

## **THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH**

### **Minutes of the monthly Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held in the Committee Room, The People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh at 8.00 pm on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

**Present:** Councillors Lancaster, Brooks, Capstick, Arnold, Welti, Longlands, McPherson, Cowperthwaite and Sedgwick

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bromley and Saunders and accepted by the meeting.

#### **2. Requests for Dispensations**

There were no requests for dispensations.

#### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of Interest were received from Cllr Lancaster and Cllr McPherson in relation to Agenda Item 9 - Planning.

#### **4. Cllr Pete McSweeney – update on Police monitored CCTV**

Cllr McSweeney was able to update Members on progress being made in regard to the possible financial support for Police monitored CCTV from both Police & Crime Commissioner and SLDC. Members will discuss further at a future meeting, when financial/budget implications are known in more detail. Members also discussed raising the notion in the Lookaround, and requesting/inviting feedback in due course.

#### **5. Public Participation**

Representation was made in regard to an update on any progress for improvements to the informal parking area at Langstone Fell. Cllr Lancaster advised he would endeavor to convene a meeting for all interested parties to progress matters and update in due course.

#### **6. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

The minutes of the meetings held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019 (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and normal monthly meeting) were agreed as a true record and were adopted and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Lancaster.

#### **7. Matters arising from the Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

There were no matters arising.

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

County Cllr Nick Cotton gave apologies, though wished to highlight the Tour of Britain coming to Sedbergh 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019, hoping that SPC would be able to work collaboratively within the town to promote and host the event. District Cllr Suzie Pye gave apologies, but wished to advise Members that she had now replaced Cllr Mitchell on the MASCG for Appleby Horse Fair. Cllr Kevin Lancaster wished to highlight the ongoing concern for private water supply inspection charges and all noted the planned rebuild of the bridge at Middleton – commencing 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Cllr Ian Mitchell did not attend.

#### **9. Planning**

The Planning Committee minutes were received and accepted by the meeting. In regard to S/03/628/GPDO, Barn, Cross Keys Temperance Inn, Cautley. Members discussed the application, and considered a further response to YDNPA in regard to the application to erect a permanent polytunnel. As this matter had been raised, Cllr Lancaster declared an interest as he had given advice to the applicant. He remained in the room. As Cllr McPherson had also declared an interest in this item, Cllr Welti chaired the remainder of this item. It was agreed that Members would be supportive of a temporary structure being erected at the site and wondered, therefore, if a new application could be submitted with the amended technicality. Cllr Arnold will respond to YDNPA directly.

Cllr McPherson was able to confirm that the barn conversion S/03/675 Howgill Lane Barn, Sedbergh had been approved by YDNPA.

### **10. Finance**

The attached Finance Committee meeting minutes and finance papers were received by the meeting and all requests for payments were approved. Members additionally approved the Annual Governance papers.

- i) Following the Internal Audit, the Annual Governance Statement was agreed and approved by Members and signed by the Chair and the Clerk. In addition, Members discussed that it would be good practice to consider an alternative Internal Auditor in coming years.
- ii) The Annual Accounting Statement was also agreed and approved by Members and signed.

### **11. Grants**

There were no Grant applications for June.

### **12. Amenities Committee**

The Amenities Committee meeting minutes were received and accepted by the meeting. In addition, the boundary fence at Maple Close was discussed as it had been highlighted that residents were concerned about people using an area, backing onto private gardens, as a short cut. There were aspirations to consider an improved footway at the northern boundary, that would link to Woodside and the Amenities Committee will look at this in further detail. However, in the interim, the Clerk was asked to circulate the map of the playing field – which was thought to highlight responsibility for boundaries.

### **13. Consider/Review Resilience Plan**

Members agreed that this should be considered further by the Finance Committee at their next meeting.

