

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY & RESOURCES

Minutes of the proceedings of the **JANUARY POLICY & RESOURCES** of the **Council** held in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Monday 14th January, 2008**.

Present **Cllr. David Brown (Chairman)**

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

Officer L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

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

2. Declaration of interest

7.1 Ceddesfeld Hall Lease: Cllrs. J. Robinson, M. Robinson, D. Waters

3. Matters of Information

These are all included in the meeting.

4. Reports

4.1 Way leaves / access over village green

The Clerk had circulated a report re the above. The County Solicitor has advised that it is no longer possible to initiate a new charge for rights of access which have been allowed / occurred in the past. In addition many of the deeds of easement do not allow for an increase in the cost – as advised by Mr. Dennis Hall Borough Solicitor and Dickenson Dees.

In the circumstances it would appear to be sensible to review the overall charges on way leaves and for Members to agree a suitable charge under which way leaves will no longer be charged.

RESOLVED

- i) To receive the information**
- ii) To charge way leaves in future only above £50 per year**
- iii) To thank Alison Hodgson and the History Society re the village green audit but to take no further action**

4.2 Sedgefield Together

A detailed report on the meeting held Monday 12th November had been circulated. In addition the Clerk had prepared a draft constitution which includes membership etc.

Cllr. S. Hannan suggested a further meeting to finalize details.

RESOLVED

- i) **To accept the report and constitution in principle**
- ii) **To hold a further meeting to finalize details**

4.3 Progress Parish Hall

As per Monthly meeting.

5. Financial Matters

5.1 Monthly Accounts

The Clerk informed Members that there has been a major problem with the server and network files which Brian Whitehead has been working to overcome.

As a result there have been delays in getting print outs from that information which was held on the server.

The monthly accounts have been printed and were circulated at the meeting.

RESOLVED

The Monthly accounts as circulated on the evening were approved for payment.

5.2 Donations / Grants

5.2.1 Walking Way to Health

A request for funding has been received from SBC

RESOLVED

To give a £50 donation to the Walking Way to Health Initiative

5.3 Mid-Term Financial Plan

The Clerk had been asked to prepare a mid-term financial plan. However, the Clerk suggested that Members consider and agree the 2008/09 precept in order that the capital projects for the forthcoming year(s) is known before this can be completed.

Cllr. John Robinson said he would forward a template to be used.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

6. Training

6.1 Planning

The information has been received re a DCC training event on Wednesday 30th January – this is a free event and the Clerk has booked a place for herself. In addition the Clerk informed Members that DCC has now organized a similar training event re village greens and that she has also booked a place to attend.

RESOLVED

The Clerk to attend

6.2 Risk Management Course

The Clerk had circulated Members with details to attend this CTP event on Thursday 7th February. The Clerk said unfortunately she is unable to attend as she is on holiday, but Cllr. Maxine Robinson has indicated she would be willing to stand in.

RESOLVED

- i) To receive the above information**
- ii) Cllr. Maxine Robinson to attend**

7. Correspondence

7.1 Crass & Co – Ceddesfeld Hall: To affirm lease

The Clerk circulated the draft lease between the Town Council and the SCA.

RESOLVED

To approve the lease with amendment as agreed

7.2 Code of Conduct

The Clerk had circulated an email from the Borough Solicitor advising all members of their responsibilities to review their own entries in the registers of interests and gifts.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

8. Honours Board

Cllr. Dudley Waters informed Members that Rotary have suggested that they would like to provide a new Honours Board for the Parish Hall to recognize the Citizens of the Year.

RESOLVED

To accept the offer from Rotary

Cllr. John Robinson also said there is funding for County and Borough Councillors.

RESOLVED

To await information

9. Parish Hall: Asbestos

Cllr. John Robinson raised the issue of asbestos within the Parish Hall. The Clerk to look into this.

RESOLVED

This to be discussed by the Parish Hall Working Group which meets on a Thursday morning

10. Staffing Review

Cllr. John Robinson said he had been asked about staffing provision.

RESOLVED

The Clerk to circulate an updated review and subsequently arrange a meeting with Chairs / Vice Chairs

11. Planning Meeting

THIS WAS DISCUSSED UNDER EXEMPT INFORMATION

Discussion took place on the recent planning meeting and use of the Consultant.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15 p.m.