

# **SEDFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Minutes of the proceedings of the **January ENVIRONMENT** of the **Council**  
held at **7 p.m.** in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre,  
Sedgefield, on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2011**.

### **Present**

**Cllr. Ian Sutherland (Chairman)**

**Cllr. Norman Dunn (Vice-Chairman) and**

Cllrs. A. Blakemore, D. Brown, M. Brown, S. Green, J. Robinson, S. Sutherland

### **Officer**

L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

### **1. Apologies**

Cllrs. T. Jeanes, D. Waters, M. Robinson, S. Hannan

### **2. Declaration of interest**

None

### **3. Matters of Information**

#### **3.1 Insurance: 20 North End**

The Clerk informed Members that she had been contacted by Zurich the previous week seeking permission to pass the DVD of the Drains to Mrs. Alderson's solicitors: Jacksons.

This permission had been given.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

#### **3.2 Re-cycling Bays**

Cllr. John Robinson informed Members that the Civic Trust has now re-submitted the application to the County Durham Foundation for the Re-cycling Bays at the Cemetery.

### **4. Reports**

#### **4.1 Sedgefield in Bloom**

The December minutes had been circulated. A further meeting has been held. The inaugural

meeting is to be held in April.

### **RECOMMENDED**

#### **To receive the information**

#### **4.2 Winter Maintenance**

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the meeting which she had attended at County hall earlier in the day.

The meeting has been organized by Mr. Brian Kitchin (DCC Highways) and included information and feedback on:-

##### **a) Equipment**

DCC have provided a number of local councils with a small snow plough and grit spreader to fit on small tractors.

The Clerk informed members that she had since been in touch with Lloyds at Bishop Auckland who will do similar for Sedgfield – at no charge – whilst at the same time they will carry out the annual service of the tractor.

##### **b) Salt**

Mr. Kitchin gave details of the stock pile remaining in the County.

The situation in Sedgfield is that the all of the Town Council grit bins have been re-filled. There remains a small amount at Ceddesfeld but there needs to be discussion re storage elsewhere particularly if the car park at Ceddesfeld is re-surfaced.

##### **c) Communications**

Mr. Kitchin agreed that there have been some problems re the above and this should be improved.

In summary it was generally accepted that DCC had carried out a good job under very difficult circumstances.

### **RECOMMENDED**

#### **To look at finding an emergency car park area**

#### **4.3 Rotary Wheel**

The Chairman gave the report on the meeting held earlier in the evening with Mr. Basil Watson and Mel Broadbelt from Rotary Club re the above.

The following had been agreed: -

- a) The flagpole to be moved from storage to the Community College Farm by Rotary
- b) Chris Young at the school to refurbish the Rotary Wheel (at Rotary's expense) and it then be moved by STC to the permanent site which is on land adjacent to the Winterton Roundabout and Community College
- c) Bloom Committee to then plant a box hedge and alpines and re-charge Rotary.
- d) Photo-opportunity with all to be arranged.

## **5 Correspondence**

### **5.1 Tree Works Rear Mitford Court: DCC**

The Chairman reported that some of the Residents are expressing concern and unwillingness to contribute to the works as detailed at a previous meeting.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To write to the Residents on Mitford Court and suggest they meet together and agree exactly what they wish to happen before any further work is done on this.**

**5.2 Tree replacement**

Sedgefield Borough Homes have confirmed they will plant a Silver Birch and Mountain Ash as replacements for those felled on Wykes Close.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**5.3 Butterwick Allotment**

A letter has been received from Zena Smith regarding the increase in allotment fees from £18 to £25 – which will now include a water rate element.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To respond informing Ms Smith that the fees have never included water rates – but that the allotment society could instead take over the water management and pay this directly and the fees could therefore be reduced.**

**6. Issues Raised from Walkabout - Update**

The progress report had been circulated.

All matters have now been addressed.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**7. Bier in Cemetery**

To discuss this once the other matters regarding the depths of graves have been settled.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**8. Dog Bags**

The Clerk circulated details and costs of the purchase of Dog Bags following DCC's withdrawal of this service in April.

**RECOMMENDED**

**STC to purchase the dog bags and continue to provide this as a free service**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.45 p.m.