

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the **SEPTEMBER
MONTHLY MEETING** of the **Council** held at **7 p.m.** in the
Council Offices, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield,
on **Monday 12th September, 2011**

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

Officer L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllr. D. Waters

2. Declaration of interest

None

3. Police Report

The Chairman, Cllr. Allan Blakemore welcomed Sgt. Brian O'Connor who proceeded to give the Police report. Sgt. O'Connor then answered all questions from Members. The Chairman thanked Sgt. O'Connor who then left the meeting.

4. Minutes and Reports

4.1 Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held Monday 11th July 2011

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

4.2 Minutes of the P&R committee held Monday 11th July 2011

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

4.3 Minutes of the Environment committee meeting held Monday 18th July 2011

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

4.4 Minutes of the Community Development committee meeting held Monday 18th July 2011

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

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

5. Matters of Information

5.1 Anti Social Behaviour

A copy of the letter which had been circulated to Residents at Winterton Park – as discussed at the July meeting had been circulated. Concern was expressed about both the tone and the contents of the letter.

RESOLVED

- i) To write to Mr. J. Bennett (DCC) seeking clarification on why letters were sent and express concern that DCC had indicated that the letter had first of all been cleared by the Town Clerk – who had no knowledge of the letter at all until brought to the previous meeting.**
- ii) To invite residents to a meeting once this information has been received to discuss the situation**

5.2 Section 106 Monies

DCC have purchased land adjacent to Cunningham Court in respect of the 106 monies from the adjacent development.

6. Dates of Meetings

These had been circulated.

The Clerk stressed the importance of the Together events on September 19th and 26th.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

7. Other Reports

7.1 Larger Local Councils Forum Meeting May 2011

Minutes of the meeting held at Ceddesfeld Hall had been circulated.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

7.2 AAP Draft Minutes: 6th July 2011

The draft minutes as above had been circulated. Cllr. Sue Hannan informed Members she had resigned from the Board.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

The Clerk informed Members that the report re the review on the AAP is available.

7.3 Wind Farm meeting with EON 18th August

Minutes of the meeting held August 18th had been circulated and Cllr. John Robinson gave a verbal report. The follow up meeting is Friday morning. The meeting agreed to submit a

resolution re Wind Farms to the County Durham Association of Local Councils AGM.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

7.4 Wind Farm

Information / advice has been received from a variety of sources regarding incurring costs for legal advice re the above.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

7.5 CCTV

The Chairman, Cllr. Allan Blakemore reported on the meeting which he and the Clerk attended the previous week at County Hall with Officers from DCC.

The proposal put forward at that time was that DCC would take over control of the strategic cameras in the county (and backdated from April 1st 2009) whilst Town and Parish Councils would pay for the service for the remainder.

RESOLVED

To support this in principle but await the confirmation and paperwork from DCC.

7.6 Sedgfield Together Community Partnership

Minutes of the meeting on September 5th were circulated.

8. Chair's Announcements

The Chairman, Cllr. Allan Blakemore reported that he had attended the following: -

- a) 14th June – STC Tub Planting
- b) 23rd July – Twinning BBQ
- c) 24th July – Great Aycliffe Town Council Civic Service
- d) 28th July – Peterlee Town Council "Mayor at Home"
- e) 7th August – Bishop Auckland Town Council "Mayor at Home"
- f) 13th August – Sedgfield Show
- g) 14th August – VJ Day at St. Edmund's Church – Sedgfield Village Veterans
- h) 27th August – Twinning Concert in Parish Hall
- i) 28th August – German Choir Sedgfield Church Service
- j) 31st August – Installation of Supt. Minister Crook Methodists
- k) 3rd September – Sedgfield Folk Festival – Ceddesfeld Hall

9. Correspondence

9.1 East Durham Rural Corridor AAP Forum – 6th July 2011

Information had been received.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

9.2 Jubilee Beacons 4 June 2012

Information had been circulated.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

9.3 The Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2011 - 2014

This had been circulated.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

9.4 Legal Services: Nicholas Hancox Solicitors

A quotation for legal work has been received.

The Clerk informed members that NALC had been very efficient (and at no charge) to the recent query. In addition Mr. Dennis Hall (former SBC solicitor) had responded to say he was unable to take on any work at this time)

RESOLVED

To take no further action on this

9.5 Proposal to empower local councils: Leiston-cum-Sizewell

Information had been circulated. It was pointed out that NALC should be the body consulting etc. on all policy.

RESOLVED

To take no action

9.6 Social Policy Newsletter: CAB

The above had been circulated.

RESOLVED

To receive the information.

9.7 Foodstore: Salters Lane Industrial Estate: Lexington Communications

The Clerk informed Members of the Meeting with the above is 6pm on Monday 26th September. Some discussion took place regarding the development of a store in Sedgefield; however it was pointed out that this will be part of the consultation event the following week and that Members should await the planning application to make their views known.

RESOLVED

To await the planning application and discuss at that time

9.8 Outside Council Offices: Police

The Police have confirmed they will watch out for problems outside the Council Offices.

RESOLVED

To receive the information.

9.9 Durham Association News

The CDALC newsletter had been circulated.

RESOLVED

To receive the information.

9.10 County Durham LINK AGM

RRESOLVED

To receive the information.

9.11 NALC: E-bulletin

RESOLVED

To receive the information.

9.12 Variation to License: Sedgefield Racecourse: Mr. K. Wells

A letter had been received regarding the change in the entertainment license for the racecourse.

County Councillors David Brown and John Robinson gave further details of the application.

RESOLVED

The Town Council to object to the variation on the license and ask that the license retain the status quo. In the event of individual events requiring different conditions then these should be discussed on an individual basis.

9.13 Support for Ferryhill Leisure Centre: Ferryhill Town Council

A letter has been received from Ferryhill Town Council seeking financial support in retaining their leisure centre.

RESOLVED

To respond to Ferryhill Town Council giving support in principle but unfortunately the Town Council are unable to help financially whilst already paying for a sports hall at the Community College.

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

A schedule of the current planning applications had been circulated.

RESOLVED

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

11.1 E-ON: Wind Farm – The Isles

Members discussed the information and consultation events which had been held by E-ON in regard of the proposed large Wind Farm for the Isles at Bradbury / Mordon.

Great concern was expressed about the size and the cumulative effect of such a development at this site particularly when Sedgefield already has reached saturation point in the number of Wind Turbines in the immediate area.

RESOLVED

To write these views to E-ON with a copy to the IPC

11.2 Wind Turbines – Spring Lane/Foxton Lane

Cllr. John Robinson expressed concerns on behalf of the Residents of Spring Lane who are objecting to the Wind Turbines on Foxton Lane.

RESOLVED

To allow the Residents opposing the Wind Farm on Foxton Lane to publish the Town Council letter of objection to this development.

12. Residents' Forum – Request for Information

No request has been received – however concerns were expressed about incorrect statements made within the Forum's minutes.

RESOLVED

To respond via the Residents' Forum network making the following points:-

- a) The Town Council has not supported the additional 350 houses as per the Co. Durham Plan. The consultation event on this has been arranged by Sedgefield Together Community Partnership Event on Monday 19th November.**
- b) The Sedgefield Parliamentary Constituency will become Sedgefield and Yarm Constituency**
- c) Cllr. Sue Hannan (Chairman of the Sedgefield Together Partnership) informed Members that a verbal response to the letter written by the Residents' Forum to the Sedgefield Together Group in April had been given by Cllr. Allan Blakemore when he attended the meeting on 5th September.**

13. Current Consultation Documents: -

13.1 [SLCC Larger] Business rate consultation

Information had been received.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.20 pm.