

# SEDFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

## ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the proceedings of the **FEBRUARY ENVIRONMENT** of the **Council** held following the Community Development committee meeting in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgfield, on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2008**.

## MINUTES

**Present**                    **Cllr. I. Sutherland (Chairman)**  
Cllrs. T. Jeanes, D. Waters, S. Sutherland, N. Dunn, M. Robinson, J. Robinson,  
D. Brown

**Officer**                    L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

**1. Apologies**

Cllrs. A. Blakemore, S. Hannan, M. Garrod

**2. Declaration of interest**

None

**3. Matters of Information**

**3.1 Church Grounds**

Cllr. John Robinson said that a meeting is being arranged with David Bonnington re the remaining £10,000 – which the Town Council are holding – for the St. Edmund's Church Ground project.

**3.2 Bus Shelters**

- a) Cllr. Robinson said that a meeting is being arranged with the agents of Care Principles to discuss the bus shelters at the old General Hospital.
- b) It was reported that the new bus shelter is now in situ near the three corner field.
- c) It was reported that there are issues regarding the ramp and the kerbs at the new bus shelter outside the Coop. DCC have been informed.

### **3.3 Ceddesfeld Hall Grounds**

The Clerk suggested a meeting re spring the ivy at Ceddesfeld Hall Grounds.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**The Clerk to arrange a meeting between Cllrs. Dudley Waters, Ian Sutherland and the Gardening Supervisor. This to be arranged in a couple of weeks.**

## **4. Reports**

### **4.1 Village Green Seminar**

The Clerk had circulated a report on the recent Village Green Seminar which she had attended at County Hall.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

### **4.2 Registration of Station Road field**

The Clerk had circulated a report re possible registration of Station Road field as village green. The Clerk explained that if Members agree to register this area then she would advise that this be exchanged for other areas of existing village green i.e. land outside the Hardwick Arms, Hope Inn etc which are not "green".

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**The Clerk to take further advice on this**

### **4.3 Transfer of Land from SBC**

The Clerk had circulated a report regarding possible transfer of land from Sedgefield Borough Council before the new unitary authority takes over the existing Borough Council services and assets. In addition it was suggested that also the transfer of the car park adjacent to the Parish Hall would also be beneficial.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**The Clerk to express an interest in principle in taking over the car park area and the land at Station Road**

### **4.4 Church Wall**

Cllr. Ian Sutherland said he had now had the opportunity to look at the Church Wall and the tree as discussed in the letter by Members at the Monthly meeting. He said that the builders have pointed the wall but have removed the cap stones which will need to be replaced. In addition he said that there are two trees in the vicinity.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

- i) To receive the information**
- ii) To seek advice from Rodger Lowe about the trees and their effect on the Church Wall**

## **5. Correspondence**

### **5.1 Burton Mews**

The Clerk reported that the road/footpath at Burton Mews has still not been adopted by DCC. She had already written to Harlequin some time ago but had received no reply. Cllr. John Robinson said that he had written and was hoping a meeting would be arranged to discuss the damage to the pavements etc.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

### **5.2 Squash Club: Gas Supply**

A letter has been received from Mr. Michael Carr requesting the Town Council provide a natural gas supply to the existing Squash Club building.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**The Town Council to make the necessary arrangements and make a re-charge on the Squash Club**

### **5.3 Grass cutting Contractors: Prices 2008**

Two prices have been received from Mr. Walker the Grass Cutting contractor.

#### **a) Existing areas of grass**

The price of £460 per cut for the existing areas of grass

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To accept the cost subject to approximately 14-16 cuts depending on season**

#### **b) Additional areas of land**

This includes the verges on the 3 approaches to Sedgefield from the by-pass. The cost of this is £120 per cut. These to be done on an alternate basis.

### **5.4 Trees: Beacon Lane**

A letter has been received from Mrs. Julia Bowles regarding the pruning of trees near the Old Cemetery.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**The Clerk to obtain prices from Premier Tree Services**

### **5.5 Hope Inn, Use of Toilet**

A letter has been received from Mr. J Whyte who recently visited Sedgefield expressing concern about a request to use the toilets at the Hope Inn.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To send a copy of the letter to the Hope Inn for their information. (The address of Mr. Whyte is to be removed from the copy letter to the Hope Inn).**

**5.6 Rights of Way Improvement Plan: DCC**

A letter from DCC has been received with a copy of the summary of Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**5.7 Northumbrian in Bloom Invite to Inaugural Meeting**

An invitation to the Inaugural Meeting for the Northumbrian in Bloom 2008 has been received.

**RECOMMENDED**

**Cllr. Dudley Waters to attend on behalf of the Town Council**

**6. Eon Wind farm**

Cllr. John Robinson reminded Members that Eon had attended a Council meeting about a year ago at which they had informed Members about the funding from themselves as a result of their Wind Farm.

**RECOMMENDED**

- i) To write to EON inviting them to attend the next Environment committee meeting to discuss how the Town Council can access the grant**
- ii) To also write to the County Durham Foundation regarding the funding they hold re the adjacent Wind Farm**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.15 pm.