

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the monthly Meeting of the Parish Council of Sedbergh held virtually via Zoom at 7.00 pm on Thursday 11th March 2021

Present: Councillors Lancaster, Capstick, Welti, McPherson, Cowperthwaite, Sedgwick and Arnold.

One minutes silence was held in honour of Graham Dalton, Solicitor for Sedbergh Parish Council. An active member in the Sedbergh and Dent Communities, including former Chairman at Dent Parish Council. Also representative for the Cumbria parishes, which included Sedbergh, on the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority for eight years

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Longlands, Brooks and Bromley and accepted by the meeting. One Casual Vacancy.

2. Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. Declarations of Interest

Item 18 Highways – Cllr Lancaster

4. Sedbergh Economic Partnership – YDNPA Local Plan 2023-2040 Consultation and Sedbergh Growth Framework.

A presentation was given by representatives of the Sedbergh Economic Partnership in connection with their recent submission to YDNPA Local Plan Consultation and the Sedbergh Growth Framework (attached), which had additionally been completed. The Chair wished to thank the Consultant that had completed these assessments/appraisals and the Sedbergh Economic Partnership (of which Sedbergh Parish Council is a Member) for the ongoing collaborative work being completed. The Growth Framework, had been completed after prior documents/economic appraisals had been carried out – and Members resolved that these documents should be included on the Parish Council website for public reference. Members agreed that the Sedbergh Growth Framework should be an Agenda Item again at their April meeting, where they would consider ratification of the Growth Framework document in its entirety. Additionally, Members were asked by the Partnership to consider their priorities, against those outlined in the Framework, and feedback to the Sedbergh Economic Partnership at a later date.

5. Public Participation, including presentation by Stephenson Halliday (Baliol Site)

A short update was given to Members in regard to ongoing plans/proposals at the former Baliol School site. These included the vision for a mixed-use site – housing and employment, further updates were expected for the April meeting where it was hoped more details of the proposals would be available. There were no other members of the Public present at the meeting.

6. Coronavirus Covid 19 – update on relevant information, including any urgent matters

It was noted that schools were open again in Sedbergh, and there had been clear information from all in relation to ongoing Lateral Flow Testing. It was (later) noted that Settlebeck was currently a designated site for asymptomatic testing in the community. Cllr Welti confirmed that the Covid Support Group telephone continues, mainly used for prescription collections at this time. Several Members had now received their vaccine and would encourage all those invited, to do the same as restrictions begin to lift in line with the ‘road map’ set out by the Government.

7. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council 11th February 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2021 were adopted and will be signed by the Chairman, Cllr Lancaster, when reasonable.

8. Matters noted from the Minutes of 11th February 2021

There were no other matters, to note, all ongoing items were included on the Agenda.

9. Report/update from District/County Council

Apologies were received from County Cllr Cotton, District Cllrs Mitchell and Pye.

10. Casual Vacancy

There had been no applications for the Casual Vacancy and the Clerk was requested to place a further advert in the Lookaround.

11. To receive an update on the proposed Local Government Reorganisation and consider the Parish Council's position

The Clerk had circulated information from Cumbria Association of Local Council, including details of an event planned on the 18th March – giving representatives of all Bids the opportunity to speak to Parish/Town Councils further. Members resolved that Sedbergh Parish Council would not be supporting any specific Bid at this time.

12. Planning

The Planning Committee had not met.

- i) **Yorkshire Dales National Park Local Plan 2023-2040 – Consultation No3, including ‘is there public support for more focused growth in Sedbergh, Hawes and Grassington?’** The Consultation had been completed and submitted on behalf of Sedbergh Parish Council.

13. Finance

Members received the minutes from the meeting held on Monday 8th March 2021 and resolved to adopt them, also resolving to approve the list of payments included and (attached) and a further invoice for the urgent wall repairs recently completed at Queen's Garden (£796.50).

14. Grants

There were no grant applications in February 2021.

15. Amenities Committee

The Amenities Committee had not met.

