

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the proceedings of the **July ENVIRONMENT** of the **Council**
held at **7 p.m.** in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre,
Sedgefield, on **Monday 20th July 2009.**

- Present** **Cllr. Ian Sutherland (Chairman)**
Cllr. Norman Dunn (Vice-Chairman) and
Cllrs. A. Blakemore, D. Brown, H. Clifford-Brown, S. Hannan, J. Robinson, M.
Robinson, S. Sutherland, D. Waters.
- Officer** L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk) – apologised for not attending. M. Robinson clerked
meeting
- 1. Apologies**
Cllrs. M. Brown, M. Garood, R. Taylor.
- 2. Declaration of interest**
None
- 3. Matters of Information**
- 3.1 Winterton Allotments**
The allotments are being prepared to rent out. Smaller allotments being sectioned out to
increase the number of allotments which will be available.
- 3.2 Bus Shelter**
At Community Hospital – in a poor state of repair
At Thorpe Larches – being replaced by insurers following an accident which damaged the
shelter.
- 3.3 Friends of Ceddesfeld Hall**
The group has had two meetings. They have agreed a constitution and are opening a bank
account. Future work being considered includes clean the ponds out as a future project and to
involve children in this. Next meeting is to be held on 21st July – open to all. Funding avenues
being sought and County Durham Foundation to be considered.
- 4. Reports**

4.1 Sedgefield in Bloom – Open Gardens

The Open Gardens had been highly successful. A vote of thanks to all involved. Summer judging 21st July from 10 am – all encouraged joining in the early morning litter picks.

RECOMMENDED

A letter of thanks to go out to all who opened gardens

5. Correspondence

5.1 Temporary speed restriction A177 Sedgefield Thorpe Larches.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

5.2 Keep Britain Tidy

Information was received encouraging the reporting of drivers throwing litter from cars.

Prosecutions have taken place.

Noted by members the throwing of glasses from car windows on Fishburn Road.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

5.3 National Grid planning application

Information had been received regarding the increase in voltage loading work. Route through the area follows broadly the current route, but with larger pylons carrying greater voltage. No extra danger to residents identified in the application.

RECOMMENDED

As information had been received of the overall larger plan, it was recommended to receive the information

5.4 Planning Application Wind monitoring station notified on the planning portal.

Equipment will be 60 metres high and in position temporarily for 2 years

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information provided verbally in view of there not being a meeting before September.

6. Topological Survey for Ceddesfeld Hall Park and the ancient Mound is required.

RECOMMENDED

To apply to the County Durham Foundation and to include enhancement of the parkland

7. DCC Members Allowance

Local Area Members Allowance Statement presented to the meeting advising on possible areas which require attention. Areas of work notified by members of the public in recent times

are in the process of being costed by DCC.

RECOMMENDED

Any additional areas for consideration to be advised to clerk as soon as possible

8. North End Footpaths

A resident is requesting attention to an area which has been reported to be in a poor state. Concern was expressed that the area may not have been designed to take car passage over the area.

Another area which may require attention in the vicinity of Sedgefield Fisheries was raised.

RECOMMENDED

- i. To view the area on the walk-a-bout in the summer and consider what repairs may be required, or other solutions open for consideration.**
- ii. Clerk to enquire through Land Registry who owns the land adjacent to the shops as indicated above.**

9. North End Trees

Work to a Horse chestnut tree may be required, quotations sought.

Sycamore near Police Station may need attention at roof level.

RECOMMENDED

- i. To inspect the area on the summer walk-a-bout**
- ii. Consider advising the residents that if a tree is removed, it could bring further problems as the roots dry out**

10. Residents Forum Items

1. Cunningham Court

DCC have written to Cllr Robinson advising that the residents had agreed to adopt a private management company for the maintenance of the estate.

2. Drinking in public places

Cllr Blakemore advised members that a Designated Public Place Order (enforceable by Police, Neighborhood Wardens or a PCSO – but the latter 2 have no powers of arrest), does not prevent the carrying of glasses from one premises to another, unless there is disorderly conduct. The Chief Constable position is that there is no further cover available if such an order is applied for and that the police have enough powers to deal with incidents as they occur.

Persistent problems with the behaviour of people especially at the Black Lion corner continue, though there has been a particular note that glass at the Black Lion is at its worst on Friday and Saturday nights.

RECOMMENDED

- i. **To advise the Residents Forum of DCC response to the enquiry in regards to Cunningham Court and that it is suggested by DCC that they could approach McInerney developers who set up the agreement with the purchasers of the properties.**
- ii. **Raise the issue again at the Pub's Partnership**
- iii. **Ask DCC to consider removal of the benches if this persists.**
- iv. **Write to Licensing Authority (Colin Carr), copied to Police, Jane Gilliead and the Black Lion explaining the problems, but recognizing not everyone is a problem.**
- v. **NOT consider applying for a designated order at this time.**
- vi. **A file of complaints, incidents to be established and the offer of a diary sheet to complainants to complain**

11. Works Access to Sedgefield Community College –

Concern over the heavy wagons using local roads for site access was expressed. This has been raised and under further consideration.

RECOMMENDED

To raise this with BSF and DCC highways

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8 p.m.

