

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 8th February 2018

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

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

Cllr McPherson – Item 10(ii) - Grants

4. Public Participation

Geoffrey Woof – Frostraw Fell Commoners Assc - Langstone Fell parking area and Sedgwick Trail (Item 17) Report attached. Geoffrey Woof attended to speak in connection with the attached report prepared by Cllr Atkins and to update Members following a Commoners' meeting held on the 7th February 2018. Members of the Commoners' Association had discussed the proposals for improvements to the parking area (and illustrated options) and had agreed that Option B (attached) was their preferred choice. Members were wholly in agreement but will await an update from the Agent acting on behalf of the owner. In addition, the Commoners wished to raise the issue of overnight parking and misuse of motorised vehicles on Langstone Fell. These were noted and members discussed the possibility that signs could be displayed with the agreement of YDNPA in an effort to address these concerns. Further noted was the stolen gate from the cattle grid (in 2017) which has previously been reported by SPC to CCC. The gate had been temporarily replaced with one owned privately. The Clerk will liaise, again, with CCC over the matter. Geoffrey Woof was able to confirm that the Commoners Association were content with the proposals relating to the Sedgwick Trail.

Shelagh Cobb – Sedbergh CIC (and also on behalf of the Artisan Markets) - Proposed Street closures, Finkle Street (Item 14). Shelagh Cobb attended to discuss the ongoing desire by Sedbergh CIC to introduce temporary road closures, in Sedbergh, to host the Artisan Markets. Previously Main Street had been mooted, however, Sedbergh CIC were now proposing Finkle Street. The main reason to consider the new location was due to logistics of road closures and diversions. Members discussed the matter at length, asking if there had been any consultation with SLDC, businesses on Finkle Street, the Church and CCC Highways. Shelagh Cobb was able to advise that this was ongoing, but it was thought prudent to gauge the support of SPC prior to commencing further investigation/consultation. There are seven markets planned (6 over Spring/Summer and 1 in December), being held on a Saturday, once monthly. Cllr Arnold raised concern over safety for pedestrians on Main Street, if Finkle Street was closed, due to increased traffic on Main St where Market stalls would still be present. Cllr Brooks raised the issue of access for weddings at the Church (and funerals). Cllr McPherson advised Shelagh Cobb that the matter could be raised at the forthcoming Sedbergh Economic Partnership Stakeholder meeting. After various points being discussed, Cllr McPherson proposed that the Council should support, in principle, the closure of Finkle Street for the purposes of promoting the Artisan Markets (seven times a year), and this was seconded by Cllr Lancaster. Members voted and it was agreed to support, with five voting for the proposal and four against.

5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council 11th January 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 11th January 2018

Item 11 – Amenities – Incident on Station Road, Cllr Arnold hopes to distribute letters to residents of Highfield Road and Station road in connection with overgrown hedges encroaching onto the pavements.

7. Report from District/County Council

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cotton and Mackie. Members passed on ‘get well’ wishes to Cllr Mackie.

8. Planning

The attached Planning Report was considered and adopted by the meeting. Points to note included the approval of planning application S/03/333C, former Bull Hotel, a proposal strongly supported by SPC.

- a) Older Persons’ Housing Strategy – draft consultation (report attached), following communication received from SLDC (in partnership with Eden DC) Members discussed the report, noting the contents, and agreed the proposed response to SLDC. Also welcoming the notion of further discussions with Officers of the District and County Councils.
- b) Self-build housing (report attached) – following correspondence received from Barbara Hartley wishing to raise awareness of self-build housing, Members discussed the attached report and agreed that SPC should place an article in the Lookaround, to highlight the concept of Self-Build housing and to gain a picture of any interest within the area (with a view to possibly facilitating a meeting to discuss.)

9. Finance

- a) The meeting received and adopted the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee held on the 5th February 2018
- b) Request for payments – payments were noted on the Financial Summary and agreed by Members.

10. Grants

The meeting considered the following Grant applications:

- i) Former Udales – Shop Front Improvement Grant - £250.00, Members noted that the Clerk had written to the applicant for further supporting documents and consideration of the application was therefore deferred.
- ii) Friends of Dales Countryside Museum - £100.00. An application had been received in connection with the proposed restoration of the ‘Book of Bridges’. Following the recommendation of the P&R Committee, the grant was agreed.

11. Amenities Committee

A verbal report was given of the meeting held on the 7th February 2018, minutes to follow.

12. Sedbergh Townscape Project

The attached updating report was received by the Council and accepted. The following items were noted and discussed further:

Maryfell playpark – further grant applications have been completed, it is hoped to meet with SLDC soon with a view to progressing the project. Members expressed some concern over the length of time being taken up with grant applications and that a modest cutting back of the extent of the proposed refurbishment (tailored to the funds already assembled or pledged) should now be considered.

Joss Lane car park – Alternative layouts for the car park were presented to Members for feedback at the meeting in March. Further discussions would also take place with the architect. It was noted that to be considered within the SLDC Capital Works Program, proposals would need to be in place before October 2018.

13. Queen's Garden

A Committee meeting is planned for later this month and will be reported in March. It was additionally noted, that the tender invites for the wall repair at the bowling green, were due on the 19th February 2018 and would be reported in March also.

14. Proposed street closures (Finkle Street) – Sedbergh CIC

See Item 4 – Public Participation

15. Parking Charges at Joss Lane/Loftus Hill car parks

Members noted that the fees previously agreed in June 2017 will become effective in April 2018, once the Clerk has received confirmation from SLDC in regard to the Parking Order. The Clerk will also liaise with Parkeon in regard to amending the charges on our parking machines in due course. It was further noted that the annual parking permit fees would remain unchanged at £40 for day permits and £60 for 24-hour permits.

1 hour - £1.00

2 hour - £2.00

3 hour - £3.00

4 hour - £4.00

All day - £5.00

One week (7days) - £10.00

16. Tennis Courts (report attached)

Members noted the contents of the report and received an update from Cllr Atkins. SPC has now been named as the applicant body with Sport England. The meeting noted the need for a formal agreement or sub-lease with the Tennis Club, confirming roles and responsibilities (which would require the approval of SLDC). Members agreed that, in order to progress this matter, legal advice should be sought. Cllrs Atkins, Bromley and McPherson will report at a future meeting.

17. Langstone Fell parking area and Sedgwick Trail (report attached)

See Item 4 – Public Participation

18. Correspondence

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

- i) Parish Forum Invitation – Members noted the date of the next meeting, Monday 16th April and agreed that at least one Member would attend (in addition to Cllr McPherson who will Chair the meeting).
- ii) Jubilee Fountain – correspondence was received from Dr J Palmer into the feasibility of restoring a drinking water connection to the Fountain on Finkle Street – Cllr Arnold will consider this possibility and report at a future meeting.
- iii) Vicarage Lane – concern over a leaning wall at the entrance to Fell Close, reported to South Lakes Housing
- iv) Crosedale Tunnel – Cllr Dawson wished to raise the safety concerns in regard to the tunnel. The Clerk to seek further clarification from Cllr Dawson for a future meeting.
- v) Western Dales Bus – a request was received to allow The Scouts to wash the Western Dales Buses on the car park at Joss lane on a weekly basis, this would be supervised by Scout Leaders at all times to ensure safety. Members supported the proposal, requesting that alternative disabled parking be marked out, and that washing should be restricted to after 6pm in the evening.

19. Date and Time of next meeting

Thursday 8th March 2018 at 7.30pm – Sedbergh Parish Council, monthly meeting at the People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.