

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in the People’s Hall Committee Room, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th February 2019

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

The meeting commenced informally from 7.00pm and welcomed Members from SLDC Cabinet, Leader of the Council Cllr Giles Archibald (Promoting South Lakeland Portfolio Holder) and Cllr Philip Dixon (Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder) to introduce and discuss Localism. Members of the public (Nos. 18) were able to ask questions and raise any concern. In particular Sedbergh Community Trust was able to raise the notion of a Pump Track for Sedbergh (Item 15) and Cllr Arnold was able to raise the future works/refurbishment required at Joss Lane car park. The consultation for Castlegarth (Item 7) followed this informal discussion.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4. Public Participation

Members welcomed Chief Supt Rob O’Connor and Insp Paul Latham from Cumbria Police to speak in advance of Appleby Horse Fair. Following issues/concern in 2018 Cumbria Police are keen to reassure all those along the migration route for the Fair that additional measures have been put in place in preparation for the Fair. Including an uplift on officer numbers (vehicle and foot patrol), consideration of a mobile police unit and a dedicated number to report any non-emergency issues. Members welcomed the increased Police presence proposed, additionally acknowledging the continued Respect Group meetings and the inclusion of a District Councillor on the Multi Agency Strategic Co-Ordinator Group.

Langstone fell car parking area – an update was requested in regard to previous correspondence for the consideration of improving the surface. Cllr Lancaster requested this to be an Agenda Item again for March.

5. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 10th January 2019

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 10th January 2019

Item 6 – Bainbridge Road, advisory sign. The Clerk was able to confirm the approved wording from CCC Highways and Members confirmed their approval and the position of the sign as agreed at the entrance to Bainbridge Road from Highfield Road.

7. Castlegarth Consultation

(This item was taken promptly at 7.30pm). Some 18 Members of the Public attended to raise their strong opposition/concerns over the recent consultation event for the potential residential development of 8 x 1 bed apartments and additional parking at Castlegarth, proposed by South Lakes Housing.

Matters raised included, but not exhaustive, loss of current amenity (garages), no demand for 1 x bed accommodation, damage to wildlife at Settlebeck Gill, increasing population on an already developed site, loss of green and safe space for children, the desire for three/four bed family housing being required for Sedbergh - to help support the community in the long term, not 1 bed single dwellings. It was agreed that Cllr Arnold will contact SLH to open a dialogue between SPC and SLH to discuss proposals further and report at a future meeting.

8. Casual Vacancy

The Vacancy is presently advertised in the February Lookaround and on the Town website and notice board, with the closing date set to Friday 1st March 2019.

9. Report from District/County Council

Apologies were received from CCC Cllr Cotton. Cllr Mitchell and Cllr Sheila Capstick was present and Cllr Capstick raised her concern for the extended period of traffic lights (and rising cost) at the bailey bridge at Middleton. Cllr Mitchell advised that the works were now scheduled for June 2019, following various delays during 2018. It was noted that Cllr Mitchell had been nominated as the District Councillor for the Appleby Fair MASC Group. It was noted that Members warmly invite Cllr Cotton to attend a future meeting for an update on CCC matters.

10. Highways Matters

Thanks, were noted to Cllr Sheila Capstick for obtaining additional salt/grit during the recent bad weather and assisting in coordinating with Settlebeck and Sedbergh School. Huge thanks go to all the students involved in making the pavements a safer place to walk.

The Clerk confirmed that consent would be required from CCC for any works to the water course at Scrogg Bank (Little Ash Beck)

Cllr Sedgwick wished to raise the increasing number of vehicles parking at the bottom of Havera/Howgill Lane – forcing pedestrians further on to the road and requiring vehicles to drive on the wrong side of the road. It was agreed to add this as an Agenda item for further consideration at a future meeting.

Continued problematic parking on Station Road and at the entrance of Castlegarth were reported, and the Clerk was requested to raise the matter further with the PCSO. In particular, the parking of vehicles on the zigzag restricted zone.

