

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the proceedings of the **OCTOBER ENVIRONMENT** of the **Council** held following the Community Development committee meeting in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Monday 19th October 2009.**

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

Officer L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. T. Jeanes

2. Declaration of interest

Cllr. John Robinson re the Fire Station

3. Matters of Information

3.1 Allotment Land, Winterton Hospital

The Clerk reminded Members that a funding application is being made either by the Town Council or through Residents' Forum possibly to the County Durham Foundation Wind Farm monies for funding towards the water, fencing etc.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

3.2 Bus Shelters: Winterton

The Clerk informed Members that a reply has been received from DCC acknowledging receipt of the letter from the Town Council informing them that the Town Council had no responsibility for the two existing brick shelters but would be happy to take over maintenance etc if these

were replaced with two new bus shelters.

Cllr. John Robinson said he was arranging a meeting with Lee Mowbray to discuss this and other issues in Sedgfield.

4. Reports

4.1 Sedgfield in Bloom

Minutes of the last Sedgfield in Bloom meeting held Wednesday 16th September had been circulated. The Chairman, Cllr. Ian Sutherland reminded Members of the next meeting on Wednesday 21st October at 4 pm in the Council Offices. In addition he confirmed that Sedgfield has now been entered for the National Britain in Bloom competition.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

4.2 Friends of Ceddesfeld

Cllr. Norman Dunn gave a report on the recent meeting of the Friends of Ceddesfeld Park. He confirmed he had applied for funding to a number of funders.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

4.3 Paths Partnership

Cllr. Norman Dunn reported on the meeting which had been held the previous Thursday in the Parish Hall which had been coordinated by Elaine Field from DCC, Paths Partnership Group. The meeting had been well attended and a further meeting is to be held in November.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

4.4 Church View

The Chairman, Cllr. Ian Sutherland reported on the state of the footpath on Church View. He said that in areas were uneven and he suggested prices be obtained for lifting, cleaning and re-laying.

5. Correspondence

5.1 The Black Lion: Email DCC

A letter has been received from Keith Jameson, DCC regarding the benches fronting the Black Lion. The Clerk confirmed that she had written to DCC Licensing and the Landlord about broken glass outside the premises.

RECOMMENDED

To monitor the situation and discuss again in January / February 2010

5.2 Girl Guiding Flowerbed

A letter has been received from Mrs. Jean Foulds the County Commissioner re their centenary

celebrations in 2010 and asking if it is possible for a flower bed to be designed to commemorate this anniversary.

RECOMMENDED

To pass this to the Bloom committee

5.3 Shop Frontages: Mr. P Smith

A comprehensive response has been received from Mr. Phil Smith regarding the centre of the Conservation area and shop frontages on the High Street. The Clerk also informed Members that no response has been received to date from Mr. Katakya about the same.

RECOMMENDED

- i) To receive the information
- ii) To thank Mr. Smith for his very comprehensive letter and ask if it can be made public
- iii) To write again to Mr. Katakya asking if progress is being made following his meeting with Mr. Smith on 7th October

5.4 Weed spraying: DCC

A letter has been received from Mr. Bill Pickles (DCC) in response to the Town Council's request for areas of Sedgfield to be sprayed for weeds in the spring of 2010.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

5.5 Brick Bus Shelters, Old Community Hospital Site: DCC

As discussed earlier.

5.6 War Memorial Conference

Information regarding the above has been received.

RECOMMENDED

To pass the information to Mr. Tim Spearey and Mr. David Hillerby

6. Walkabout Works Update

This had been circulated.

RECOMMENDED

To ask the Gardening Supervisor to prune the tree outside Bell's shop

7. Cemetery Footpaths

Prices have now been received from Durham County Council, Meadows Road Construction and Hanson in regard of re-surfacing works to the Cemetery footpaths from the main gates to the taps area.

RESOLVED

To accept the price of £2,677.62 from Durham County Council

8. Britain in Bloom – National Competition

Members were reminded once again of the importance of this National competition and that all are welcome at the Bloom meeting on Wednesday evening.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

9. Tree Works: Cemetery

Tenders for works to the trees in the borders at the Cemetery were brought to the meeting. These had been received from Premier Tree Services, Batsons and David Oliver.

RESOLVED

To accept in principle the cost of £930 from Premier Tree Services but to schedule this work for March 2010 in order that the bill can then be paid in the next financial year

10. Tree: North End

Information had been received from Rodger Lowe in regard of the Horse chestnut tree outside 40 North End and had been circulated. Mr. Lowe has said that he considers that the only cause of action open is to fell the tree and that the Council could rely on one of the exemptions in the Conservation Area regulations and proceed with the actions without submission of the usual 211 notice.

Some concerns were expressed about this going ahead without the necessary permissions.

RECOMMENDED

The Town Council agreed in principle to fell the tree, however to obtain the necessary permissions before the work is undertaken

11. Proposals for new Fire Station: Sedgefield

The Clerk said a letter from the County Durham and Darlington Fire & Rescue Service had been received. This was seeking permission for access across additional village green for the new Fire Station on West Park Lane. The Fire Brigade have confirmed they will pay any legal costs which are incurred.

RECOMMENDED

- i) **To allow access over additional village green as per the request from the County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service**
- ii) **To engage Dickinson Dees to carry out the necessary legal works**

12. Bus Shelter: Thorpe Larches

The Clerk informed members that she is still awaiting the outstanding monies from the insurance claim

It was suggested that local joiners would be able to build a new replacement wooden shelter.

RECOMMENDED

The Clerk to contact local joiners and invite prices

13. Litter

Cllr. David Brown said he had been approached by several residents regarding increased litter in Sedgefield.

RECOMMENDED

To pass to the Bloom committee to talk to the Community college re working with the college re the national competition

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