

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 7.30 pm on Thursday 9th January 2020

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

Members welcomed Cllr Rachel Cowperthwaite, following her co-option on 5th December 2019

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Saunders and accepted by the meeting.

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. Declarations of Interest

Item 11, Planning – Cllrs McPherson and Arnold

4. Cumbria Council Council – Winter Gritting/Maintenance

This item was deferred to the February meeting.

5. Public Participation

Representation for B4RN (see below).

6. B4RN – Representation from B4RN, Sedbergh

A short presentation was given to Members, by the Sedbergh Gigabit Broadband Group, following information previously circulated in respect of potential routes for B4RN. In particular, Members were asked to consider wayleaves over Parish Council owned land/land leased by Sedbergh Parish Council. Members were keen to confirm their support for B4RN, however, will now wait for confirmation of routes before further consideration. Cllr Longlands will liaise further in regard to potential routes at the Playing field and Joss Lane car park, Cllr McPherson will assist with a route at Queen's Garden and the Chair of Sedbergh Tennis Club will liaise in regard to the Tennis Courts at Guldrey. The Chair and the Clerk will additionally seek clarity over procedure for wayleaves, with SLDC, for leased land from them.

7. CCTV – proposals for Police monitored CCTV for Sedbergh, grant update

A decision on the application for funding toward potential CCTV was awaited, it was anticipated that notice would be issued on 13th January 2020.

8. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 5th December 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2019 were agreed as a true record and were adopted and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Lancaster.

9. Matters noted from the Minutes of 5th December 2019

There were no matters arising, not already included on the Agenda.

10. Report from District/County Council

Cllr Suzie Pye wished to advise Members that the Community Safety Partnership had recently given funds for Quad Bike trackers in Cumbria. It was anticipated that some of these trackers would be distributed in the local area. Cllr Pye was also concerned about the level of dog fouling in public areas, recently highlighted on social media – and hopes that SPC will also raise this with SLDC directly. A particular concern, raised by Cllr Brooks, was the dog fouling in the paddock area at Maryfell – and the Clerk was asked to request, again, that SLDC include this in the 'No Dogs' restriction for the playpark area.

11. Planning

No meeting had been held separately; Members discussed relevant applications and full details are attached. Cllr McPherson took no part in discussion for the entire Planning item and Cllr Arnold took no part in discussion relating to S/03/215E School House and S/03/578D/LB Sedbergh School Chapel.

12. Finance

Members received the minutes of the Finance meeting held on 6th January 2020 and the list of payments approved. Members noted the increased WaterPlus payment for the toilets at Main Street, and the repair of the grey water system, along with the CCC payment for street signs.

- i) **Consider the Parish Council Precept request for 2020-2021** – following recommendation from the Finance Committee, and the agreement of the Budget in December 2019, the annual precept of £38313.93 (in addition to the SLDC Grant of £1937.74) was agreed by Members.

13. Grants

i) **Marketing/PR Strategy for Sedbergh - financial contribution requested**, Members were advised that there was no further update in regard to the specifics of the role. The item will be removed from the Agenda, until further details are clarified.

ii) **Sedbergh People's Hall VE Day** – application not yet received.

14. Amenities Committee

The Amenities Committee had not met separately. It was noted that the electrical work required, to complete the refurbishment of the lady's toilet on Main Street, was hoped to be completed soon. The Chair additionally asked the Clerk to seek an update on the proposal for the proposed 'Let's Chat' bench at Maryfell.

15. Update on Projects

Joss Lane car park – Cllr Arnold intends to report further when more detailed conversations have taken place with SLDC. **Loftus Hill car park** – The Council's Solicitor is liaising with South Lakeland District Council's agent in regard to the draft lease. **Maryfell play area** – The Clerk is awaiting further contact from a local resident over future ideas/locations for an accessible roundabout. Additionally, Cllr Brooks had agreed to pursue the notion of goal posts in the paddock area. See also Item 10 in relation to Dog Fouling. The level of excrement in the paddock area at this time – prevents any notion of using this area for play and the Clerk was asked to highlight this concern in the Lookaround report. **Jubilee Fountain** – Cllr Arnold was able to advise Members that matters are progressing with a local plumber. This will include liaising with United Utilities over testing the water quality and further updates will be available at a future meeting, along with information on likely costs to reinstate drinking water at the fountain.

16. Queen's Garden

No meeting had been held. A quote had been received for the urgent repairs required to the bowling green wall at the Garden – and, following recommendation by the Finance Committee, Members agreed to appoint the contractor. It was noted that works were due to be completed as soon as practicable, no later than February 2020.

17. Former BT Telephone Kiosk, Millthrop – proposals for future use

Following discussions in 2019 (Sedbergh Parish Council 8th August 2019, Item 4) Members discussed, again, proposals for the former phone box. The Clerk was able to advise that the resident who had highlighted the potential for a Defibrillator was now content for kiosk to become an information point – and asked for details of the First Responders to also be displayed. The Clerk was asked to write to representatives of Millthrop, advising that a short summary of works would be prepared by Cllr Arnold and this would be displayed on the phone box in advance of the works planned in the Summer.

18. SLDC priorities – Climate Emergency

Members noted the recent (and ongoing) decision by many local authorities in the area to declare a Climate emergency. Members debated, and voted upon, the issue and formally resolved to recognise the existence of a climate emergency. Cllr McPherson was asked to prepare a short paper highlighting possible practical steps that Sedbergh Parish Council may be able to consider, in the future, for circulation at the February meeting. Members were very mindful for the current concerns, in particular, acknowledging the devastating bush fires in Australia at this time.

18. Sedbergh CIC – Market Service Level Agreement

Members noted the recommendation from the Finance Committee, and agreed the revised sum of £2500 for a Service Level Agreement – noting this should be reviewed annually. This offer consisted of £1800 for the Wednesday market operation, and an additional £700 in recognition of the services undertaken by the Information Centre. Members understand that in this scenario, the Artisan Markets would be taken 'in house' by the CIC. Members would, therefore, need to discuss further the current arrangement to allow traders to park in the car parks for free. Acknowledging that this had caused some issues at the Sheepfest Artisan market in 2019 - when traders had used spaces that prohibited visitors being able to park at times.

19. Correspondence

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

- i) Potential road safety sign at Maryfell - Some initial feedback had been received from CCC in regard to Cllr Saunders proposal for a sign; however, further confirmation would be required on possible ways to progress the idea and a site visit would be scheduled with CCC in the near future.
- ii) Sedbergh United Charities – Following the resignation of Cllr Jake Cowperthwaite in 2019, Members agreed to nominate Cllr Rachel Cowperthwaite for the vacant trustee position. The Clerk was requested to liaise directly with SUC.
- iii) Flicks in the Fells – Cllr Capstick wished to raise that Flicks in the Fells was being missed in the town at this time. Cllr McPherson was able to confirm the current suspension of service was due to health/work commitments of the committee.

16. Date and Time of next meeting – normal monthly meeting on Thursday 13th February 2020 at 7.30pm – in the Committee Room, Sedbergh People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.