

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the **JANUARY
MONTHLY MEETING** of the **Council** held at **7 p.m.** in
the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre,
Sedgefield, on **Monday 14th January, 2008.**

Present **Cllr. Dudley Waters (Chairman)**

Cllrs. A. Blakemore, D. Brown, N. Dunn, M. Robinson, J. Robinson, I.
Sutherland, S. Sutherland

Officer L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. T. Jeanes, J. Wayman, R. Taylor, M. Garrod, S. Hannan

2. Declaration of interest

Cllrs. D. Brown, J. Robinson - Planning

3. Police Report

The Chairman Cllr Dudley Waters welcomed Sgt Brian O'Connor who proceeded to give the Police report and answer all questions.

He was thanked for attending by the Chairman.

4. Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held Monday 10th December 2007

These were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair. (IS, SS)

Minutes of the P&R committee held Monday 10th December 2007

These were confirmed as a correct record (DW, IS)

Minutes of the Environment meeting held Monday 10th December 2007

These were confirmed as a correct record (IS, SS)

Minutes of the Community Development meeting held Monday 10th December 2007

These were confirmed as a correct record (IS, DW)

Minutes of the Special Precept Meeting held Wednesday 9th January 2008

These were confirmed as a correct record (IS, DW)

a) Precept 08/09

Discussion took place regarding the estimates for 08/09 and the recommendations made at the special meeting.

RESOLVED

To confirm the decision / to amend the decision taken at the Special Meeting and to levy a precept of 218,000 on Sedgfield Borough Council. This represents a 2.8% increase in regard of the Parish Hall Refurbishment plus a 2.1% inflation increase.

Taking into account the expected contribution from the new development in Sedgfield this will result in an overall increase of 2.99% on the existing council tax.

This was a unanimous decision.

b) Policing Priorities

The Clerk reported that she had received one response following the circulation of the email from CDALC re the above.

The Police priorities therefore have been listed as: -

1. Make our communities safer through effective Neighbourhood Policing and tackling anti social behaviour, working in partnership with other agencies.
2. Provide an effective citizen focused approach to our service delivery which is responsive to the needs of the individual, ensuring that we engage with the diverse communities within County Durham and Darlington.
3. Reduce the harm caused to our communities by organised crime groups.

RESOLVED

To accept all of the minutes as above and recommendations contained therein.

5. Matters of Information

There were no matters of information.

6. Dates of Meetings

The dates of the meeting for the following month had been circulated.

The Clerk said she was unable to attend the February Monthly/P&R meetings and suggested that the Community Development Officer could "deputize".

This was agreed.

RESOLVED

- i) **To receive the dates as circulated**
- ii) **The Community Development Officer to Clerk the February Monthly Meeting**

7. Other Reports

7.1 Parish Hall

The Clerk reported that work is now well underway with the refurbishment.

- a) The exterior works are now awaiting works to the front windows and roof lights – it is hoped that these will be completed in the near future.
- b) The acoustic wall has now begun and this is being carried out in conjunction with other works to the ceilings, floors etc.
- c) The PWLB have now transferred the £93,000 – interest rate slightly less than previously reported.

Members were reminded that the weekly Thursday morning meetings continue when full details / discussions take place. All Members are welcome to attend this.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

7.2 BSF Paper

The Clerk reported that she had not prepared a BSF paper as a meeting had been called at the Community College the previous week. The meeting was attended by Cllr Dudley Waters, Sue Hannan and the Clerk. A verbal report was then given by the Chairman and the Clerk.

RESOLVED

- i) **To receive the information**
- ii) **The Clerk to forward contact details of Residents Forum, Town Council and Community Association to the Community College**

7.3 Residents' Forum Minutes

These had been emailed to all Members.

RESOLVED

To receive the minutes

7.4 Community Toilets

The Clerk had prepared and circulated a report re the Community Toilet scheme in Richmond.

RESOLVED

To move this to the Community Development Committee

8. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman, Councillor Dudley Waters gave a brief report and said he had attended the following: -

Various carol services

Charity Evenings at Newton Aycliffe, Spennymoor and Ferryhill.

He confirmed he as Mayor has been invited as referee with various lottery bids and he gave a brief report on these.

He thanked Cllr Robinson for organizing the quiz on 4th February at the Racecourse. The Civic Dinner and Dance is to be held on 7th March at the Hardwick Hall Hotel and the 22nd February is the Masonaires Night at Ceddesfeld Hall.

9. Correspondence

9.1 SBC Community Safety Partnership: Minutes of Executive Working Group: 19th Nov 2007

The Clerk had circulated information re the above.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

9.2 Electrolux: Spennymoor

The Clerk had circulated a letter from Spennymoor Town Council re the closure of Electrolux factory and asking for support from the Town Council to write to the local MP.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

9.3 SBC Transition Plan: Working Towards a County Durham Council

Information and a report had been circulated to all Members.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

9.4 NALC Annual Conference

The Clerk informed Members that the NALC Conference has now been moved from September to mid-week – Tuesday to Thursday 20th – 22nd May in Eastbourne. She reminded Members that normally the council send one representative and if this is the case this should be booked as soon as possible.

RESOLVED

Cllr Maxine Robinson to attend on behalf of the Town Council

9.5 Licensing Information

Information has been received from Sedgefield Borough Council in respect of the Licensing information and the post town anomaly for Sedgefield. However, the Clerk said that more recent lists do indicate Sedgefield as the town within the information.

In addition the Clerk reminded Members that there is a hearing at Sedgefield Borough re the Hardwick license re events and that she is away on holiday on 7th February – the date of the hearing.

RESOLVED

i) To receive the information

ii) A representative from the Town Council to attend

9.6 Youth Council: Mrs. L Dentith

A letter had been received from Mrs. Dentith regarding the election of the new Youth Council and in particular the process not involving children not attending Sedgefield schools.

Cllr. John Robinson gave details of the voting procedures.

There are a further 2 places and procedures are underway to contact other schools outside Sedgefield. The suggested date is 2nd Monday in March. Cllr. Robinson also invited everyone to the Youth Awards.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

9.7 Sports Hall

Cllr. Brown asked about progress with discussions re the outstanding loan on the above.

RESOLVED

The Clerk to confirm a date for a meeting with Stuart Crowe (DCC Treasurer). Cllrs. D. Waters, S. Hannan and the Clerk to attend

9.8 Church Wall

A request has been received from Mr. Bill Todd re works to the wall between the Pottery and the Churchyard, offering work by his workmen whilst the current works are underway.

RESOLVED

- i) **To accept in principle**
- ii) **To write to Zurich with a copy of the letter**

9.9 Green Space Strategy

An invitation has been received from SBC inviting Members to a Consultation Event on Monday 21st January at Ferryhill.

RESOLVED

Cllr. Ian Sutherland to attend

10. Public Participation

The Chair, Cllr. Dudley Waters closed the meeting whilst the public gave their views and comments.

The meeting was then re-opened.

11. Current Planning Applications

The following planning applications were discussed:-

- 1. Proposal: Erection of Conservatory to side, Detached Garage and First Floor Extension to rear**

Location: 35 Cragside, Sedgefield

Applicant: Mr. A. F. Simpson, 35 Cragside, Sedgefield

RESOLVED

No objections

2. Proposal: Erection of Dormer Extension to Front and Rear

Location: 15 Hornby Avenue, Sedgefield

Applicant: Jason Legender, 15 Hornby Avenue, Sedgefield

RESOLVED

No objections

The Chairman, Cllr. Dudley Waters thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.15 p.m.