

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 12th March 2020

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

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Brooks, McPherson and Saunders 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 made.

4. Public Participation

(Incorporating Item 8, Coronavirus – latest information). Sedbergh School Principal attended to give a short presentation on the School's current actions in regard to the ongoing concern over Coronavirus. This included discussion on the latest advice from the Government today, with the peak anticipated in 10-14 weeks, the Government had announced a move into the 'delay' stage, (previously contain). For the wider community too, future potential measures that may be implemented, for example, the cancellation of public gatherings, use of public transport and the scope for closing schools. This sparked further discussion on how 'Sedbergh' could plan for stricter measures being executed and how a central hub/helpline could perhaps be explored, as well as the use of Social Media. This would naturally involve the support of many in the community, including the Medical Centre, Care providers and volunteers – perhaps also from Churches Together and other voluntary organizations such as the Community Trust and First Responders – the key would be knowing who might need help, for example, if individuals were self-isolating and required food delivery, also the consideration of additional child care provision and how this might be facilitated and potential help for farmers and other businesses in the town.

Members also discussed delegated authority for the Chair/Vice Chair to act as appropriate (in consultation with Members where possible) for any urgent matters that occurred. Notably, if the Parish Council were unable to meet (due to government guidance) or where meetings were not quorate, for instance, due to Members self-isolating. It was resolved that any appropriate actions required in this unprecedented and urgent manner should be taken as required within the Parish Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. It was further resolved that, if meetings were suspended for any significant time, Members would continue to act in their current roles/responsibilities with the Council until such time as a Full Council Meeting/Annual Meeting of the Parish Council could proceed formally.

5. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 13th February 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2020 were agreed, from numbers 1-8 and 10-18 as a true record and were adopted and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Lancaster. Item 9 (Planning) deferred to the April meeting for confirmation.

6. Matters noted from the Minutes of 13th February 2020

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

7. Report from District/County Council

Apologies were received from Cllr Nick Cotton. Cllrs Pye and Mitchell did not attend. Cllr Lancaster gave a brief update on the continuing discussion around potential new unitary regions.

8. Coronavirus – latest information from Cumbria County Council/Government guidance

(Please see Item 4)

9. Planning

The Committee had met on 4th March 2020, no minutes available at this time. A Member of the Public wished to confirm the application for S/03/385G/LB Uldale Farm, Fellend, Ravenstonedale – and it was noted that this application was for Listed building consent for internal and external works.

10. Finance

Members received the minutes of the Finance meeting held on 9th March 2020 and resolved to authorise the list of payments (attached), along with the Asset Register and Risk Management Policy. Noting that the Contractor/employee annual review would be included as a Full Council agenda item in April.

11. Grants

Royal British Legion - Sedbergh, VE Day – an application for the sum of £800 had been recommended by the Finance Committee and Members resolved to approve the request, with the following conditions. a) permission being granted for the use of the playing field and b) on the understanding that if the event is unable to proceed, for any reason, then the grant should be paid back to the Parish Council in full. Members additionally resolved to approve the addendum to the current Policy for Grants – to include the following clause. Where Grants are awarded for a specific Event - repayment of the Grant will be required, in full, to the Parish Council if the event is unable to go ahead for any reason.

12. Amenities Committee

Members resolved to accept the Amenities Committee meeting minutes from 4th March 2020.

13. Update on Projects

Maryfell (street sign) – The Clerk and Cllr Saunders had recently met with Cumbria County Council and were now in contact with South Lakes Housing and South Lakeland District Council to progress a sign. CCC has also indicated that they would consider further methods of slowing traffic in the area and update Members at a later date. **Joss Lane car park** – Cllr Arnold had meet with SLDC (Cllr Archibald) and further meetings were planned following the scheduled elections. **Loftus Hill car park** – Cllrs Lancaster and McPherson had not yet met with Sedbergh School to discuss the outstanding matters on the lease, notably the proposed ‘exclusive use’ days, the electric car charging point proposed by Sedbergh School and the hope for the Western Dales Bus to keep one of their buses at the car park on a permanent basis. **Former BT telephone kiosk, Millthrop** - Members resolved to remove this item from the Agenda at this time. **Jubilee Fountain** – Cllr Arnold is awaiting an update from the contractor in regard to potential next steps to bring the fountain back in to use. **B4RN planned routes** at Tennis Courts. Agents for South Lakeland District Council are progressing matters in relation to any future wayleave granted to B4RN.

14. Queen’s Garden

Members resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 28th February 2020. It was noted that a contractor had been requested to carry out a safety (and potential future refurbishment) audit of the stone steps at the garden. It was also noted that the Bowling Club were content with the current plan to route B4RN along the eastern boundary wall of the green – using hand tools only.

15. Culture Evening – Appleby Fair

Members resolved to defer this item to a future meeting.

16. Wednesday Market

Members received proposals (circulated) from Cllr Arnold in relation to new arrangements for the Market. These include new measures for facilitating the market, payment terms for pitches, licence agreements and the terms and conditions (attached). The Clerk will hand out the new agreements for stall holders to consider from Wednesday 18th March. Sedbergh Parish Council will become responsible for the Wednesday market on 1st April 2020. Gazebos/tables will be the responsibility of individual stall holders/Sedbergh CIC (The Information Centre).

17. Correspondence

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

- i) Request for Parking at Loftus Hill car park – First Responder. Members resolved that free parking could not be granted as this would set a precedent for others.
- ii) Request for installation of a bench at New Bridge – Members resolved that this was acceptable, noting that it was not obliged to replace any benches that fall into disrepair in the future.
- iii) Request from Sedbergh CIC to use Parish Online – Members resolved that it was acceptable for the Information Centre to use Parish Online for the current give away 'desk' map, however it should include some provision to confirm that the document should not be reproduced and was being printed with the permission of Sedbergh Parish Council. Members further resolved that it was not acceptable to use Parish Online for any document that included any commercial content or advertising.
- iv) Sedbergh School proposed road closures – Wilson Run – Members resolved to support Sedbergh School's revised plan for rolling road and full road closures as prescribed for the event planned on 24th March 2020
- v) Dent Parish Council – Millthrop Bridge – Members were minded to support the notion of delaying any further work to the bridge at this time, but did not agree with leaving the temporary repair as it currently stands for an infinite amount of time. Members resolved that it would be advantageous for access to any ongoing survey/further scheme of works, including traffic management measures to be enacted when the bridge is closed for repair. Additionally, Members could not see how adequate measures could be put in place for the currently planned commencement date of May 2020. The Clerk was asked to write to Cumbria County Council expressing this concern, copying YDNPA (planning) and Dent Parish Council.
- vi) Yorkshire Devolution – Members resolved that they will not be participating with the Yorkshire Devolution Movement correspondence.
- vii) Coast to Coast Cycle annual cycle event – Members noted that the event was scheduled for June 26th 2020. The route will see cyclists pass through Main Street and Members were supportive of this plan.

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