

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 November 2018

Present: Councillors Lancaster, McPherson, Brooks, Capstick, Bromley, Cowperthwaite, Welti and Sedgwick (One vacancy)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Arnold and Longlands, 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.

4. Public Participation

Item 14 – Sedbergh CIC Markets, a representative from The Sedbergh Information Centre attended to answer questions that Members may have in regard to the Market paper (attached). Members discussed the papers, and in relation to the Artisan Market it was agreed that The Clerk should contact SLDC to enquire about costs for potential road closures to accommodate the growing market (for Main Street/Finkle Street) in order that the matter could be discussed fully at a future meeting. Members agreed that a decision must be based on the safest option for pedestrians. It was noted that when the Artisan Markets had begun, there was 6-7 stalls, and now the number stood at 31. Information obtained from SLDC would be circulated at a future meeting. In relation to the Weekly Wednesday Market, Members requested that the Sedbergh CIC consult with Market Traders over their thoughts on repositioning, and report further to SPC with the results in due course. Again, Members were keen to receive feedback on the safest option for pedestrians visiting the Market. It was further agreed, that the current Market Service Level Agreement should be reviewed.

5. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 11th October 2018

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

6. Matters arising from the Minutes of 11th October 2018

Item 6 – Farfield Mill, Members noted the present balance raised in the Mill's current bid to become a Benefit Community Society and wished them well in their continuing efforts.

7. Casual Vacancy and appointment to Committees

Members noted that the Casual Vacancy was currently advertised on the Parish Council notice board, the website and in the Lookaround – the closing date is 30th November 2018. In regard to appointment to Committees, it was resolved that Cllr Cowperthwaite be appointed to the Amenities Committee.

8. Report from District/County Council

Apologies were received from CCC Cllr Cotton; however, he had sent a note of recent works now planned to hedgerows on the Cautley Road. Cllr Sheila Capstick was able to confirm the recent decision announced by Phillip Hammond MP, to exempt public toilets from paying non-domestic rates, advising that all will receive a new mandatory business rate relief. The Clerk will await updates from SLDC in due course, to measure the impact on rates currently being paid on Main Street toilets.

9. Highways Matters

In was noted that CCC Highways had responded in relation to the request for an 'unsuitable for HGV' sign at Bainbridge Road, with Members being advised that the town centre location was unsuitable for such a sign.

It was agreed that it was not straight forward, for example, removal wagons, deliveries etc did require access. The Clerk was, therefore, instructed to ask CCC Highways, if an ‘advisory’ sign could be erected instead. Members also noted the response in relation to a potential one-way system however, agreed that ultimately, a one-way system was unlikely to resolve the situation. Members finally noted their disappointment that no progress was being made at Middleton Bridge in regard to a permanent structure being built in place of the temporary bailey bridge/traffic lights that had been in place for over two years.

10. Planning

The attached Planning minutes were received by the meeting.

11. Finance

The attached Policy and Resource minutes and finance papers were received by the meeting and all requests for payments were approved. In addition, 11c) Members noted the Draft Budget 2019/2020 (attached) for reference. Approval would be sought at a future meeting, along with final consideration of the Precept for 2019/2020.

12. Grants

i) Sedbergh Project Manager – co -funding request of £1250. Members noted the comments of the Policy & Resource meeting, and the additional information submitted in relation to the post. It was also noted that the grant application to The Dulverton Trust (£5,000) outcome would not be known until Feb 2019 and that current funding was due to cease in December 2018. Members agreed to co-fund the position with the sum of £1250 again this calendar year. However, Members wished for it to be noted, that if the application to The Dulverton Trust was unsuccessful, there would be no consideration for further payment within the calendar year. All agreed, that SPC could not continue to co- fund on an infinite basis.

ii) St Andrew’s Church – an application for the sum of £2,000 towards remedial works to paths surrounding St Andrew’s Church and to improve disabled access from Finkle Street had been received. Members agreed to approve the recommended sum of £2,000.

iii) Sedbergh & District Chamber of Trade – an application for the sum of £400 toward the annual Late Night Opening event in December was received and the requested sum was agreed by Members.

13. Amenities Committee

The attached Amenities minutes were received by the meeting.

14. Sedbergh CIC – Markets

See Item 4 – Public Participation

15. Update on Projects

The Tennis Courts, Guldrey - Cllr Bromley and the Clerk had recently attended a meeting of The Tennis Club and it was noted that an agreement had been made in relation to the proposed sub lease. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Graham Dalton to progress the matter and to liaise with SLDC in regard to the ancillary parking area (which would not be included in the sub lease). It was noted that further discussions would continue with The Tennis Club, over new provisions/arrangements for the car parking area.

