

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the monthly Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held virtually via Zoom at 7.30 pm on Thursday 11th June 2020

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

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

Cllrs McPherson and Arnold – Item 9, Planning

4. Public Participation

There were no Members of the public present, though a late item of correspondence had been raised in regard to Baliol School and plans for its future. This correspondence will be discussed by the Planning Committee at their next meeting.

5. Coronavirus Covid 19 – response and update on current crisis, including any urgent matters and provision of funds for the Food Cupboards (Sedbergh & District Covid 19 Support Group)

Members received the report (attached) from Cllr Welti. Members also noted the recommendation from the Finance Committee in respect of funds being made available to restock the food cupboards as required. It was resolved that the sum of £250 be made available when needed. Members also noted recent correspondence from the Chair of the Chamber of Trade and communications from SLDC in respect of the response to the Coronavirus and the easing of lockdown – with non-essential shops opening from 15th June 2020. It was noted that the Chair of the Sedbergh Economic Partnership was proposing to convene a meeting, as soon as practical. This would allow the opportunity to discuss thoughts on how to coordinate the response for the economic recovery of Sedbergh both now and for the future.

6. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 14th May 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2020 were adopted and will be signed by the Chairman, Cllr Lancaster when reasonable.

7. Matters noted from the Minutes of 14th May 2020

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

8. Report from District/County Council

County Cllr Cotton and DC Pye gave their apologies. It was noted that whilst Appleby Fair was officially cancelled, that there had been some migration to Appleby on the traditional weekend and feedback from relevant authorities was awaited in respect of the management of this. The Clerk confirmed that DC Mitchell had advised that SLDC would be in contact in respect of any potential funds available to assist with lost revenue from the car parks. The closure of Millthrop Bridge was also raised, as there had been several issues within Millthrop and the surrounding lanes. The Clerk was asked to liaise with CCC Highways over signage off the Garsdale Road.

9. Planning

S/03/704 land opposite Derry Cottages, Millthrop, Sedbergh full planning permission for erection of 8 No dwellings, associated accesses, parking and landscaping. Cllr Arnold had sought clarity on outstanding matters, including lack of footway and potential for further development. In respect of the commuted sum payable by the developer (in respect of no affordable housing on site) it was confirmed that any commuted sum would be available throughout YDNPA and would not be ring fenced. Members noted this information and resolved that Cllr Arnold should advise YDNPA that Members believe that provision for affordable housing should be made on site.

S/03/139A Broad Yeat, Dowbiggin, Sedbergh full planning permission for change of use of agricultural land to car parking area for domestic use. No objections. (Cllr Arnold did not participate)

S/03/675A Howgill Lane Barn, Sedbergh full planning permission for conversion of barn to 1 no. dwelling, incorporating extension to the single storey lean-to on north west elevation; revised scheme following permission granted under Ref; S/03/675 – No objections.

S/03/218A Ingholme, Sedbergh Householder planning permission for erection of single storey rear extension and internal alterations – No objections.

S/03/642B Foxhole Rigg Barn, Cautley Householder planning permission for creation of raised deck to rear elevation – No objections.

It was further noted that the planning application for the former United Reform Church (S/03/452A) had been withdrawn.

Cllr McPherson did not participate in discussions and did not vote on any matter.

10. Finance

Members received and adopted the minutes of the Finance meeting held on 8th June 2020 and resolved to authorise the list of payments (attached) and confirm the uplift in hourly rate for the cleaning at Joss Lane toilets, in line with the Handyman rate.

11. Grants

Sedbergh in Bloom – An application for the sum of £750 had been received and had been recommended by the Finance Committee. However, given the current financial situation and significantly reduced income from the car parks in Sedbergh in recent months, Members finally resolved to approve the sum of £500.00. It was agreed that Sedbergh in Bloom carry out wonderful work, throughout the town, and Members wished to express their thanks for the outstanding contribution to the town by all their volunteers.

12. Amenities Committee

Members received the minutes of the Amenities meeting held on 3rd June 2020. Reference to the Sedbergh Market would be discussed further at Agenda Item 15 (below and attached).

13. Update on Projects

It was noted that all projects are currently on hold and will be reconsidered, as appropriate, in the future. It was, however, additionally noted that a resident in Millthrop was keen to engage with the Parish Council to recommence proposals to enhance the former BT kiosk. Members deferred this item for a future Agenda, in line with other projects presently on hold due to Coronavirus delays.

14. Queen's Garden

Members have not met. It was acknowledged that a request had been received in respect of introducing a hedgehog hole in the wall on the eastern boundary of the garden and this will be considered by the Committee at a later date.

15. Wednesday Market

Members received Cllr Bromley's paper (attached) and were pleased with how the market was being received, with appropriate queuing and social distancing measures in place. Thanks, were expressed again to Cllr Bromley and Cowperthwaite and to the Parish Handyman for their continued attendance/supervision at the markets and Members agreed that this should continue, as appropriate. Members agreed that high vis tabards should be acquired, to distinguish their presence further on the Market. Cllr Capstick noted that the Market was busy and space and parking needed to be reviewed continually in the future. Members also discussed the Market Equipment Hire Agreement proposed by Sedbergh CIC (attached). Members noted the contents and rejected the proposal, agreeing that if Market traders required gazebos/tables etc – they should liaise directly with the Information Centre as previously discussed. Cones etc had previously been purchased by the Parish Council and gifted to the CIC some years ago, with the proviso, that they were available for community use. The Clerk was, therefore, asked to respond to the Sedbergh CIC declining their proposal.

16. Correspondence

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

- i) B4RN – Members requested that the Clerk clarifies the request for a utility box at the playing field, again, requesting an appropriate plan and specific thoughts to vehicular access they may require.
- ii) Sedbergh Resident parking permits – Members agreed the reduced sum of £20 for day permits on the car parks for the remainder of the permit year (31.8.2020) following the reopening of car parks from 15.6.2020.
- iii) Sedbergh School – Members were approached to consider viable volunteering projects in the town, where students may be able to assist in the future.
- iv) Nichola's Childcare – Members noted that this provision was sadly closing in August 2020.

17. Date and Time of next meeting – normal monthly meeting on Thursday 9th July 2020 at 7.30pm – confirmation of meeting (likely to be held virtually) will be issued in due course.