

# **SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Minutes of the proceedings of the **OCTOBER ENVIRONMENT** of the **Council** held at **7 p.m.** in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2008.**

**Present**

**Cllr. Ian Sutherland (Chairman) and**

Cllrs. N. Dunn, M. Robinson, D. Brown, J. Robinson, A. Blakemore, S. Sutherland, L. Goddard, D. Waters, H. Clifford-Brown

**Officer**

L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

**1. Apologies**

None

**2. Declaration of interest**

None

**3. Matters of Information**

None

**4. Reports**

**4.1 Ceddesfeld Hall Grounds**

The Clerk reported that Rodger Lowe has responded to say that his report is nearing completion but he felt there were no major issues with the planned work for the grounds.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**4.2 East End fence / Tubs**

The Clerk reported on the meeting which had been held with Officers from DCC, SBC and Mr. and Mrs. Cummings of East End. The Town Council have been asked to provide and maintain three tubs on the boundary of the gardens where a fence is at present erected. This being the case then DCC will contact the owners of 9 East End asking that the fence be removed.

**RECOMMENDED**

**The Town Council to place three/four tubs along the area between 9 and 10 East End once the fence has been removed**

**4.3 Winterton Allotments**

The Clerk informed Members that she has written back to NHS Estates with costings for work to the allotment area and Winterton Cemetery and is now awaiting confirmation from NHS Estates for the work to go ahead in order that the land can then be transferred.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**5 Correspondence**

**5.1 A177 Sedgefield to Thorpe Larches – South bound carriageway Consultation**

Information has been received from Durham County Council re consultation on proposed engineering works on the A177 Sedgefield to Thorpe Larches.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To approve the proposals**

**5.2 Headstone Request: Mr. Devanney**

A letter has been received from Mr. Devanney of Station Road requesting permission for a flat granite stone on a grave in Sedgefield Cemetery.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To approve in principle however Mr. Devanney is to indemnify the Town Council against any damage to the headstone caused by grass cutters or the sinking of the grave and also he will insure that the stone is lifted as and when the grave needs to be re-opened.**

**5.3 Community College**

A letter has been received from Ms. Lynne Ackland (Head teacher) of the Community College regarding students visiting Sedgefield at lunch time.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**6. Cobbles: Mediaeval Fayre**

Cllr. John Robinson asked that this be deferred until November. He pointed out that the meeting with Lee Mowbray of DCC is taking place on Friday and the results of that meeting may have some bearing on the future of the cobbles etc.

**7. Sedgefield Station Access**

Cllr. Norman Dunn expressed concern about the state of the access road to Sedgefield Station.

**RECOMMENDED**

**The Clerk to write a letter to Durham County Council requesting some action be taken on this**

**8. Entrance Signs**

Cllr. Ian Sutherland commented on the new entrance signs at Coxhoe.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To write a letter to Coxhoe asking for details of costings etc.**

**9. Church Wall**

Cllr. Ian Sutherland expressed concern about the Church Wall and problems with vandalism etc.

**RECOMMENDED**

- i) To plant prickly bushes along part of the wall**
- ii) To arrange a meeting with Christopher Downs from the Diocese to discuss the future of the wall itself**

**10. Northumbria in Bloom Marking Sheets**

The marking sheets have been received and had been circulated.

**RECOMMENDED**

- i) To thank Mr. Stephen Young for all of his work with the Bloom**
- ii) Sedgefield Town Council to enter next year's competition**

**11. Surfaces around St Luke's: Winterton**

Cllr. Norman Dunn expressed concern about the areas around the play areas at St. Luke's, Winterton.

**RECOMMENDED**

**The Clerk said these had been reported to SBC but she would follow up with a further letter**

**12. Trees: Land – Stockton Road**

The Clerk reported on a meeting which she had attended together with Councillors Ian Sutherland and Norman Dunn and Mark Morrell from Northumberland Water Authority. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss proposed works which are to be carried out in Sedgefield and which will involve works to areas of land where established trees are growing. The Clerk said that NWA had given an undertaking to preserve established trees as far as possible however if there is damage then they will replace accordingly.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information and affirm the actions taken**

**13. Old Beacon Lane**

A letter has been received from Steve Foster, DCC advising that formal permission is needed to undertake sustainable planting and providing seats along Old Beacon Lane.

**RECOMMENDED**

- i) To receive the information**
- ii) To discuss this further with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the committee**

**14. Footpath – East End to North End**

The Clerk informed Members that the following complaints about the public right of way which runs parallel with the High Street and Front Street from North End to East End, David Hopper from the County Council had inspected the footpath and referred this to Public Rights of Way Department. As a result Owen Shaw from County Hall had looked at the footpath and has advised that the footpath is satisfactory.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**15. Wind Farm: Red Gap Moor, Elwick**

The Clerk gave a brief report on the meeting she had with representatives from BT to discuss their proposals for a Wind Farm at the above. The proposed location is in Hartlepool Borough and the Town Council have been consulted as a neighbouring Parish. The Chairman, Cllr. Ian Sutherland gave details of the number of turbines etc and proposed output.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9 p.m.