

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 9th February 2017

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

1. Apologies

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

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest. Members agreed to a proposal by Cllr Lancaster that an approach be made to the Monitoring Officer of SLDC with a view to securing a general dispensation for Parish Council members in the locality who are likely to have an interest (as landowners, volunteers and potential customers) in future agenda items relating to the expansion of the B4RN fibre network.

4. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present

5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council 12th January 2017

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair, Cllr Atkins.

6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 12th January 2017

Item 6 – Report from District Councillor – it was noted that some Members had attended the Chamber of Trade meeting where B4RN had made a presentation.

Item 6 - Salt Bin, Havera, the Clerk was now in contact with CCC to confirm ownership of the land at Havera and seek their final permission to install a Grit bin. Members agreed that the Bin should be purchased in the interim to allow a quick installation upon confirmation from CCC.

Item 13 – Sedbergh Townscape Project –it was noted that a representative from CCC was due to visit the town and do a walkabout, with regard to outstanding Highways matters, with Cllr Atkins and Cllr Nick Cotton on 14th February 2017.

7. Co-option

Following the re-advertisement of the Councillor Vacancy one application had been received for Co-Option to Sedbergh Parish Council.

Helen Bromley - Proposed – Cllr Allan, Seconded – Cllr Lancaster and was, therefore, duly selected. The appointment will be subject to the formality of completing an 'Acceptance of Office' and a 'Declaration of Interest' form as soon as practicable.

8. Report from District/County Council

Apologies were received from Cllr Nick Cotton and Cllr Mel Mackie. Cllr Lancaster indicated that he may be able to make a contribution to the proposed works at The Queen's Garden or Maryfell Playpark.

9. Planning

The attached Planning Report was considered and adopted by Members. In addition, Members noted the Article 4 Direction made by the YDNPA in regard to a new permitted development right to allow light industrial premises to be converted to one or more dwelling houses without full planning permission. Members discussed the potential implications and agreed to support YDNPA's Direction which would remove this permitted development right. Comments are invited prior to 27th February 2017.

10. Finance

a) The meeting received and adopted the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee held on the 6th February 2017. Item 6 i) in relation to the Queen's Garden Tender for the proposed work to remove the diseased Horse Chestnut tree, following the recommendation from the Committee, Members agreed to engage Charlesworth Tree Care and Fencing to complete the works.

b) The Council agreed a list of payments presented at the meeting. Following receipt of the latest increased United Utilities bill for the toilets on Main Street, it was agreed that the Clerk will compare previous year's bills to establish any savings being made by the 'grey' water system now operating at the toilets.

11. Grants

There were no grant applications received.

12. Amenities Committee

The minutes were received by the Council and accepted at the meeting. It was noted that Cllr Longlands was due to meet with the Football Association with the Sedbergh Wanderers Football Club later this month to discuss the pitch at Havera. It was further noted that Spatial Data had been engaged to complete the measured survey drawing of the toilet building on Main Street.

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 redevelopment to the Maryfell Play park. Additionally noted was the attached report regarding the proposed future works at Joss Lane Car Park. This document would be discussed further at both the P&R Committee and the Amenities Committee for final agreement at a future meeting.

14. Queen's Garden

The Committee met with Hilary Taylor Associates on 13th January 2017. Members of the Committee agreed that it had been a positive meeting and Hilary Taylor Associates hope to deliver their final report in March. This will allow Members to consider further an approach to HLF. Also noted was that, following the recent article in the Lookaround seeking supporters for a 'Friends of Queen's Garden Group', several residents had come forward offering their support and a meeting will be planned in due course to discuss how the group may operate.

15. Community Resilience Plan

The Chair requested suggestions from Members as to the local individuals, firms or businesses that might be approached to enable the 'Community Resource' section of the Plan to be completed. Cllr Atkins hoped that a final version would be ready to be formally adopted by Members in March 2017. This would then be made available to the Emergency Services in full, with a summary made available on the Parish Council website. Cllr Atkins and the Clerk had also met with Debbie Binch, Environment Agency to discuss information available within the town and the Community Messaging System (CMS). In addition to supplying householder advice leaflets on flood protection (now in the Information Centre), she also provided an 'emergency' bag for use at the designated 'place of safety'. This included various items for use at a refuge centre during an emergency to compliment the radios recently purchased by SPC. Cllr Allan advised that she would make further contact with Sedbergh Medical Practice in regard to identifying potentially vulnerable people, which the practice may wish to highlight to the Emergency Services (with the consent of those noted). The Plan would be reviewed on an annual basis.

16. Cumbria County Council – Flood investigation, Final Report.

A summary of the final report had been prepared by Cllr Atkins and circulated to Members (attached). Cllr Atkins and Longlands had also recently met with representatives from CCC. The meeting discussed the long standing problem at Howgill Lane (close to the playing field) where water often floods over the surface of the road.

CCC Highways had agreed to investigate this further with a view to renewing the dilapidated gully and using a camera to look under the highway for any obvious blockages or defects. Also discussed was the potential to house an inspection chamber and catch pit in the culvert at Guldrey on SPC land close to the tennis courts. Following recommendation, this was agreed by Members.

17. Correspondence

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

- a. Barclays Bank – vacant building, it was noted that Barclays had still not formally replied to the letter in connection with the vacant former Barclays Bank. Members agreed to advise Tim Farron MP, who had previously been very supportive, in the hope that he may be able to also contact Barclays Bank directly.
- b. SLDC – Dog Fouling – SLDC are completing a presentation at Sedbergh Primary School this month and will be leading a poster design competition around the need to clean up after your dog. Members agreed to donate a small prize fund of £30 and the Clerk will seek Book tokens.
- c. Western Dales Mission Community – Rev Carole Marsden had written, on behalf of the Community, introducing themselves. Members agreed to invite them along to a future meeting to give a short presentation.
- d. Parish Forums (YDNPA) – Cllr McPherson was able to advise that there was a proposal to introduce a new 'Western' area forum and it was hoped that the first meeting would be hosted in Sedbergh in May 2017.
- e. SLDC – Building Control – Members noted the recent removal of the cones and safety tape on Main Street at The Sedbergh Café/Aamilahs. In view of the deteriorating condition of this prominent building, the meeting asked the Clerk to seek an update from SLDC in regard to the current situation.

18. Date and Time of next meeting –Thursday 9th March 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.