

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 14th March, 2011**

Present **Cllr. A. Blakemore (Chair)**
Cllr. J. Robinson Vice-Chair) and
Cllrs. D. Brown, M. Brown, H. Clifford-Brown, N. Dunn, S. Hannan, T. Jeanes, M. Robinson, I. Sutherland, S. Sutherland, D. Waters

Officer L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. P. Bodo, S. Green
Sgt B. O'Connor

2. Declaration of interest

None

3. Police Report

No Police report was given. However, Cllr. Dudley Waters informed Members that someone has now been caught for the lead thefts.

In addition Cllr. David Brown gave details of a Police warning notice given on Queens Drive. Cllr. Sue Hannan also gave details of a broken window during the ball game.

4. Minutes and Reports

4.1 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held Monday 14th February 2011

These were confirmed as a correct record. (JR, MR)

4.2 Minutes of the P&R committee held Monday 14th February 2011

These were confirmed as a correct record. (JR, MB)

4.3 Minutes of the Environment committee meeting held Monday 21st February 2011

These were confirmed as a correct record. (ND, MB)

4.4 Minutes of the Community Development committee meeting held Monday 21st February 2011

These were confirmed as a correct record. (MR, ND)

RESOLVED: To accept all of the minutes as above and recommendations contained

therein

5. Matters of Information

5.1 Section 106 Monies – Cunningham Court

The Clerk reported on the meeting she had attended at County Hall with Cllr. John Robinson together with Mr. Stephen Reed (Head of Planning, DCC) and Officers from the Landscape section. DCC have confirmed that they continue to resolve the issue of the outstanding amount.

5.2 Practice Manager

The Clerk confirmed that the Practice Manager Helen Letts has been invited to the meeting in June.

5.3 AAP

The Clerk confirmed that she had invited Jane Bellis and Colin Steel to the March Community Development but that she had not received confirmation.

Members agreed that it was important to meet with Mr. Steel and Miss Bellis particularly in regard of the Cycle Way project.

6. Dates of Meetings

These had been circulated.

The Chairman, Cllr. Allan Blakemore informed Members that Sedgefield Has Talent scheduled for 1st April has now been cancelled due to lack of support in buying the tickets.

7. Other Reports

7.1 Local Council Clerks

The report on the meeting that the Clerk had attended had been circulated.

RESOLVED

To accept the recommendations as per the report: -

a) Energy Performance certificates

To take no further action

b) AAP Local Councils committee

Consensus that most of the local committees have a general lack of interest

c) Published Accounts over £500

Agreed that the general consensus that this will be necessary and indeed welcomed. The Clerk informed Members that she had spoken to the computer software company and they will include this within the package.

d) Dog Bags

Great Aycliffe have agreed to bulk purchase for all interested

7.2 Meeting Re CCTV

The Clerk had circulated a letter from Christopher Simmons (DCC Solicitor) re the charges levied for the provision of the monitoring and maintenance of Closed Circuit Television Cameras. The letter indicates that Sedgefield as well as the other town councils of the old borough area should pay for the cost as soon as possible.

As a result of receiving the letter a meeting had been called at Spennymoor Town Council the previous week which Cllr. John Robinson and the Clerk had attended together with Aycliffe and Shildon. At that time all agreed that CCTV was an issue that must be addressed as in addition to the other outstanding double taxation services and that payment will be withheld in the meantime. It was agreed at that meeting that Spennymoor Town Council would coordinate a suitable response on behalf of all concerned and this would be sent to DCC once that had been discussed and agreed by all the relevant town and parish councils.

RESOLVED

- i) To receive the information**
- ii) To await the letter from Spennymoor Town Council (A holding acknowledgement to DCC has been sent)**

8. Chair's Announcements

The Chair, Cllr. Allan Blakemore reported that he had attended: -

- a) 18th February Great Aycliffe Town Council Civic Dinner
- b) 4th March Hardwick Hall, Sedgefield Town Council Dance
- c) 11th March – Town Council Event at Chilton

9. Correspondence

9.1 NALC E Bulletin

This had been circulated.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

10. Public Participation

The Chair, Cllr. Allan Blakemore closed the meeting whilst the public gave their views and comments.

The meeting was then re-opened.

11. Current Planning Applications Schedule

A schedule of the current planning applications had been circulated.

RESOLVED

The comments are as attached and are to be forwarded to DCC.

Following the last meeting when Cllr. Brown raised the issue of Sedgefield Town Council's comments not been included in a DCC planning report to Members, the Clerk confirmed that the comments from Sedgefield Town Council had been forwarded to DCC and that she had written a letter questioning why they weren't printed.

12. Residents' Forum – Request for Information

A request for information had been received and was agreed by Members.

RESOLVED

To forward the information as requested

13. Current Consultation Documents

None

14. Parish & Town Councils Sub-committee of the Standards Committee

The Chairman, Cllr. Allan Blakemore welcomed Claire Burrows from Durham County Council. Mrs. Burrows gave a brief presentation on the new proposals by central government to abolish the Standards Boards and Code of Conduct. This will also result in the cessation of the Monitoring Officer at DCC. The Registration of Interests will remain. Mrs. Burrows answered all questions from Members and was thanked for attending by the Chairman.

15. Dates of Meetings

RESOLVED

It was confirmed that the Annual Town Meeting will be Tuesday 3rd May and the Annual Meeting will be Monday 9th May.

16. Veterans

Cllr. John Robinson asked that a letter be sent by the Town Council thanking them for their work and time in Sedgefield.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8 pm.