

# SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

## SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes of the Special meeting of Sedgefield Town Council held at 6.30 pm in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008**.

## MINUTES

### Present

**Cllr. Dudley Waters (Chairman)**

Cllrs. J. Robinson, M. Robinson, H. Clifford-Brown, I. Sutherland, S. Sutherland, M. Brown, D. Brown, T. Jeanes

In attendance J. Spalding (Residents Forum Holiday Park Group)

### Officer

L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

### 1. Apologies

Cllr. M. Garrod, L. Goddard, A. Blakemore, N. Dunn

### 2. Declaration of Interest

None

### 3. Holiday Park

#### 3.1 To discuss the appointment of a Barrister re the above

The Chair, Cllr. Dudley Waters welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that the meeting had been called to discuss the costs involved in the appointment of a Barrister as agreed at the Monthly Meeting the previous week.

The Clerk gave an update on the current situation: -

- a) STC had agreed unanimously to appoint a Barrister to represent the Council and Residents' Forum at the forthcoming appeal
- b) Mr. David Stovell (Planning Consultant) had approached Neil Robson (Ward Hadaway) and the estimated cost is £5,000
- c) The Clerk had informed SBC Planning of the meeting and invited someone to attend
- d) The date of the Appeal has now been changed from 22<sup>nd</sup> July to 8<sup>th</sup> July – in itself a problem as Cllr. John Robinson (SBC Principle Expert Witness) is on holiday
- e) STC has applied for Rule 6 and the meeting was informed that the Statement of Case now needs to be submitted by 25<sup>th</sup> April.
- f) The Clerk had contracted the Planning Inspectorate who confirmed that if costs are awarded then they are between all parties with Rule 6 status. Whilst this is unlikely – the costs of the Planning Consultant and Barrister will be forthcoming

- g) The Planning Inspectorate have indicated the Appeal will last 6 days and a suitable local venue is required.
- h) The Statement of Case from the Residents' Group has been forwarded to David Stacy

Concern was expressed about the possible costs.

**RESOLVED**

- a) **Cllrs. D. Waters, D. Brown, J. Robinson and the Clerk to seek a meeting with Brian Allen (Chief Executive – SBC) and Cllr. Agnes Armstrong (Leader – SBC)**
- b) **If necessary the costs etc be discussed at the Annual Town Meeting in May**
- c) **David Stovell to clarify the date of the Appeal and timetable**
- d) **David Stovell to submit the Statement of Case**
- e) **To arrange another meeting once the above are known/clarified**

**4. Civic regalia**

The Clerk reported on the meeting at SBC with Brian Allen and Cllr. Agnes Armstrong which she attended with Cllrs. Dudley Waters and John Robinson.

SBC have now agreed not to pursue Mayoral Status after re-organisation and as a result have offered STC the Civic Regalia.

**RESOLVED**

**To accept the SBC Regalia and thank SBC**

**5. Trees Beacon Avenue**

This had been deferred from the April Environment committee.

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the additional works to the trees in the Old Cemetery behind Beacon Avenue**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.05 pm.