

# **SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the proceedings of the **MARCH MONTHLY MEETING** of the **Council** held at **7 p.m.** in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2008.**

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

Cllrs. A. Blakemore, D. Brown, H. Clifford-Brown, N. Dunn, L. Goddard, S. Hannan, M. Robinson, J. Robinson, I. Sutherland, S. Sutherland, R. Taylor

**Officer**                    Lesley Swinbank (Town Clerk)

**1.    Apologies**

Cllrs. T. Jeanes, M. Garrod

**2.    Declaration of interest**

Cllrs. D. Brown, J. Robinson - Planning

**3.    Police Report**

The Chairman Cllr Dudley Waters welcomed PC Keith Todd who proceeded to give the Police report and answered all questions.

He was thanked for attending by the Chairman.

**4.    Minutes and Reports**

**4.1    Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

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

**4.2    Minutes of the P&R committee held Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

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

**4.3    Minutes of the Environment meeting held Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

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

**Church Wall**

Cllr. Maxine Robinson raised the issue of the responsibility of the Church Wall. It had been reported at the Civic Trust meeting that a license had been granted from the Diocese to Mr. Todd re the extension to the Pottery and at a cost of £1 a year to the Church. Members expressed their concern that it would appear that the Town Council is being held responsible for maintenance, repairs etc of the Church Wall when the Diocese is taken decisions as above.

**RESOLVED**

**To write to the Diocese expressing this concern and suggesting that the responsibility of the Church Wall be returned to the Church and Diocese**

**4.4 Minutes of the Community Development meeting held Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

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

**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.

It was pointed out that whilst a site meeting has been arranged for Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March before Environment committee the evenings may still be too dark, it was therefore agreed to postpone this meeting until before the April Environment committee.

The Clerk reminded Members of the visit to the Monitoring Centre on Wednesday evening.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the dates as circulated**

**7. Other Reports**

**7.1 Parish Hall**

The Clerk gave a detailed verbal report on progress with the Parish Hall. In particular: -

**a) Asbestos**

Following further contact with HSE a meeting had been arranged with Chirmarn's and the principle contractor to talk about asbestos issues in the Parish Hall. As a result Chirmarn's carried out a type 3 survey on selected areas in the Hall and the results of this are awaited.

**b) New Chairs**

The Clerk said it had been suggested new chairs to compliment the new colour scheme are obtained and that these could be part of the fundraising i.e. sponsor of chair.

**c) Heating**

All the radiators are now in place and the boiler is awaited.

**d) *Suspended Ceilings***

The suspended ceilings are now in place together with the integrated lighting

**e) *Bar, Toilets, Kitchen***

The bar, toilets and kitchen are well under way and these should be completed in the very near future.

The Clerk reminded Members that a detailed list with costings is circulated each week.

**RESOLVED**

- i) To obtain an example of the proposed chairs for Members to see at the Environment committee meeting**
- ii) The Clerk to work with Cllr. David Brown to obtain funding for stage facility/curtains through the Neighbourhood Enhancement Fund**
- iii) The Clerk to arrange a date when all Members of the Town Council can view the building before it is opened officially**

**7.2 Sedgefield 700 Group**

A report had been circulated giving details of events etc.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

**7.3 Area 3**

Cllr. John Robinson gave a brief verbal report on the meeting which he, Cllr. Maxine Robinson, David Brown and Dudley Waters together with the Clerk attended at Fishburn. He said that the meeting had been very short but had included proposals for schemes at Fishburn and Trimdon.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

**7.4 Ceddesfeld Hall**

The Clerk had circulated a report on the meeting which she held with the Vice-Chairman Mrs. Pat Buckley-Atkins to discuss future works to the Hall. It was pointed out that SCA would ensure that the Town Council are kept fully updated on all progress. In addition the Clerk said she had written to SCA stressing the need for an asbestos type 2 survey on the building as soon as possible in line with statutory regulations.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

**7.5 CDALC Exec**

Cllr. Maxine Robinson reported on the meeting which she and the Town Clerk attended at Seaham. In particular it had been suggested to the Durham Association that they meet monthly in

light of the unitary re-organization.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