Maryfell Parking – Members noted the proposed plans for additional parking spaces at Maryfell. These had resulted from a culmination of two years discussion by SPC with the necessary authorities, including SLDC, Highways, YDNPA, SLH and residents, and Members were pleased to support all options proposed by South Lakes Housing, noting that a drop-in session would be held so local residents could give feedback on the plans.

Maryfell play park – Members were looking forward to meeting with SLDC, along with original parties involved with project, in the coming weeks – Cllr Capstick and Clerk would represent SPC. It was also noted that SLDC would be attending Sedbergh Primary School with the plans in due course.

Loftus Hill car park – SPC awaited contact from Sedbergh School in regard to the lease. Joss Lane car park – Cllr Lancaster and Arnold hope to meet to discuss potential plans for Joss Lane car park, and noted that SLDC are currently inviting bids to their Locally Important Projects Scheme.

16. Town Twinning

Cllr Lancaster deferred this item to a future meeting as The Town Twinning Group had not yet met.

17. Queen’s Garden & The Bowling Green Wall

Cllr Lancaster and McPherson advised that a meeting of the QG Committee would be convened as soon as practicable to discuss the Inspection Report for the trees in the Garden (which included recommendations for works, including felling). In addition, the Inspection Report for the tree at the **Playing Field** (11th October 2017 – Item 12, Amenities) had also been received. The Clerk had sent the full report to YDNPA for additional feedback also (attached). In regard to the tree at the playing field, the report recommended that the tree be felled. Given the comments on the report, its proximity to property and the public, Members agreed that instruction should be made to Fell the tree as soon as practicable. As it was within the conservation area for Sedbergh, a notice would be sent to YDNPA for final approval prior to the work being carried. It was also noted, that replacement trees should be planted on the field side of the boundary hedge and The Clerk was requested to seek YDNPA guidance on species/no./location in due course.

18. Resilience Plan

The Clerk had circulated the current Resilience Plan for Members reference and it was agreed that the plan should be reviewed at a future meeting. Also noting the recent Casterton Neighbours scheme at a neighbouring Parish for information.

19. Appleby Horse Fair

Members noted a request from Kirkby Stephen Parish Council, suggesting a collaborative meeting with local Parishes on the migration route for Appleby Horse Fair. Members welcomed the idea of a joint meeting. Cllr Capstick was able to advise that he had recently attended a Parish Council meeting at Kirkby Stephen to listen the Police Crime Commissioner talk on the subject of Appleby Horse Fair. Cllrs Lancaster, Capstick, McPherson and Cowperthwaite all agreed to be available to represent SPC. The Clerk was asked to write to Kirkby Stephen Parish Council confirming SPC’s support, and perhaps to consider extending the invite to Barbon and Casterton Parish Councils.

20. Sedbergh CIC – Director Nominee

Members noted the recent Articles sent in relation to Sedbergh CIC and, in particular, the notion of a proxy. Members agreed to consider a representative from SPC and forward to Sedbergh CIC in due course, on the understanding that if that Member was unavailable for any reason, a proxy could be sent as a substitute (as the articles noted that this was acceptable).

21. Correspondence

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

- i) Langstone fell parking area – Recent communications had been received in regard to the ongoing notion of improving the unofficial car parking area at Langstone Fell viewing point. In particular, noting the feedback from the Landowner in that an overall reduced area, with bunding would be a preferred option. Members noted that a design was being completed for further discussion/feedback in due course.
- ii) Castle Garth/Long Lane parking – Cllr Cowperthwaite noted concern over increased parking (generally at Settlebeck/Primary school drop off/pick up times) very close to the exit of Castle Garth, therefore obstructing a clear view to exit onto the Main road. The Clerk was asked to highlight the concern with relevant parties.
- iii) Former URC building – Members noted plans by a group of people in Sedbergh to consider registering the building as a Community Asset, with plans to develop the building for the community. Further information would be reported in due course, Cllr McPherson had been invited to attend, and he has asked for Cllr Lancaster to be invited as Chair of SPC.
- iv) Sedbergh CIC – Members noted a request from Sedbergh CIC, asking if SPC would take over the responsibility of ‘bunting’ for the town in future years.

However, Members agreed they did not want to become involved, noting that in past years the Gala Committee had been responsible for bunting and that the Fire Service used to put up and take down for the community during May.

- v) Parking – Back Lane/Main Street – a letter had been received highlighting the perceived parking issues during Sedbergh school termly drop off and pick up, in particular Lupton/Evans House. The Clerk was asked to try and address the concerns further with relevant parties.

22. Date and Time of next meeting - Thursday 13th December 2018 at 7.30pm in the former URC (Cornerstone) meeting room, Joss Lane, Sedbergh.