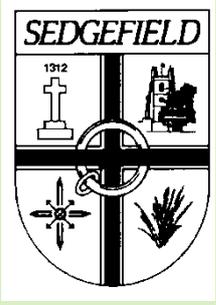


# Annual Report 2014/15



## Sedgefield Town Council



## Welcome to the Town Council's Annual Report 2014/2015

The purpose of this report is to explain how the Town Council has operated during 2014/15, the work it has undertaken during this time and to provide you with an understanding of the Council's envisaged work in the coming financial year.

The publication of this Annual Report will coincide with the Council's Annual Town Meeting which will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 7pm in the Parish Hall. This meeting will be an opportunity for the Council to not only present this Report but also to answer any questions from the public. The Council's annual accounts will also be available at this meeting.

For those who are reading this Report separately from attending the Annual Town Meeting there is still the opportunity for you to raise any questions or concerns with the Council through the 'Public Participation' items on all Council Monthly and Committee meetings throughout the year. Agendas for the Monthly meetings are displayed on the Town Council notice board in front of the library along with the dates to all other meetings. Agendas can be requested from the Council Offices. Alternatively any issue or question can be submitted via the Town Clerk whose contact details appear later in this Report.



Images throughout are courtesy of Mr Geoff Hill

## Sedgefield Town Council:

Sedgefield Town Council serves the town of Sedgefield as well as the hamlet of Thorpe Larches and Winterton Park. The Council comprises of 15 elected Councillors. Each year in May at its Annual General Meeting the Council elects a Chair of the Council and a Mayor. In May 2014 Cllr Chris Lines was elected as Chair of the Council and Cllr Mel Carr as the Mayor.

The Council conducts its business through a Committee system as follows:

Committee:	Meetings Held:
Monthly Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month
Policy & Resources	After Monthly Meeting
Community Development & Engagement	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month
Environment	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month
Personnel	As required
Sedgefield Extra	As required
Community Chest	As required

*(Please note: in some instances dates are changed because of Bank Holidays. No Committee meetings are held in August. An annual meetings calendar is displayed in the Council Offices, Town noticeboard and on the website).*

Details of the work of each of these Committees is contained later in this Report.

Underneath the Committees are a series of Working Groups which undertake research and investigation to propose recommendations for consideration by all Councillors at the relevant Committee. During 2014/15 the Council had Working Groups covering Estates, Open Spaces, Finance, Policy & Records Management and Fireworks.

## How To Contact Sedgfield Town Council:

The Town Council operates from the Advice & Information Centre on Front Street, Sedgfield and is open to the public:

Monday	9am – 4pm
Tuesday	9am – 12pm
Wednesday	9am – 4pm
Thursday	9am – 4pm
Friday	9am – 12pm

Enquiries can also be made via the following:

Post: Advice & Information Centre, Front Street, Sedgfield TS21 3AT

Telephone: 01740 621273 (24 hour answerphone service available)

Email: [town.clerk@sedgfield.net](mailto:town.clerk@sedgfield.net)

We aim to respond within 5 working days to all such enquiries.

The Town Council also operates a residents email database through which we cascade information including planning applications, crime watch etc. If you would like to register with this database please contact [jane@sedgfield.net](mailto:jane@sedgfield.net)



## Sedgefield Town Councillors:

<b>Cllr Allan Blakemore</b> 32 Beacon Avenue, Sedgefield 01740 621820	<b>Cllr David Brown</b> Town Farm House, 3 West End, Sedgefield 01740 622894	<b>Cllr Mark Cant</b> Mordon Moor Farm, Sedgefield 07818 243774
<b>Cllr Vanessa Carmichael</b> 47 Cunningham Court, Sedgefield 07889 219195	<b>Cllr Mel Carr</b> 3 The Square, Sedgefield 01740 629070	<b>Cllr Lynne Dentith</b> 10 West End, Sedgefield 01740 622179
<b>Cllr Rebecca Hagan</b> 7 Harpington View, Mordon 07803 765268	<b>Cllr Tim Jeanes</b> Barrington Lodge, Sedgefield 01740 623456	<b>Cllr Chris Lines</b> 41 White House Drive, Sedgefield 01740 623090
<b>Cllr John Robinson</b> 28 White House Drive, Sedgefield 01740 620042	<b>Cllr Maxine Robinson</b> 28 White House Drive, Sedgefield 01740 620042	<b>Cllr Ian Sutherland</b> 19 Claremont Grove, Sedgefield 01740 622532
<b>Cllr Alf Walton</b> New Dawn, Low Hardwick Farm, Sedgefield 01740 620640	<b>Cllr Dudley Waters</b> 45 The Meadows, Sedgefield 01740 620607	<b>Cllr Gloria Wills</b> Hare Hills Lodge, Sedgefield 01740 622447

