

# **SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Minutes of the proceedings of the **December ENVIRONMENT** of the **Council** held at following the Monthly **meeting** in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009**.

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

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

### **1. Apologies**

Cllrs. J. Robinson, M. Robinson, H. Clifford-Brown,

### **2. Declaration of interest**

None

### **3. Matters of Information**

#### **3.1 Bus Shelters: Old Community Hospital**

The Clerk said she was awaiting confirmation from DCC that they will be demolishing the two shelters at the Old Community Hospital and two new shelters to be provided near the cottages which STC will then maintain.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

### **4. Reports**

#### **4.1 Sedgefield in Bloom**

Cllr. Ian Sutherland gave a brief report on the recent Sedgefield in Bloom meeting with Andrew Jackson (DCC) and Keith Jameson (Highways). This discussed in particular the entrances to Sedgefield including the verges and roundabouts. A written report will be given to the next meeting.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**4.2 Friends of Ceddesfeld**

Cllr. Norman Dunn gave a brief report on progress.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**4.3 Winter Maintenance**

The Clerk informed members that she had attended a recent meeting in Shildon with the old SBC Councils and DCC re Winter Maintenance Service and entering into an agreement with DCC to agree priority footway schedules.

**RECOMMENDED**

**Sedgefield Town Council to enter into an agreement with Durham County Council re priority footway schedules**

**4.4 Sedgefield Cemetery**

The Clerk reported that all the headstones / memorials have now been tested. Those found to be "dangerous" have been laid down whilst others have been "pegged". Letters have been sent to as many as possible requesting they take action to make safe their headstone and a notice has been put on the Cemetery notice board. Mr. John Doyle is currently entering all this information onto the computer to ensure the Cemetery records are kept up to date.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

**5 Correspondence**

**5.1 Creation of Access East Park**

The Clerk informed Members that 8 letters of objection to a new access from Matfen Court to East Park have now been received.

**RECOMMENDED**

**Not to pursue a new access and take no further action on this**

**5.2 Scotts Memorials: Wood Memorial**

A price has been received from Scotts Memorials for works to the Wood memorial including re-fixing and re-leveling foundations, core, anchor and re-fix to current standards at a price of £368.

**5.3 Parish Paths Partnership**

An email has been received from Roy Smeeton re the establishment of a new Parish Paths Partnership group.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To inform the Parish Paths Partnership that Cllr. Norman Dunn would like to be a representative on that group.**

#### **5.4 Farmers' Market**

A letter has been received from Brian Mutch, Church Warden re the parking on the Church Turning Circle during the Christmas Farmers' Market.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**The Clerk to respond confirming that the Town Council will look to address this with the new Farmers' Market Coordinator**

#### **6. Flooding: Station Road Playing Field**

The Clerk informed Members that a local resident of Station Road had visited the Council Offices regarding and expressing great concern about flooding into the garden of the property. Councillors had been asked to have a look at the area.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To write to the resident explaining that the council has not got the financial resources to undertake major drainage works in the field**

#### **7. Bloom Seminar**

Cllr. Ian Sutherland reported to Members that they had received an invitation to attend a national competition bloom seminar in York in January at a cost of £20 per person.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**Cllr. Ian Sutherland and Angela Simpson to attend**

#### **8. Cemetery Footpaths**

The Clerk informed Members that DCC had intended to carry out the footpath repairs the previous week but this has now been delayed. In addition the Chairman, Cllr. Ian Sutherland said that there were some concerns about the tenant Mr. Paul Wilkinson driving over the grassed area in front of the Cemetery Lodge. It was pointed out that the tenant should ensure that all areas are kept to a standard and that it is his responsibility to ensure this is the case.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

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