

## **THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH**

**Minutes of the monthly Meeting for the Parish Council of Sedbergh, held in the Committee Room, Sedbergh People’s Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh at 7.30 pm on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**Present:** Councillors Lancaster (Chair), Brooks, Arnold, Longlands, Capstick, Bromley, Hutt, Welti, Cowperthwaite and Sedgwick.

### Part I

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs McPherson and accepted by Members.

#### **2. Requests for Dispensations**

There were no requests for Dispensations at this meeting.

#### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Items 8 – Planning. Cllrs Capstick, Longlands, Welti and Item 8i) Arnold  
Item 10 – Grants. Cllr Lancaster

#### **4. Public Participation**

Planning. Two members of the public attended to speak in relation to planning applications S/03/647A Land at The Hill, Joss Lane, Sedbergh - outline Planning permission with some matters reserved in respect of a proposed Artisan cider press and orchard and managers house and S/03/738 Land at The Hill, Joss Lane, Sedbergh - full planning permission for erection of two, 3- bed local occupancy dwellings on land east of Joss Lane including altered location of the gate to the fell – highlighting their objections to the applications (full details of objections available at Yorkshire Dales National Park). Members listened to the objections, and had read the various objections raised on the Yorkshire Dales National Park planning portal. In respect of S/03/738 it was resolved that there was no proven material consideration for this development site (planned outside of the current development boundary for the town). In respect of S/03/647A, it was resolved that there was also no justifiable reason for the proposed site, or sufficient information to make any informed response. Cllr Welti did not vote and there was 1 abstention.

Sheepfest. Representation from the Sheepfest Committee attended to seek permission to partially close Joss Lane car park for Sheepfest (26<sup>th</sup> August) to allow Rural Links to set up their agricultural display. It was noted that it was a Bank Holiday weekend, and that there was an Artisan Market running on the same day, so car parking in the town centre would be vital for the benefit of all traders/residents and visitors that day. Members resolved, therefore, that it was not a viable option, and that as Sheepfest were planning to use Lupton Field for general car parking, perhaps the display stand could also be situated on the field – allowing more space and an additional focus for visitors. (Members of the Public left the meeting following this item).

#### **5. Minutes of the Meeting of Sedbergh Parish Council 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023**

Members resolved to adopt the Minutes of the meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 (no meeting in March) and they were signed as a true record by the Chairman, Cllr Kevin Lancaster.

#### **6. Matters noted from the Minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023**

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

#### **7. Report/update from Westmorland and Furness Council**

Apologies were received from Cllr Hodgson and Mitchell.

## 8. Planning

The Planning Committee had not met, in addition to the applications discussed at Item 4 (above) the following applications were discussed at this meeting. Full responses will be submitted directly by Cllr Arnold, with a summary noted below for information.

S/03/798 Underwinder Farm, Marthwaite, Sedbergh – full planning permission for the siting of two temporary cabins with associated access, parking, and landscaping for the purposes of tourist accommodation, together with installation of package sewage treatment plant (revised application). Members resolved they had no objection to the principle, but objected to the current design of the units as they were unattractive/out of keeping with the location.

S/03/169A 15 Woodside Avenue, Sedbergh – householder planning permission for erection of side and rear single storey extension. Support.

S/03/607 9 Woodside Avenue, Sedbergh – householder planning permission for removal of a 1m length of front boundary wall to widen the access and replacement of block paving. Support.

S/03/518E Birks Farm, Birks Lane, Sedbergh – full planning permission for use of agricultural field as a campsite for 5 months of the year and construction of new barn for stock, hay or tourist facilities according to the season. Members resolved to support the application (as previously) Cllr Capstick took no part in discussion.

S/03?742 Land at Fawcett Bank, Cautley, Sedbergh – full planning permission for erection of agricultural building to roof over existing sheep penning area. No objections.

S/03/504B – The Dalesman Country Inn, Main Street, Sedbergh – Section 73 application for variation of Condition 2 of S/03/504A (full planning permission for change of use of existing first floor managers accommodation on top floor of the pub (use C3) to hotel room accommodation (use C1) to provide 3 no. hotel letting rooms) in respect of amendments to include 3 no. conservation rooflights. No objections. Cllr Longlands took no part in discussion.

S/03/643C – Cautley Thwaite Barn, Cautley – full planning permission for conversion of attached barn to form additional living accommodation for the main dwelling. Council had commented on the previous application in Feb 2019 that full development of the building would have been preferable at that time and, therefore, support the current plans.

### i) Local Plan Consultation 6 – Land for Housing Development

Members noted the consultation, highlighting the Land for Housing Development proposed sites and important open spaces identified. Members resolved to query the layby at New Bridge being identified as an important open space. This area has previously been mooted, by Members, as a potential coach parking/waiting for the future.