16. Update on Projects

Maryfell Street sign, the winning design drafts were awaited following delays due to furlough.

Joss Lane car park – no progress to report in regard to resurfacing at this time.

Loftus Hill car park – an update is awaited from the Solicitors in regard to the new lease and plan.

Jubilee Fountain – delayed due to Covid restrictions/availability of United Utilities.

B4RN – an update on the outline proposals is awaited from B4RN in connection with planned routes at Queen's Garden and the playing field.

Electric Vehicle Charging – The Clerk is waiting for feedback, from SLDC, in regard to consent required for an installation at Joss Lane car park.

17. Queen's Garden

Members of the Committee and the Friends of Queen's Garden were delighted to report that the tree planting could now be progressed, due to the kind support of Sedbergh School's grounds team for the 12 larger trees, with the Friends of QG and the Parish Handyman hoping to plant the remaining 28 smaller whips/hedgerows. Delivery was anticipated later this month (within the planting season), with planting to follow (when weather allows). SLDC and YDNPA were pleased that the project could continue and SLDC hope to complete a press release in due course. Thanks also noted to Sedbergh and District History Society for historical photos loaned.

Members additionally discussed correspondence received in regard to the signs erected, warning of slippery steps. However, confirmed that these had been erected following guidance from the Friends of the Garden and would remain in place during the winter months.

18. Highways Matters

Members noted that there had been little update in regard to various Highways matters outstanding, in particular, Crosedale Beck/Howgill Lane (which followed a second temporary repair in February), Cautley Road and Dowbiggin Lane. The Clerk, therefore, was asked to invite County Cllr Nick Cotton/CCC Highways to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council and, in the interim, to flag outstanding issues again.

19. Baliol to Straight Bridge (A683) verge side path proposal

Members noted a proposal from County Cllr Nick Cotton in respect of a verge side path on the A683. This would be a joint project with YDNPA and CCC Environment Fund. Whilst Members were supportive of the principle of a path along this route, Members felt they could not offer support at this time due to other outstanding CCC Highways matters in the Parish. (See Item 18).

20. Correspondence

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

- i) Dog Fouling – correspondence had been received in relation to dog fouling in the Parish and the Clerk had written to SLDC, highlighting the concern. Members discussed the notion of additional bins/poo bag dispensers in hotspot areas. The Clerk was asked to follow up the possibility of an extra bin, for example, at Vicarage Lane (with its footpath access to Fell Close). It was again, highlighted, that dog waste was permitted in all the SLDC bins as general waste.
- ii) Parish Council owned verges/lawned areas – correspondence had been received in regard to the Parish Council considering wild flowers in some areas. Cllr McPherson advised that he would speak further to YDNPA for their advice on the matter.
- iii) Parking on double yellow lines/idling – correspondence had been received in regard to problematic parking close to the Post Office. Additionally, it was noted that cars were idling in this area, close to where people were queuing for the post office. The Clerk was asked to note the concern in the Lookaround report.
- iv) Market Stall enquiries – two enquiries had been received for when restrictions allowed, a hot drink stall and a charity awareness event. The former was invited to apply for a trial pitch, and the Clerk was asked to write to the latter, confirming the rules over Public Liability.
- v) C2C – Cycling Event – 26th June 2021 – Members noted the planned Coast to Coast Cycling event, planned again for 2021 and offered their usual support. Members noted that the Artisan Market date had been moved, to avoid a clash along the Main Street.
- vi) Sedbergh People's Hall – correspondence had been received in regard to the Council's future plans for face-to-face meetings, particularly the Annual Meeting of the Parish currently scheduled for 13th May 2021. However, Members confirmed that they could not comment at this stage, as Members were anticipating an update from NALC (National Association of Local Council) in regard to the current legislation (permitting virtual meetings) ceasing on 7th May 2021.

21. Date and Time of next meeting – normal monthly meeting on Thursday 8th April 2021 at 7.30pm – via Zoom.