**7.6 SBC Local Panel**

Cllr. John Robinson reported on the meeting which he, the Chairman Cllr. Dudley Waters and the Clerk attended at Chilton. In particular Members were informed that this committee has written to CLG re Mayor of Sedgefield Borough being retained and the Clerk confirmed she had also contacted the CLG objecting to the same.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

**8. Chairman's Announcements**

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

Durham City

Great Aycliffe

Stockton Borough

Chilton

Northumbria in Bloom Inaugural meeting

Mediation Panel re the Hardwick Hall License

In addition he had visited the Marie Curie Hospital in Newcastle, the Sedgefield Twinning AGM and the Hardwick Hall Dinner Dance and also the Masonaires Night.

In addition he, Cllr. Tim Jeanes and the Clerk had met with possible contractors for BSF at the Community College.

**9. Correspondence**

**9.1 Parish Planning Event agenda (DRCC)**

Information on the forthcoming Parish Planning event which has been organized by DRCC for Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April has been received.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

**9.2 Tees Valley Joint Minerals & Waste Development Plan Documents**

Information from Tees Valley re the above had been received.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

**9.3 North East Regional Spatial Strategy**

Information re the above had been received.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

**9.4 Ukraine Charity Fund “Leleka”**

Information has been received from the above.

**RESOLVED**

**To forward this to Sedgefield News to advertise for host families**

**9.5 Holiday Park: Residents’ Forum**

A letter has been received from the Residents’ Forum suggesting that the Town Council work with the Residents’ Forum towards producing a submission for the Public Enquiry re the Holiday Park.

**RESOLVED**

**The Clerk to work with the Residents’ Forum and Sedgefield Borough Council to coordinate a joint meeting to discuss how the Town Council together with SBC and the Residents’ Forum are pulling this together**

**9.6 Water Pressure: Northumbrian Water**

A letter from Northumbrian Water Authority has been received indicating that they feel there is no problem with the water pressure in Sedgefield.

**RESOLVED**

- i) **To receive the information**
- ii) **To write back officially disagreeing with the points made in the letter and to keep this on file in order that any future complaints can be passed on to NWA**

**9.7 CAB Board of Trustees: Nominee**

A letter has been received from Citizens Advice inviting the Town Council to nominate a trustee to replace Cllr. Jim Wayman.

**RESOLVED**

**To consider this at the Annual Meeting in May**

**9.8 Old Sewerage Works: SBC**

A letter has been received from SBC confirming that the development works at the old Sewerage Works is for stables and not a dwelling.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

**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. Cooption of Town Councillor**

The Clerk had circulated a detailed report re the statutory position for co-opting a Town Councillor in light of no-one requesting an election and in addition explained that the Notice for the Casual Vacancy had been posted on the Council notice board in front of the Library for three weeks. Subsequently no-one had asked for an election therefore the Town Council are statutory obliged to co-opt.

Cllr. David Brown suggested that the co-option be delayed as a matter of respect to Cllr. Wayman.

**RESOLVED**

**i) To co-opt a new Member of the Town Council at the meeting**

Following the resolution as above the Town Council discussed who should be co-opted.

**RESOLVED**

**To co-opt Mrs. May Brown onto the Town Council**

ii) It was then pointed out that Cllr. Garrod was approaching the time limit for disqualification due to non-attendance over the past six months.

**RESOLVED**

**The Town Clerk and Chairman to contact Cllr. Garrod with this information**

**12. Planning Appeal Holiday Park**

This had been discussed earlier.

**13. Current Planning Applications**

The schedule of the current planning applications had been circulated.

**RESOLVED**

**The comments as attached have been forwarded to SBC**

**14. Parish Hall Refurbishment**

Cllr. John Robinson proposed the Town Council recognize the major contribution from Mort Spalding and Tim Jeanes in the refurbishment of the Hall.

**RESOLVED**

**The Chair and Clerk be given delegated powers to purchase a suitable gift.**

The Chairman, Cllr. Dudley Waters thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.20 pm.