

## **THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in the Committee Room, The People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh at 7.30pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

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

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Bromley 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**

A representative for the Estate incorporating Langstone Fell informal car parking area (Item 14) was present, however, Cllr Lancaster advised that a meeting has yet to be convened – due to all the parties involved, however, hopes that this can be completed as soon as practicable.

#### **5. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 14<sup>th</sup> March 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 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

There were no matters arising.

#### **7. Casual Vacancy**

Following deferment from the March meeting, Members again discussed the two applications received in respect of the Casual Vacancy for Sedbergh Parish Council and heard a summary of their applications. Nicholas Cross and Kate Saunders were then considered by Members, with the final vote being in favour of Kate Saunders – with the Chairman using his casting vote (6/3). The Clerk was instructed to complete the appropriate paperwork, including the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interest in preparation for the meetings in May.

#### **8. Report from District/County Council**

Apologies were received from SLDC Cllr Capstick. Cllr Ian Mitchell had advised that he was due to meet with Sedbergh School later this month to discuss recent parking issues at Busk Lane. The Parking Management Plan was highlighted, along with acknowledgement that this is not purely a Sedbergh School issue. Members welcome an update from Cllr Mitchell following his meeting. It was further noted that Cllrs Lancaster and McPherson meet regularly with Sedbergh School both formally as part of the Economic Forum and on an informal basis. Cllr Cotton advised that Cllr Giles Archibald SLDC was awaiting further update on matters raised directly in February in regard to Joss Lane car park and the Pump Track. However, Cllr Arnold advised he was waiting for contact from SLDC in regard to progression and that Cllr Lancaster confirmed that Sedbergh Community Trust was also awaiting information in regard to the Pump Track proposal and potential funding. CCC Cllr Nick Cotton was able to update Members on the work he had recently carried out at Scrogg Bank field (Little Ash Beck), in particular, clearing a branch that was blocking the stream under the stone slab bridge. Cllr Lancaster also confirmed that work had been carried out independently on the beck, therefore, SPC no longer need to pursue further. CCC are aware of the works completed.

## **9. Highways Matters**

Members noted that individual issues should be reported on HIMS wherever possible, as this gives a reference number for following matters up directly. In regard to the footpath at Castlegarth (March 2019, Agenda Item 19) the Clerk had been in communication with CCC, Countryside Access team and YDNPA and was able to advise Members that information obtained indicated that SLH could consider dedicating this land/path to allow it to be adopted as a footpath and, in turn, added to the definitive footpath map. Members therefore asked the Clerk to pursue this directly with SLH for feedback at a future meeting. Members additionally discussed the request from YDNPA in regard to the footpath at Millthrop Bridge, where an application has been received to erect a gate close to the end of the narrow section of path at the riverside. Members welcomed the proposal and asked the Clerk to respond directly to YDNPA with their support.

A letter received in correspondence again highlighted the concern over parking on Station Road and Members asked the Clerk to highlight this problematic section with CCC, alongside the issue already raised at Howgill Lane – as parking was becoming more frequent in this area too. Vehicles were parking on the pavement, forcing pedestrians onto the highway. This section of pathway being more frequently used in recent years due to the relocation of Spar and the Doctor's Surgery.

The Clerk was awaiting an update over issues at Row Lane, specifically seeking clarification over its classification and maintenance.

## **10. Planning**

The attached Planning minutes were received by the meeting. In addition, application S/03/59B for Scrogg Bank Field was again discussed at Full Council following the objection notified following the meeting in March. In particular the 5-year period recommended and the management plan. CCC Cllr Nick Cotton, speaking on behalf of the Respect Group, was concerned that the objection would lead to a delay in permission being sought on the field and the ramifications for the town if Scrogg Bank was not formally available for Appleby Horse Fair. Cllr Arnold understood, however, that YDNPA could use its delegated powers for Officers to make a decision, within the prescribed timescales, if a five-year timescale were to be considered for the application. It was further noted that an additional objection had been received directly to SPC (forwarded to YDNPA) and that some land owners in the area had not been aware of the planning application at this juncture. Whilst Members appreciated the unfortunate timing/delay, it was also mindful that the application could have been made sooner in anticipation of the former permission ceasing. (Cllr McPherson took no part in discussion).

