

Minutes of Sedbergh Parish Council Finance Committee meeting, held Parish Council office, 72 Main Street, Sedbergh on Monday 7th February 2022 at 5.30pm

Present:

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

1. Apologies

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

2. Declaration of Interests

There were no Declarations of Interest for this meeting.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting held Monday 10th January 2022 and 6th December 2021

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

4. Financial Summary and Bank Reconciliation

The Financial Summary for January 2022 had been circulated to Members and it was resolved that all payments (attached) were recommended for approval. These included an interim invoice for the design work/Principal Designer role for the proposed path at Howgill Lane (design now received), and fees from the school's solicitor relating to the new lease at Loftus Hill car park. The former invoice will see an exceeded Budget on Projects; however, Sedbergh Parish Council will receive a refund from Cumbria County Council (as previously agreed) for these initial design work for the playing field path. In addition, Members discussed the Wednesday weekly market. After giving additional support (Parish Handyman) to the Market over the past two years, during Covid, it was now proposed that this would be withdrawn over the coming weeks. If individual stall holders feel they still require assistance, they could make their own individual private arrangements. The Clerk will issue a letter to all existing stall holders. The Bank Reconciliation, for January 2022, was checked and found to be correct and signed by Cllrs Brooks and Capstick

5. Income and Expenditure 2021-2022

The up-to-date Income and Expenditure report for 2021/2022 was circulated for information (noting the exceeded budget projection above). It was additionally noted that the next phase of the previously agreed (2019) maintenance program for the Tennis courts was due, and the Clerk was instructed to progress. The five-year contract had a further two years to run.

6. Grant Applications

- i) Western Dales Bus - £1,000.00. Members discussed the application, however, wished to defer a decision to Full Council on 10th February 2022 due to the complexities and to liaise further with the Parish Council representative.

7. Consider Parish Council assets in preparation for future Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and discussion with South Lakeland District Council and update on Sedbergh Cemetery.

As noted at the January Finance meeting, SLDC had written to Members to confirm they would not be considering any asset transfers 'ad hoc' as any ongoing LGR review would consider services and assets collectively. It was also noted that should, Sedbergh Parish Council wish to progress any improvements at Joss Lane car park, they would be welcome to apply to the Locally Important Project (LIP) Fund, if/when it became available.

8. Playing field path – update on potential pathway project, Howgill Lane

A further site meeting had taken place and the revised design (see Item 4) had now been completed for Members to consider and progress at Full Council (10th February 2022). If the design is approved and accepted, a tender invite would be issued as soon as practicable thereafter.

9. Bank Mandate/Online Banking – future provision of banking arrangements

The Clerk will progress an application for Bankline (NatWest) as soon as possible. Members acknowledged the fees; however, Bankline is one of only a few that allow dual authorisation and the use of a post office for banking as required. While progressing the application, the Clerk will include the requirement to update authorised signatories, including the addition of Cllr Simon Arnold.

10. Date of next meeting – Monday 7th March 2022 at 5.30pm, Members resolved to meet in the Parish Council Office, 72 Main Street, Sedbergh LA10 5AD