## 9. Finance

Members resolved to accept the minutes from the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2023, with all payments approved. Members noted that a third insurance quote had now been received (Item 7ii) and resolved to accept a quote for £1421.93 (3 year agreement) with Zurich Municipal. **i) Internal Audit and Annual Governance and Accountability Return.** Members noted the potential for enhanced publication of financial information required for the Annual Governance and Accountability Return due to the Local Government Transparency Code threshold being met. Finally, Members noted that the commemorative mugs had been ordered for King Charles III Coronation, and a small number would be donated to Sedbergh Town Twinning and posted on to Zrece.

## 10. Grants

An initial enquiry had been received from Sedbergh and District History Society (see Finance Committee, Item 8) however a formal application is now awaited.

## 11. Amenities Committee

Members resolved to accept the minutes from the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023. It was noted that Electricity North West were due to remove a parish (street) light from a pole at Loftus Manor and the Clerk was asked to make some further enquiries about a possible replacement. It was also noted, for example, that this light may include the switching regime for the further parish lights along this stretch of road.

## **12. Update on Projects**

The following ongoing projects/matters were discussed.

- i) Jubilee Fountain, the contractor had not been in touch. Cllr Arnold is awaiting contact.
- ii) Update on funding for EV charging points at Joss Lane car park/Loftus Hill car park. The Clerk confirmed that the Energy Saving Trust (.Gov) funding had sent 75% of their award. The Clerk is waiting for an update on the application to the Yorkshire Dales National Park (Sustainable Development Fund) prior to further progression/updated quotes.
- iii) Parish lighting – update on progress. It was noted that pro forma invoices had been authorized and the lights had been ordered.

## **13. Queen's Garden**

Members had not met. The Clerk noted that Cllr Arnold and McPherson were due to meet with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Tree Officer in due course. Cllr Arnold also hopes to meet with a contractor, on site, in respect of estimates for the proposed restorative works at the stone steps.

## **14. Future parking**

A draft parking survey had been circulated to Members for initial comment/feedback.

## **15. Highways Matters**

It was noted that further to Highways attending Sedbergh on 1.3.23, another meeting is planned later this month/May to discuss ongoing and outstanding issues. Including, parking strategy and concerns previously highlighted, for example, road markings/parking at Thorns Lane/Castlegarth, Highfield/Station Road, Loftus Hill/Busk Lane and general road sign condition. Members further noted recent problematic parking on Howgill Lane during an event. Hosts will, therefore, be reminded to use appropriate cones/safety measures to allow safe passage of vehicles.

## **16. Correspondence**

The attached Clerk's Correspondence list was noted by the meeting:

- i) Sedbergh Economic Partnership meeting – the notes from the last meeting had been circulated.
- ii) Antoni Gosiewski – Members noted that the permit had been confirmed and the final sign ordered. A draft information page for the Visit Sedbergh website had been created, along with a QR code for the plaque following installation.
- iii) Footpath diversion – Low Branthwaite, Members noted a request for a diversion and resolved no objections.
- iv) Sedbergh Bowling Club – proposed plans had been circulated, Members resolved to support their submission, however, still required clarification over the demolition of the toilet block and appropriate replacement of the parish council shed.
- v) Sedbergh Young Farmers – Members noted a request for the Club to support a small project in the town. Amenities had resolved that there was potential to make some improvements to the landscape around the new path at the playing field.
- vi) Future of Late Night Opening – Members noted that the Sedbergh CIC had not received any offers of a coordinator for the annual event and, therefore, currently it would not be progressing.

**18. Date and Time of next meeting – Annual Parish (Electors) Meeting (APM), followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (AMPC) and the formal monthly meeting, to be held from 7.00pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (meetings delayed one week in May, King Chales III Coronation) in the Committee Room, Sedbergh People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh.**

Part II

It was resolved and agreed that the public should be excluded from the meeting for reason of the financially sensitive and/or confidential nature of the items to be discussed.

**19. Legacy monies – any update from Solicitors**

The Clerk confirmed receipt of a further £4917.26 in respect of the second legacy – giving a total of £21267.26. Members are minded to split this legacy as previously discussed.

**20. Contractors Review**

Members noted that the Amenities Committee were in the process of completing a draft contract for Grass cutting/field maintenance – not yet available. In the interim, and due to the commencement of the growing season, grass cutting had now begun at the playing field as previously.

**21. Sedbergh Economic Partnership**

It remained noted that the Sedbergh Economic Partnership was likely due to require a review soon and the Clerk was asked to seek clarification over the current funding arrangement of the Economic Advisor post.