## **11. Finance**

The attached Policy and Resource minutes and finance papers were received by the meeting and all requests for payments were approved. Members additionally agreed the ongoing investigations into the rising costs of the Parish lights (unmetered supply) and hoped to seek an audit, including the consideration of LED's and the savings they may bring. Members also noted the urgent repair works required to two Parish Lights at Maryfell, where replacement posts/lights were required (necessitating scaffolding) and agreed the repairs at £250 each, noting that this area had been unlit for some time.

## **12. Grants**

There were no Grant applications in April.

## **13. Amenities Committee**

The Amenities Committee did not meet in April. Members noted the recent comments from YDNPA in regard to the tree at the playpark and agreed that this tree be included in the Tender for works at Queen's Garden.

## **14. Langstone Fell informal car parking area**

See Item 4 – Public Participation. The item to be included at the May meeting for follow up.

## **15. Update on Projects**

Maryfell parking and playpark – the Clerk was asked to seek an update from SLH in regard to the parking at Maryfell. Members noted that the playpark works were underway.

Tennis Courts and parking area. SLDC have passed comment on the draft sub lease and SPC have, therefore, requested Graham Dalton to pursue the matter directly.

Sedbergh School Challenge Week – Cllr Arnold advised planning continues for SS Challenge Week. It was noted that the BT phone box at Millthrop (Item 18 Correspondence) could perhaps be considered as an additional project and the Clerk was requested to contact residents in Millthrop for feedback.

### **16. Queen's Garden**

Following recommendations highlighted on the Tree Safety report completed in 2018 and the subsequent visit by YDNPA – Members noted that the Thuja tree, previously identified to be felled, was now confirmed to have the fungal infection *Heterobasidium assosum* which had, sadly, already spread to two further trees. The Clerk had sought further advice from the Forestry Commission, with recommendation to fell the two further trees and monitor the remaining trees in the area. *H.assosum* was known to be a soil based fungus, which cannot be eradicated. The tree stumps would need to be cut close to the ground and treated with urea. Any further planting would have to be broad leaf. The Tender invite had been issued and it was anticipated that these would be opened at the next P&R meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019. The Chair requested that notice of the trees to be felled was included in the Lookaround report.

### **17. Scheme of Delegation**

Members discussed the proposed new Scheme of Delegation and appointment to committees/outside bodies (attached) drafted by Cllr Arnold in conjunction with Cllr Lancaster. The provenance for this review was an endeavour to reduce the commitments currently being served by Members, rationalising and streamlining where possible. Cllrs Lancaster and Arnold recommended the updated document, advising that this was a working and fluid document and could be reviewed whenever it was deemed necessary. Members agreed to adopt the updated Scheme, which will be brought to fruition at the May annual meeting.

### **18. Correspondence**

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

- i) BT phone boxes – Members noted the imminent review of boxes, including the consultation on the phone box at Millthrop again (see Item 15) and the planned removal of the phone box at Joss Lane.
- ii) Coast 2 Coast Cycle ride – Members noted the desire for the route to return to Main Street and had no objections.
- iii) YDNPA Spring Parish Forum – Cllr Lancaster will attend the meeting scheduled in April.
- iv) Station road – Members noted the concerns highlighted in regard to parking at Station Road (see Item 9)
- v) Sedbergh Tennis Club – Members were reminded of the official opening of the Tennis Courts – scheduled 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019.
- vi) New Build, Cautley Road – Members noted the recent communication in regard to the appearance of the new build at Settlebeck Cottages – confirming YDNPA S/03/496B

**22. Date and Time of next meeting - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019, commencing at 7.00pm with the Sedbergh Parish Council Annual Meeting, followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish and the normal monthly meeting – in the Committee Room, Sedbergh People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.**