

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the proceedings of the **SEPTEMBER ENVIRONMENT** of the **Council** held at **7 p.m.** in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Monday 15th September 2008.**

MINUTES

Present **Cllr. Ian Sutherland (Chairman) and**
Cllrs. S. Hannan, M. Robinson, H. Clifford-Brown, A. Blakemore, S. Sutherland,
N. Dunn, M. Brown, J. Robinson

Officer L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. M. Garrood, R. Taylor, D. Brown, T. Jeanes, D. Waters, L. Goddard

2. Declaration of interest

None

3. Matters of Information

3.1 Allotment Land: Winterton Hospital

The Clerk is now liaising directly with NHS

3.2 Fence Golden Lion

See agenda

4. Reports

4.1 Fence Golden Lion

The Chairman, Cllr. Ian Sutherland gave a verbal report on the meeting held the previous week which was attended by Mrs. Cummings from East End together with Mr. Steve Foster from

DCC, Mr. Bill Katakay (SBC), Cllrs. Ian Sutherland, Norman Dunn, Dudley Waters and Lesley Swinbank (Town Clerk).

It was pointed out that the fence had been erected on Highway land which is illegal and that the Area Conservation Officer Mr. Bill Katakay would not accept hedging, bushes as a replacement. After much discussion it had been agreed that Durham County Council would look into the legalities of allowing planters to be placed on that area and that they also would write to the owners of the property asking that the fence be removed within 28 days otherwise legal action could be taken.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

4.2 Tree Survey

The Clerk had circulated a report following the meeting held on 29th July and attended by Cllrs, Ian Sutherland, Norman Dunn and Mr. Rodger Lowe (SBC), Mr. Ian Laidlaw (SBC) and the Clerk.

The Clerk said whilst that report included recommendations she had since heard from Mr. Lowe (SBC) who has confirmed that SBC are no longer able to carry out the tree survey.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

5 Correspondence

5.1 North End: DCC

A letter has been received from Durham County Council re yellow lines at the Black Lion corner. Members raised various other issues re parking and traffic in Sedgefield.

RECOMMENDED

To write to the Police and look at the enforcement of the existing yellow lines on North End which run from Bells Store on to the High Street.

5.2 East Park: DCC

A letter has been received from Anthony Ewin (DCC) together with letters dated 2nd June to residents whose properties adjoin East Park. These confirm that there should be no structures within the corridor or the same should be used for temporary storage of any waste material. Cllr. Dunn said he would check over this area and report back to the Clerk.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information and take no further action

5.3 Old Beacon Lane: BTCV

Information has been received from Sarah Tierney of BTCV with various suggestions about removing the boulders, clearing land etc.

RECOMMENDED

- i) **To request a price from BTCV for the work**
- ii) **Cllrs. Norman Dunn and Ian Sutherland to look at the area and report back to the next meeting**
- iii) **To not undertake any works until the new Unitary Authority is in place**

5.4 National Grid

A letter dated 25th July had been included in the Environment agendas. This had been emailed to all Members of STC on Monday 28th July and the initial correspondence had been discussed at the Monthly meeting in July.

Some concerns were expressed that there may be an effect on Sedgefield.

RECOMMENDED

To write to SBC suggesting that they convene a meeting of affected town and parishes

5.5 Hardwick Park, Bins: DCC

A letter has been received from Andy Niven of Durham County Council re provision of dog waste and litter bins within the park. He confirmed that DCC have a no bin policy within the Countryside Estate although an exception has been made at the car park, visitor centre and the Temple field picnic area.

RECOMMENDED

- i) **To receive the information**
- ii) **To suggest to Mr. Niven that a date for visiting the Centre would be a Saturday morning in October**

5.6 Bus Shelters – Old Community Hospital: NHS

A letter has been received from Peter Carr re bus shelters at the Old Community Hospital confirming that he is looking into the condition and ownership of the bus shelters and will respond accordingly.

6. Parking/Traffic

Discussion took place on the parking/traffic in Sedgefield.

RECOMMENDED

To await the outcome of the RPS/Planning for Real Exercise before taking any further action on this

7. Tractor

The Clerk reported that the existing tractor has been mended and is still in good condition.

RECOMMENDED

- i) **To receive the information**
- ii) **To look to putting money in the estimates for a replacement tractor as and when necessary**

8. Ceddesfeld Hall Grounds

Cllr. Sutherland circulated the report he had prepared re the way forwards with the Ceddesfeld Hall grounds.

RECOMMENDED

- i) To adopt the report
- ii) To arrange consultation meetings with Rodger Lowe, Tree Officer (SBC) to agree an appropriate schedule of work
- iii) To cost the work
- iv) To ensure the funds are allocated in the next year's estimates

9. Ceddesfeld Hall Trees

Cllr. Norman Dunn gave information regarding particular species of trees in Ceddesfeld Park.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.45 pm.