Able Memorials for a quote.

Item 19 – Salt Bin, Havera, the Clerk had been in contact with SLDC and SLH and now awaited confirmation from Cumbria County Council for permission to locate a bin on the grassed area at the base of Havera.

### **7. Co-option**

New notices of the casual Vacancy had been placed with a closing date of 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

### **8. Report from District/County Council**

Apologies were received from Cllr Nick Cotton. Cllrs Mel Mackie and Kevin Lancaster had nothing specific to report.

### **9. Planning**

Cllr McPherson left for this item in full. Cllr Atkins left for item S/03/328A. (Cllr Arnold arrived late to the meeting prior between item S/03/376B and S/03/328A)

The attached Planning Report was considered and adopted by Members. In addition the following applications were considered by Members.

S/03/376B – Abbot Holme Farm, Millthrop. Full permission for conversion of part of existing barn, used as a joinery shop, into a house for the current business owner. Members considered this updated application and notwithstanding the loss of workshop premises it was considered that the proposal accords with the policies in the recently adopted Local Plan and that there were no objections, subject to occupancy of the proposed dwelling being restricted to local persons.

S/03/328A – 75 Main Street, Sedbergh (currently Patch & Fettle). Full permission for change of use of ground floor premises from retail shop (A1) to a mixed workshop/retail use (B1/A1). Members considered the application and welcomed the potential to maintain occupancy of a building on Main Street. The Council, therefore, had no objections.

## **10. Finance**

- a) The meeting received and adopted the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.
- b) The Council agreed a list of payments presented at the meeting, noting that monies for previous works at the playing field and the boundary hedge should now be transferred to Amenities and the playpark Budgets respectively.
- c) Following recommendation from the Policy and Resource Committee it was agreed to approve the Precept for 2017/2018 at £35, 058.56 (thirty five thousand and fifty eight pounds, 56 pence). It was noted that this gave a figure of approximately £33 per average Band D household, (comparing to others locally, as an examples only, Kirkby Lonsdale circa £47 and Arnside circa £34 at 2016/17).

## **11. Grants**

There were no grant applications received. The Clerk was requested to note the availability of funds in the next Lookaround article.

## **12. Amenities Committee**

The minutes were received by the Council and accepted at the meeting. It was noted that Sedbergh Wanderers Football Club had attended the meeting with some positive feedback. A potential new Maintenance Schedule had been considered which would potentially include increased verti draining, higher grade grass seed and sand dressing. This would require support from Sedbergh Wanderers FC Committee by way of increased finances and also the support of the SPC. Members were asked to consider allowing an additional £1200 from the Annual Budget to allow works to commence and this was agreed by Members on the understanding that monies within the Amenities Budget would be made available to support works on the playing field subject to Sedbergh Wanderers being able to facilitate their additional contributions also. Sedbergh Wanderers hoped to also raise additional funds for improvement works and maintenance and this would be reported further at a future meeting. It was also noted that Sedbergh School had assisted with the background for this schedule and Cllr Arnold hoped to speak further to The Head Groundsman to ascertain any formal ongoing support. Cllr Longlands is due to attend a scheduled site meeting with representatives of the FA in February. With regard to Item 015/01/17, Main Street Toilets, it was agreed by Members that the Clerk should be given authority seek to obtain a measured buildings survey for this asset. In Other Amenities, it was noted that the tree work on the riverbank close to Settlebeck would be completed in March, and that Sedbergh School had recently been granted permission to thin out young trees within Akay wood that have poor form or are in poor condition, noting that their removal is required to promote the continued and future health of other trees on site. With regard to material deposited at Straight Bridge, (see also Item 4, Public Participation) it was noted from this meeting that the owner hoped to be able to move this by the end of January. In addition, it was noted that SLDC hoped to remove the fly tipping of pruned branches etc from New Bridge layby, also by the end of January. Finally, it was noted that YDNPA had recently organised a Hedge Laying competition on the boundary of Settlebeck field and Members wished to express their thanks to YDNPA for the works completed by competitors there, and also for the exceptional standard.

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

An updating report was received by the Council and accepted.

It was noted that a LIP Grant application had now been submitted to SLDC in relation to the proposed improvement works to the boundary at The People's Hall. Additionally noted were the ongoing meetings being held in regard to the proposed improvement/refurbishment of the play park at Maryfell. In connection with outstanding Highways matters, Cllr Atkins has invited an officer of CCC to have a 'walkabout' town to discuss various outstanding issues.

### **14. Queen's Garden**

The Committee met on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016 (notes attached). A further meeting is scheduled with Hilary Taylor Associates on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017. It was noted that the Horse Chestnut tree, previously highlighted, should be removed and tenders had now been issued for these works, Cllr Lancaster wished to highlight that removal of this tree was likely to expose this area and adjacent trees would require monitoring as a consequence. Cllr Lancaster advised that a local contractor was hoping to repair one of the benches in the gardens as a donation.

### **15. Community Resilience Plan**

Comments and feedback have now been received from local authority and organisations and meetings continue with local schools also. A further committee meeting will be held in due course and it is hoped to encourage non Members to become part of the group.

### **16. Car Parking**

Following various local discussions around car parking in Sedbergh Cllr Atkins reminded the meeting that the lease for Joss Lane car park states SPC should not 'undercut' SLDC's own charges. Cllr Lancaster considered that SLDC are supportive of the current tariffs as they help support the community throughout the year and reflects the spirit in which SLDC lease the car park to SPC, therefore, allowing additional funds to assist with projects to benefit the town on an ongoing basis. The meeting noted that the parking tariffs would be reviewed towards the end of the year, in the usual way, for the following financial year.

### **17. Correspondence**

The attached Clerk's Report was considered by the meeting and the following noted:

- a. New Bridge – it was noted that some additional repair works were being carried out to the wall at the bridge.
- b. Helm Hill Running Club – Members noted the Fell race on Easter Sunday.
- c. Gully Map – Members considered the Map provided by Cllr Nick Cotton and made several suggestions for priority clearance.
- d. CVS – Resilience Plan Workshop – Cllr Atkins hoped to attend an event on the 17/2/2017
- e. Road Closure Notices – The Clerk was seeking further clarification in regard to the recent notices for the A684, Garsdale Road and A684, Station Road to Lincoln's Inn Bridge.

**18. Date and Time of next meeting –Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 7.30pm, the monthly meeting of the Parish Council to be held in the Committee Room of the People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.**