

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY & RESOURCES

Minutes of the proceedings of the **OCTOBER POLICY & RESOURCES**
of the **Council** held following the Monthly meeting in the
Council Offices, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on
Monday 13th October 2008.

Present **Cllr. John Robinson (Chairman) and**

Cllrs. S. Sutherland, L. Goddard, I. Sutherland, M. Brown, N. Dunn, M.
Robinson, A. Blakemore

Officer L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. D. Brown, T. Jeanes, D. Waters, M. Garrood, H. Clifford-Brown, S. Hannan, R. Taylor

2. Declaration of interest

Cllrs. J. Robinson, M. Robinson – Item 10 – Ceddesfeld Hall

3. Matters of Information

All covered by the agenda

4. Reports

4.1 Land Front Street

Cllr. John Robinson said that a meeting has been arranged for 24th October in the Council Offices at 1 pm with Cllr. David Brown and Officers from DCC to discuss the Members monies for local projects. He said that at present there are three suggestions: -

- a) The cobbles outside St. Edmund's Church
- b) An island Rectory Row
- c) Land on Front Street near the Chinese Takeaway

RESOLVED

To receive the information

5. Financial Matters

5.1 Monthly Accounts

RESOLVED

The monthly accounts as had been circulated were approved for payment

5.2 Half-year estimates/budget

The Clerk had circulated the estimates/budget 2008/2009.

RESOLVED

To receive the information

5.3 Preliminary budget 2009/10

The Clerk had circulated details of preliminary budget 2009/10 as a basis for further discussions.

RESOLVED

The Environment and Community Development committees to discuss their budgets at their next meeting the following week and the overall budget etc. to be discussed in detail at the P&R committee in November

5.4 Donations / Grants:

Requests for donations had been received from the following: -

5.4.1 League of Friends: Community Hospital

RESOLVED

To give a donation of £50

5.4.2 Sedgefield Springers

RESOLVED

Not to give a donation at this time

5.4.3 St. Edmund's Church

RESOLVED

To give a donation of £50

These donations are being given using Section 137

6. Training

6.1 Larger Local Councils Conference

Cllr. John Robinson and the Clerk to attend the Large Local Councils Conference in November.

6.2 Chairmanship Course

Cllr. May Brown to attend the Chairmanship Course at County Hall.

6.3 SLCC

The Clerk to attend training for SLCC in November.

(There is not a charge for Sedgefield Town Council for the two events)

7. Parish Hall

A letter has been received from Sedgefield Players expressing their appreciation and financial outlay in the refurbishment of the Parish Hall. The letter included some suggestions to enhance the Hall and these are being addressed by the Council.

In addition the Clerk said a letter had been received from Sedgefield Lyrics which has been circulated to Members at the meeting. This asks for consideration of a grant in the order of £600 plus to cover the costs of staging for the hall primarily to replace the existing staging that used to belong to the Lyrics and was kept under the stage. (Members will recall that this was unable to be kept under the stage once the refurbishment had taken place). It was pointed out that a grant of this amount needs to be an agenda item and that in addition a full set of audited accounts will be required.

RESOLVED

To discuss this at the November meeting and ask the Lyrics to forward a copy of their audited accounts for that time.

8. To adopt the revised publication scheme

The Clerk had circulated information regarding the new model publication scheme.

RESOLVED

Sedgefield Town Council to adopt the revised model publication scheme

9. Fletcher Room (JR)

Cllr. John Robinson suggested this be deferred until November when the final accounts for the refurbishment should be completed.

10. Correspondence

10.1 Request for financial assistance: SCA

Cllr. John Robinson and Maxine Robinson declared an interest. Cllr. John Robinson left the room whilst Cllr. Maxine Robinson sat within the public gallery and took no part in the discussion.

A letter has been received from Mrs. Pat Buckley-Atkins, Chairman of Sedgefield Community Association asking the Town Council to consider a grant of £25,000 towards the capital works for improvements to Ceddesfeld Hall. Members were reminded that Mrs. Pat Buckley-Atkins

had attended the last monthly meeting of the Town Council and given details of the works and the funding applications primarily through the Local Improvement Programme at SBC.

The Town Clerk said there are a number of options which the Town Council can follow: -

- a) To borrow £25,000 and give as a grant to SCA – in which case loan sanction would be necessary and that this would need to be a specific agenda item
- b) To borrow £25,000 as above and give as an interest free loan to SCA
- c) To give a contribution this year and next year from balances without borrowing
- d) To turn down the request

The Clerk stressed that the timescale for this is very tight and suggested a Working Party to meet immediately as soon as possible with SCA to discuss the above.

RESOLVED

- i) To receive the information**
- ii) A Working Party consisting of Councillors May Brown, Allan Blakemore, David Brown, Ian Sutherland, Norman Dunn and Sheila Sutherland to meet with representatives from SCA – the Clerk to draw up the implications for the Town Council budgets and also to coordinate a meeting the following week**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9 p.m.