### **14. Update on Projects**

**Sedbergh School Challenge Week** – Cllr Arnold confirmed that planning continues for SS Challenge Week and that various projects were outlined for the town, including the refurbishment of the BT phone box at Millthrop (post adoption from BT) and improvement works at the playing field, in particular to the shelter which as recently been damaged/vandalised. **Joss Lane car park** – Cllr Arnold confirmed that SLDC had requested a meeting to discuss further. **Loftus Hill car park** – Cllrs Lancaster and McPherson are due to meet with Sedbergh School later this month. **Maryfell play area** – the opening is scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019. **Maryfell parking area** – SLH have advised that works are due to commence in the coming weeks. **Jubilee Fountain** – the Clerk was able to confirm ongoing investigations into the aspiration to return drinking water to the Fountain. Cllr Arnold was able to additionally confirm previous discussions and it was hoped that an update would be available for Members soon.

### **15. Queen's Garden**

The Queen's Garden Committee have not met. However, it was noted that the tree felling planned at the Garden, had now been delayed until August to avoid any potential disturbance of nesting birds. In addition, the Friends of QG, had asked if Members would support the idea of an evening (5-7.30pm) BBQ, and this was supported – no dates have yet been discussed.

### **16. Sub-letting of tennis courts at Guldrey to Sedbergh Tennis Club – legal explanation and requirements**

Graham Dalton (McGarry & Co) attended to update Members in relation to the ongoing arrangement with the Tennis Club at the courts following the refurbishment in 2018. The Tennis Club have agreed the draft sub lease (for the court area) and SLDC have also indicated their agreement in principle. The ancillary car parking area would remain outside of this sub lease. Mr Dalton highlighted the potential consequences relating to security of tenure for the Club at the end of any term. Essentially, the Club would have security of tenure at the end of each six-year period, unless it was mutually agreed to waive the conditions.

In view of the current lease agreement with SLDC (which requires the tennis courts to continue in their existing use), Members agreed that it was unnecessary to exclude the terms in relation to security of tenure. Cllr McPherson proposed (2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Lancaster) that auto renewal of the lease was acceptable and it was agreed by all Members.

**17. Castlegarth footpath – feedback from CCC Highways**

The Clerk has now received information from CCC in regard to the procedure for claiming a Public Right of Way (PROW) and Cllr Lancaster will consider the detailed application process further and report at a future meeting.

**18. Boundary query at the playing field – update on Land Register information**

Following discussions at the May meeting - after a claim had been made that Sedbergh Parish Council had acquired land belonging to a dwelling that abuts the playing field – Cllrs Lancaster and McPherson and liaised with Graham Dalton (McGarry & Co) and a copy of the Land Register certificate had been obtained. Following a site visit to the area highlighted with Members (and the Clerk) it was noted that within the playing field there was a post and wire fence protruding from the property. This was in an overgrown area of the field, in the south west corner. Whilst the original query had highlighted a ‘finger’ of land that had been incorrectly included in the Land Register boundary (registered in 2015), the area outlined by the fence appeared to be approximately three times the size of the indicative map information obtained. It had been agreed therefore to send a letter to those acting for the owner of the private dwelling, highlighting the position and the need to agree the correct area of land – reflective of the original map outline. Once an agreement was reached in respect of the area, a professional plan would be drawn and a request made to Land Registry to update as appropriate. The owner would be required to reposition the fence accordingly. Further progress would be advised to Members in due course.

**19. Correspondence**

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

- i) Resident – parking at Cross Keys Temperance Inn – residents are becoming concerned with the number of vehicles parking on the road side close to the inn, potentially causing an obstruction to the highway. The Clerk was asked to highlight the matter with the PCSO and Cllr Nick Cotton
- ii) Sedbergh Wanderer’s Junior Football Club – a request had been received from the Club, asking if the older age group (U13) could use the pitch at playing field for the coming season (training and home matches). This was due to the increased pitch size now needed by the players and the larger goals. It was understood that discussions had already been had with the Senior Club – and they were content for the Juniors to use the pitch. Members agreed the request, mindful of a donation equal to not less than one cut of grass at the playing field as contribution to the ongoing maintenance program and upkeep of the pitch.

**20. Date and Time of next meeting – normal monthly meeting on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July – in the Committee Room, Sedbergh People’s Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.**