

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 5th December 2019

Present: Councillors Lancaster, Brooks, Capstick, Welti, Longlands, McPhersson, Bromley, Sedgwick and Saunders

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Arnold and accepted by the meeting. One Casual Vacancy.

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

5. Western Dales Bus – an update and consideration for additional parking

Cllr Brooks had met with representation from the Western Dales Bus, as discussed at the November meeting, to identify any potential space at Loftus Hill car park. An area has been identified and Members agreed that the WDB could park here on a trial basis. Temporary signage/cones will be used to retain the space for them in the short term. If the trial is a success, the WDB will be required to erect the necessary permanent signage. In addition, an appropriate permit will also then be required.

6. Casual Vacancy

Following deferment from the November meeting, Members again discussed the applications received in respect of the Casual Vacancy for Sedbergh Parish Council. There were two nominations received – Rachel Cowperthwaite and Nick Cross. Members voted and Rachel Cowperthwaite was duly selected. The Clerk was instructed to complete the appropriate paperwork, including the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interest in preparation for the meeting in January 2020.

7. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 14th November 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2019 were agreed as a true record and were adopted and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Lancaster.

8. Matters noted from the Minutes of 14th November 2019

Item 4 – Millthrop Bridge, Members wished to express thanks to CCC for the temporary works completed, ensuring the bridge reopened as speedily as possible. It is still appreciated, however, that there will be extensive works required for the permanent rebuild in the future – not just limited to the bridge itself, but all supporting roads required for diversions. Members, therefore, look forward to ongoing consultation in due course.

Item 19 – A Vision for Sedbergh, Members noted an updated version of the Vision Statement following the comments submitted last month. Whilst Members appreciate this is not the final version, they are still very concerned with the draft in its current format. Members agreed that they would be looking for substantial clarification and amendment before further consideration. It was also noted that the Vision was due to be discussed at the Sedbergh Economic Partnership meeting scheduled for Monday 9th December 2019.

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

A decision on the applications was awaited, though it was acknowledged that purdah (due to the General Election) would cause a delay until after 12th December 2019.

10. Report from District/County Council

There were no reports available (purdah).

11. Planning

No meeting had been held – an update on Planning matters would be received in January 2020.

12. Finance

Due to the early meeting of Sedbergh Parish Council, the Finance Committee had not met separately. Members, therefore, reviewed the (attached) list of payments and all requests were approved.

i) Members were additionally asked to finally review the draft Budget (attached with explanatory notes) in preparation for the Precept request anticipated in January 2020. The draft Budget was proposed by Cllr Lancaster, seconded by Cllr McPherson and approved by all Members.

13. Grants

i) **Marketing/PR Strategy for Sedbergh - financial contribution requested**, Members were advised that there was no further update from the Marketing Sub Committee. It was anticipated that further information would be available following the Sedbergh Economic Partnership meeting, scheduled for 9 December 2019.

ii) **Sedbergh Music Festival** - A grant application for the sum of £250 was received. Cllr McPherson recommended the application, which was seconded by Cllr Welti and agreed by Members.

Members reflected, at this item, in regard to the limited (hotel) accommodation available in town and hoped that this is something the Sedbergh Economic Partnership will continue to review, alongside other types of accommodation.

14. Amenities Committee

Due to the early meeting of Sedbergh Parish Council, the Amenities Committee had not met separately. Cllr Brooks was able to confirm that the trees planned at the playing field were scheduled for planting in January. Additionally, it is hoped that the electrical work at the lady's toilet on Main Street will be completed soon.

15. Update on Projects

Guldrey Tennis Courts – the five-year maintenance agreement is now confirmed, with the first scheduled works planned for March 2020. **Joss Lane car park** – an update will be requested from Cllr Arnold at the next meeting. **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 agreed to pursue the notion of goal posts in the paddock area, in the New Year, along with the Clerk. **Jubilee Fountain** – an update will be requested from Cllr Arnold for the January meeting.

16. Queen's Garden

No meeting had been held. Cllr Capstick advised that he was still pursuing quotes for the wall rebuild required at the Bowling Green northern boundary, as reported in November 2019. Cllr McPherson advised that he was due to meet with YDNPA later this month to discuss the proposal for a Management agreement/plan for the Garden

17. Sedbergh CIC – Market Service Level Agreement

Members noted an updated request received from Sedbergh CIC asking for feedback if, simply, the Artisan Markets were removed from the agreement. With the administration and physical work of the Wednesday Market remaining in the SLA. It was agreed, by Members, that the Finance Committee would consider this at their January meeting. It remains noted that the current SLA is due to cease at the end of March 2020.

18. Correspondence

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

- i) Potential road safety sign at Maryfell - Cllr Saunders had circulated some information in regard to a potential sign and the Clerk had forwarded to CCC. Some initial feedback had been received; however, further confirmation would be required on possible ways to progress the idea.
- ii) CALC – information had been circulated in regard to CALC's recent review meeting with SLDC, it had been noted that Climate Change was highlighted as a priority in their plan – and Members asked for the current climate emergency to be on the Agenda for January.
- iii) B4RN – Members noted a general request for feedback from Sedbergh B4RN in regard to some potential areas for future wayleaves, as well as a potential site for a cabinet. Members are not averse to the principal of wayleaves, however, noted some potential conflicts of existing use (drains/cables etc.) and welcome future discussions in due course.
- iv) Communities in Cumbria (ACT) – information received in relation to potential support for, rural areas, unmet transport needs. The Clerk was asked to liaise with the Western Dales Bus in the first instance.
- v) YDNPA – Dark Skies Reserve Status – an update was received in regard to ongoing progress. Cllr McPherson advised that he would additionally update Members where appropriate.

16. Date and Time of next meeting – normal monthly meeting on Thursday 9th January 2020 at 7.30pm – in the Committee Room, Sedbergh People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.