

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in the Committee Room of the People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th April 2018

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

PART I

1. Apologies

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

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Allan– Item 9 - Finance

4. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council 8th March 2018

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Atkins.

6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 8th March 2018

Item 6 – Langstone Fell Parking Area, Members noted that SPC were still awaiting further views from the Land Agent in connection with the options for this project.

7. Report from District/County Council

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cotton and Mackie. Cllr Lancaster had nothing to report.

8. Planning

The attached Planning Report was considered and adopted by the meeting. The following applications were noted by members S/03/91H reconfiguration of Ingmire Caravan Site (no objection in principle, but with some concerns noted) – Planning decisions, noted S/03/94D Full permission of change of use of home for the elderly to hotel with manager's accommodation, associated parking and alteration to access at Beamsmoor, Garsdale Road – approved with conditions. Further noted was the growing concern, both locally and by Members of the Committee, over the uncertain future of the former Baliol School site. Members agreed that the Clerk should write to the Chairman of the Sedbergh Economic Partnership asking for this to be a future Agenda item.

- a) YDNPA – National Park Management Plan – Draft Consultation. The attached report had been circulated to Members and it was agreed to submit the comments noted therein. Cllr McPherson highlighted that the NPMP was subject to fundamental review, every five years, that there had been extensive consultation and that the objectives were intended to guide all stakeholders in the management of the National Park.

9. Finance

- a) The meeting received and adopted the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee held on the 9th April 2018. Members noted the updated Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, along with the amended Asset Register and Risk Register, along with the new Press and Media Policy and all were approved by Members. Members discussed the Clerk/Contractor pay scales under Part II of the meeting – see below.

It was also agreed that Cllr McPherson and Cllr Brooks would replace Cllrs Allan and Atkins as signatories for the SPC Bank account. The Clerk will circulate the necessary paperwork in due course.

- b) Request for payments – payments were noted on the Financial Summary and agreed by Members. It was noted, in particular, that £2956 had been received toward the proposed Inspection Chamber at Guldrey (now scheduled for May 2018 at the new site) and £1000 for benches at Queen’s Garden.

10. Grants

There were no Grant applications this month.

11. Amenities Committee

The (attached) minutes of the meeting – 4th April 2018, were received by Members. In particular, Members discussed the request from Sedbergh Wanderers Football Club to host an event at the Playing Field in the summer and this was approved by Members. It was noted that the Club should be mindful of the additional works being carried out on the pitch and protect/preserve where necessary.

12. Sedbergh Townscape Project

The attached updating report was received by the Council and accepted. There was no further update on the playpark at Maryfell. Also concerning Maryfell, Cllr Arnold requested that the Clerk contact SLH in regard to their previous comments on parking and seek an update on views/proposals. In regard to Joss Lane car park, Members discussed the four illustrative layouts provided by Fletcher Day Cummings and agreed that, prior to local consultations, the Clerk should approach SLDC to initiate discussions on the refurbishment of the car park. Members noted that the District Council had a key role to play as landlord, recycling authority and, potentially, as a contributor to funding.

13. Queen’s Garden

A brief verbal update was given by Cllr Atkins in regard to the temporary fencing erected on the west boundary following the small wall collapse – the Clerk to seek a contractor to repair. Also discussed were the temporary fencing erected at the Bowling Green wall in view of the further collapse, the benches to be purchased for the Gardens, and the anticipated works to be incorporated into Sedbergh School Challenge week in due course. The Friends of the Queen’s Garden will liaise with P Mitchell and Cllr Arnold as required.

14. Tennis Courts

See Part II below

15. Proposed Guldrey catch pit

Members were advised that the works are now anticipated to be completed, in May, at the new location close to the entrance of the footpath running between the Spar site and Guldrey.

16. Cautley & Dowbiggin B4RN – Manorial Waste request for delegated powers

A request had been received in regard to Manorial Waste land close to Ringing Keld Gutter on the Sedbergh Parish Council/Garsdale boundary. Cllr Lancaster was able to explain that the land highlighted (see attached) was described as Manorial Waste land (which is neither let to tenants nor did it form part of Demesne lands). Members agreed, that the Clerk be given delegated authority to sign a way-leave on behalf of SPC to enable the installation of a cable, in so far as the Council has the legal authority to do so and subject to B4RN agreeing to bear the full cost arising from any resulting dispute or loss arising therefrom.

17. Correspondence

The attached Clerk's Report was considered by the meeting.

- i) CALC – Nomination request for District Association Meetings – Members agreed that this should form part of the annual allocation/representation to Outside Bodies at the Annual Parish Council meeting in May.
- ii) YDNPA – Notice of Vacancy for Parish Member of the YDNPA – Receipt of Nomination Papers are due – noon on Monday 11 June 2018. Cllr McPherson intends to stand again for this position.
- iii) Request by resident to speak about his opposition to burying of nuclear waste in Cumbria – Members agreed that he be advised that he could attend a future meeting and speak at Public Participation.
- iv) English Championship Fell running race – The Clerk passed on details of a planned event in March 2018, advising that this could be an opportunity for Sedbergh to work collaboratively to host the event which could potentially attract many runners/visitors to the Town.

Finally, it was noted that following the Uncontested Election Result published by SLDC for 2018, Cllrs Atkins, Allan and Dawson had all stood down as Members. Thanks, were given to all three Councillors, in particular to Cllr Jim Atkins, after ten years as Parish Council Member, latterly as Chairman and to Cllr Ann Allan – after 28 years as a Member. It leaves Sedbergh Parish Council with three vacancies.

19. Date and Time of next meeting - Thursday 10th May 2018 The Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm, followed immediately by the normal monthly meeting in the Committee Room, People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh. Also, the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 15th May 2018 at 7.30p in the Main Hall, The People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh

PART II

The following items were considered under Part II of the meeting having regard to the confidential nature of the matters to be discussed:

9. (a) Finance

Members discussed the current pay of the Council's contractors and Clerk and agreed that contractors' rates of pay should remain the same but that a review of the Clerk's remuneration should be carried out by the new Council prior to 31st July 2018. (Cllr Allan and the Clerk left the room for this item).

14. Tennis Courts

Members noted progress with the proposals for the refurbishment of the tennis courts and it was resolved to delegate authority to the Clerk to deal with any urgent communication that might be required prior to the next meeting of the Council. A further meeting with representatives of the Tennis Club would be held in due course.