

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the **FEBRUARY
MONTHLY MEETING** of the **Council** held at **7 p.m.** in
the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre,
Sedgefield, on **Monday 11th February, 2008.**

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

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

Officer Angela Simpson (Community Development Officer)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. T. Jeanes, M. Garrod, S. Hannan, R. Taylor
Lesley Swinbank (Town Clerk)

2. Declaration of interest

Cllrs. D. Brown, J. Robinson - Planning

3. Hardwick License Mr. John Adamson to attend

The Chairman, Cllr. Dudley Waters welcomed Mr. John Adamson, Mr. John Milburn (Manager) and Mr. Martin Dowd (Consultant) from Hardwick Hall.

The Chair informed members that the hearing scheduled for February 7th has been postponed and a mediation meeting is to be held at Ceddesfeld hall on Wed February 20th which he and Cllr. Norman Dunn were attending on behalf of the Town Council.

Mr. Adamson gave details of his proposals in regards of the marquees and licenses for events. They acknowledged concerns of Residents and explained their proposals for future events.

Mr. Adamson answered all questions from members and was thanked for attending by the Chairman.

4. Police Report

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

He was thanked for attending by the Chairman.

5. Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held Monday 14th January 2008

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

Minutes of the P&R committee held Monday 14th January 2008

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

Minutes of the Environment meeting held Monday 21st January 2008

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

Minutes of the Community Development meeting held Monday 21st January 2008

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

RESOLVED

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

6. Matters of Information

There were no matters of information.

7. Dates of Meetings

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

RESOLVED

To receive the dates as circulated

8. Other Reports

7.1 Parish Hall

The Community Development Officer gave a verbal report on progress with the refurbishment of the Parish Hall:-

- ❖ The acoustic wall is now completed
- ❖ The dry lining is completed – staircase pending electrician to run cables first
- ❖ Works on the kitchen, bar and toilets proceeding – bar design – still to be agreed
- ❖ Front windows sash to be removed and repaired on site
- ❖ Carpets and stage curtain order to be placed
- ❖ Suspended ceiling installed this week in main hall
- ❖ Lighting of hall to follow
- ❖ Final Decoration to commence week commencing 29th February
- ❖ Asbestos survey now received and forwarded to Health and Safety
- ❖ Central heating radiators now installed

There have been some minor problems re Health and safety but these have been resolved however this has resulted in the work now being 2 weeks behind schedule.

(A detailed update is e mailed to all members each week.)

A letter has been received from Sedgefield Players for specific items. Cllr. D. Brown suggested he would consider providing funds from his SBC fund.

Cllr. J. Robinson said that the Residents' Forum had requested that £40,000 be used to off-set the Town Council debt. The Clerk had already signed to receive £93,000 loan and this cannot be rescinded.

This to be discussed at next week's meeting.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

8.2 Casual Vacancy

The Clerk had prepared and circulated a report giving members information as to the situation re declaring a casual vacancy to fill the seat vacated by Cllr. Jim Wayman.

The Chairman reported that the Notice has been posted and there is now just over a week to see if an election is requested. Otherwise the Town Council can co-opt a member at the next monthly meeting. Otherwise an election could be called on May 1st.

RESOLVED

i) To receive the information

ii) To affirm the Clerk's actions in posting the Notice on Feb 6th

8.3 Planning Portal

The Clerk had circulated a report on the Planning Portal meeting which she attended on Wednesday January 30th at County Hall.

Cllr. J. Robinson informed Members that Bolam's have won the appeal for the incinerator

RESOLVED

To receive the information.

8.4 Dates for Annual Meeting

The Clerk had prepared and circulated a report re the Dates for the Annual Meeting.

There are two possibilities.

RESOLVED

The Annual Meeting to be held on Monday 12th May with the Monthly meeting the following Monday on 19th May with the Environment and the Community Development committee meetings.

9. Chairman's Announcements

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

- Cllr. Jim Wayman's funeral
- Youth Council – 11 young people – meeting every month with Sedgefield Town Council prior to monthly meeting
- Marie Curie Open Day
- Squash lottery bid successful £10,000

Cllr Waters reminded Members of the forthcoming Masonaires Concert and the Dinner Dance

10. Correspondence

10.1 Devolved Services when Unitary Council (CDALC)

The Clerk had circulated information re the above and requesting members to identify services functions which may be devolved from the new unitary authority.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

10.2 Footpath at Sedgefield Primary School

The Clerk had circulated a letter from Audrey Christie (Senior Rights of Way Officer at DCC) informing members that they feel a sensible compromise has now been reached and that the Council's request that the footpath be recorded on the definitive map is not a priority.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

10.3 School Governors Sedgefield Primary School

A response to the town council's letter requesting clarification on the Community Governor situation at Sedgefield primary School has been received from DCC.

Mr. John Hannon was appointed as such in October 2003 – however the Governors have not agreed as to whether to opt back to the Town Council as and when Mr. Hannon relinquishes his position as Governor.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

10.4 Parish Council: County Durham Economic Strategy Consultation

Information has been received re the above and requesting members read the Executive summary and strategy.

RESOLVED

To receive the information.

10.5 Advice on Publicity – re election

Information re the Code of Recommended Practice on local authority Publicity prior to an election has been received.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

10.6 Durham Association News

The CDALC Newsletter had been circulated.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

10.7 Sedgefield District Local Council's committee

A copy of the letter from Sedgefield District Local Council's Committee to SBC had been circulated for information.

RESOLVED

- i) **To receive the information**
- ii) **To await the response from SBC**

10.8 Hardwick Hall Hotel Licensing Act (SBC)

Information re the above and mediation meeting had been circulated.

RESOLVED

- i) **To receive the information**
- ii) **Cllrs. Dudley Waters and Norman Dunn to attend on behalf of the Town Council**

10.9 Extension to Potters Shop: Durham Diocesan Registry – Move to P&R

10.10 Licensing Private Vehicles: SBC

Information has been received from Jane Gilliaed (SBC Licensing) re legislation affecting taxis.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

10.11 Legal Briefing: NALC

Information has been received re the New Model Publication scheme – amendments/suggestions are requested by 14th February.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

10.12 County Durham & Darlington PCT Operational Plan

Information has been received from the Durham and Darlington PCTs.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

11. Public Participation

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

The meeting was then re-opened.

12. North End Crossing

Cllr. John Robinson informed members of the current situation re the proposed crossing on North End.

Due to objection from the Black Lion it has been necessary for DCC to re-consider this at committee.

Cllr. John Robinson answered bollard query. Director has decided decision has not to go back to committee. Crossing will be moved so that deliveries are not to cause problems.

RESOLVED

- i) To receive the information**
- ii) DCC have confirmed via Cllr. J. Robinson that the crossing will be moved so that deliveries are not to cause problems**

13. Re-organisation for New Unitary

Cllr. John Robinson gave an update on progress.

14. Current Planning Applications

The schedule of the current planning applications had been circulated.

RESOLVED

The comments as attached have been forwarded to SBC.

The Chairman, Cllr. Dudley Waters thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30pm