

## Minutes of the Meeting of Sedbergh Parish Council Finance Committee

Held at the Rawthey Room, Sedbergh Information Centre, 72 Main Street, Sedbergh on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 5pm

### Present:

Cllrs Lancaster, Capstick, Arnold, Brooks and the Clerk, Miss Hassam

#### 1. Apologies

All Members of the Finance Committee were present.

#### 2. Declaration of Interests

There were no Declarations of Interest.

#### 3. Minutes of the Last Meeting held Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021

The minutes were agreed and signed, as a true record, by the Chairman Cllr Lancaster.

#### 4. Any Urgent Business – Government Roadmap updates

The next scheduled Government announcement to 'unlocking' restrictions is due on 12<sup>th</sup> July, potentially seeing an end to further restrictions from 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

#### 5. Financial Summary and Bank Reconciliation

The Financial Summary for June 2021 had been circulated to Members and it was resolved that all payments were recommended to Full Council for payment. The Bank Reconciliation for June 2021 was checked and found to be correct. The Clerk is currently liaising with Cumbria Association of Local Council (CALC) in regard to online banking and savings accounts and will report further at a future meeting.

#### 6. Income and Expenditure 2021-2022

The Income and Expenditure report for 2021/2022 was circulated for information. It was noted that the first quarter's VAT was due for calculation with a sum of £2411.98 anticipated. Additionally, Members discussed the Reserves held for the resurfacing planned at Joss Lane car park and agreed that consideration needs to be given to these works. In particular, Members noted the current condition of the white lining and the need to consider instigating a project with South Lakeland District Council again, following the delays due to Covid. Additionally, Members noted recent correspondence in regard to Late Night Opening and Festive lights. Members had been notified that the current Chamber of Trade Committee had recently stood down and the Chamber of Trade was in temporary suspension. The Clerk, therefore, was asked to write to Sedbergh CIC to establish if they were stepping in to lead on Late Night Opening, as had been indicated anecdotally. Consideration of the festoon lighting for December would be discussed further at Full Council.

#### 7. Grant Applications

A Grant application was received from Sedbergh in Bloom Volunteers Group for the sum of £500.00 and it was resolved to recommend for approval at Full Council. Once again, the Committee acknowledged the valued contribution that the Group provide for the town's flower beds, expressing thanks to all the volunteers involved.

#### 8. Electric Vehicle Charging

i) **proposed lease at Joss Lane car park - Charge My Street (CMS).** Members noted that the Council's Insurers had requested some clarity on the wording included on the recent consent letter from South Lakeland District Council, notably in respect of legal liability for any incident. This clause has been referred to the Council's Solicitor and an update is awaited. The matter has also been raised with South Lakeland District Council's Agent. Inevitably, this is causing further delays. Charge My Street have subsequently also indicated a potential end date to their project for installations, therefore making timely responses from SLDC critical if the project is still to come to fruition.

**9. Annual Review of Parking Permits and consider future parking tariffs 2022/2023**

The Clerk was asked to write to the Information Centre (Sedbergh CIC) to confirm the current arrangements for selling permits. Members resolved to recommend the following price changes to sales of parking permits, effective from **1<sup>st</sup> September 2021**.

i) one fee for resident permits, £50 per annum (currently £40 day and £60 24 hr). The new fee would cover resident parking permits and would acknowledge the 'free' overnight parking element of the car parks. ii) Members recommended that the current facility for hotels/self-catering/holiday lets etc to purchase an annual permit for their business property could continue, however, the new fee would be £100.00 per permit, limited to one per property. Requests for additional permits would be considered by the Council on an individual basis.

In respect of car parking tariffs, the following amended rates were discussed, changes would become effective from **1<sup>st</sup> April 2022** if agreed by Full Council.

1 hour -	£1.20
2 hour -	£2.50
3 hour -	£3.50
5 hour -	£5.00
All day -	£6.00
Weekly ticket	£15.00

**10. Annual review Clerk/Contractors – deferred March 2021**

Members discussed the current arrangements for Main Street toilets and confirmed that the existing arrangement worked well, whereby the contractor was committed to fulfilling duties 52 weeks per year. It was further noted that, with Covid restrictions potentially being lifted from 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the additional support being given to the Wednesday Market could cease and the Handyman role could revert to completing other lengths men duties around the town. The Clerk's biennial review would be considered at a future date (including review of any pension provision). Members agreed that the Clerk should make initial enquiries with South Lakeland District Council over the Cemetery in Sedbergh, asking what might be involved if the Parish Council wanted to consider taking over responsibility for the cemetery. Also the potential to reopen the toilets that had recently been closed by South Lakeland District Council.

**11. Date of next meeting – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August at 5pm, Members resolved to meet in the Parish Council Office, 72 Main Street, Sedbergh.**