The road surface at Busk Lane (close to Birks Lane) was reported as deteriorating and the Clerk was asked to report to CCC Highways. Cllr Capstick was additionally requested to speak to local businesses in the area, that use a stretch of this road for parking, for their thoughts on improving the current practice for waiting vehicles.

11. Planning

The attached Planning minutes were received by the meeting.

12. Finance

The attached Policy and Resource minutes and finance papers were received by the meeting and all requests for payments were approved. In addition, a payment for the recent hedge laying at the playing field was agreed - £950.00. Finally, following recommendation, Members resolved to maintain the current parking tariffs for the next financial year.

13. Grants

There were no Grant applications received.

14. Amenities Committee

The attached Amenities Committee minutes were received by the meeting.

15. Sedbergh Community Trust – proposals for a Pump Track

Following the presentation at Public Participation and correspondence in January – Members were keen to support the project at this initial stage and would look forward to detailed plans in due course. It was noted that SLDC were keen to work with Community Trust in establishing some professional investigative work for the proposed site and Members noted the prospective collaboration between SLDC and The Community Trust for the project.

16. Update on Projects

Maryfell Parking – Plans have now been submitted to YDNPA

Maryfell play park – Members noted that works for the refurbishment were planned to commence 4th March 2019, with an anticipated five-week timescale until completion. An opening event would be planned in due course.

The Tennis Courts and parking area. Members were concerned that a response had not yet been received from the Tennis Club in regard to the sub lease and that a formal response from SLDC was additionally still awaited. The Clerk has followed the matter up again recently, and will chase further for a response. Cllr Bromley was asked to liaise further with the Tennis Club over the delay in their consent to the draft sub lease and will update Members at the next meeting.

Loftus Hill car park – SS are in the process of finalizing the new lease, and have also indicated their agreement to considering an electric car charging point within the car park. The Clerk was instructed to investigate this further and report at a future meeting.

Sedbergh School Challenge Week – Cllr Arnold reminded Members of plans by Sedbergh School to work on a series of projects again in the Summer and invited Members to consider work that could be completed. Members raised the potential to refurbish some seats around the town as well as any relevant repairs to the footpath at New Bridge. Any other ideas should be forwarded directly to Cllr Arnold.

17. CCTV for Sedbergh

Members discussed the presentation recently circulated by The Clerk, following correspondence in January, in regard to the potential provision of Police monitored CCTV for Sedbergh. Members agreed that The Clerk should request that Cumbria Police complete their further investigation into the viability of CCTV for Sedbergh however, noting no ongoing commitment at this time as further details/costs/implications etc would need to be considered when available.

18. Queen's Garden

Members noted that Cllrs Lancaster and McPherson were due to meet with representation from The Friends of QG this month. This followed the resignation of the Chair and Secretary of the Friends Group in recent weeks. Thanks, were noted to the Friends for their continued input to SPC and it was noted that any outstanding matters could be discussed at the meeting. Members also agreed to progress matters in regard to obtaining quotes for completing any necessary works highlighted from the Tree Survey report completed in 2018, including the felling of some trees and the remedial works recommended on others. Members noted the request by the Town Band to hold an event at the Garden on 7.7.19.

19. Appleby Horse Fair MASC Group SLDC Representative

See item 4 – Public Participation

20. Correspondence

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

- i) SLDC – update on street closure proposals for Artisan markets – matter now referred to legal team.
- ii) Catchment Pit at Guldrey – concern raised by resident over the raised level surrounding the pit and the program of continued maintenance. Cllr Arnold will follow this up and report further in due course.
- iii) YDNPA Spring Parish Forum – Cllr Lancaster will attend the meeting scheduled in April.

18. Date and Time of next meeting - Thursday 14th March at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room, Cornerstone Community Church, New Street, Sedbergh.