## Message from the Chairman of Sedgfield Town Council

Cllr. Chris Lines

This has been another very busy year for Sedgfield Town Council and the role of Chair has been both challenging and rewarding. As Councillors, we are fortunate to serve such an active and enthusiastic community. It is hard to keep a track of everything that is happening in Sedgfield and much of it occurs without any input from the Town Council. Nevertheless, on behalf of residents, we have been very busy during the last 12 months working hard on many important projects.

We have put a lot of focus on The Sedgfield Plan and on the County Durham Local Plan. In the case of the former, the Town Council has been working closely with the Plan's Steering Group as it has developed the draft plan that will in due course be submitted for inspection and, all being well, presented to residents for approval in a referendum. The work is not yet complete, but we already owe a large debt of thanks to everyone who sits on the Steering Group and who has played their part in creating the plan.

As has been widely reported, following its Examination In Public, the County Durham Local Plan received a critical Interim Inspection Report and we are waiting for the County Council to confirm its future intentions. I, and Vice Chair Cllr Mel Carr, represented Sedgfield Town Council during the examination hearings and we were pleased to note that comments about Sedgfield in the Inspector's Report reflected the points we made, both verbally and in writing.

In fact, Sedgfield was also represented during the examination by the Residents' Forum, the Steering Group of The Sedgfield Plan, and by individuals from the community. The collective (and co-ordinated) efforts of everyone certainly made an impact and led to the Inspector visiting the Town to see mooted housing development sites for himself. I would like to pay tribute to everyone from Sedgfield who contributed during that process, as I believe that it was a job very well done on behalf of the Town. Of course, there remains much uncertainty about possible developments in Sedgfield and it is essential that we press ahead with the completion of The Sedgfield Plan, so our focus on this area will continue.

Elsewhere in this Annual Report, you will find updates on the work of the Town Council's various Committees and Working Groups. There is a huge amount that goes on behind the scenes and many of my fellow Councillors dedicate a great deal of time to do that. Some of the results are more visible than others, such as the excellent refurbishment of the Turning Circle, the efforts of our gardeners Stephen Young and Roy Cairns (often alongside Sedgfield in Bloom), improvements to allotments and major events including the Snow Party and Sedgfield Day (which is set to be bigger and better than ever this June). Other developments are less obvious, but the contribution of all of our Committees and Working Groups are vital to the smooth running of the Council.

All of the above can only be achieved with the sustained backing of the Council staff. We are fortunate to have such an excellent team who work on the community's behalf, including Jane Young, Julia Rowsby and Angela Simpson who manage much of the day to day Council business. Leading them is Jane Ayre, who joined us as Town Clerk in May 2014. Jane has very quickly found her feet in Sedgfield and has

already made some very positive contributions to your Town Council. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with her during the last year and thank Jane for the excellent support she has given me in my role as Chair. I would also like to pay tribute to Mel Carr. He has been a very effective Vice Chair and an excellent, energetic Mayor of Sedgefield.

As we reach the end of the civic year, Sedgefield is starting to mark the centenary of the deaths of those servicemen from our community who were killed during World War I. Sedgefield Local History Society and the Sedgefield Village Veterans are working together to deliver a series of special commemoration events to mark each and every one of the 42 who fell, on the day that they lost their lives exactly 100 years earlier. I believe that this is a very important project and urge residents to attend those commemorations when they can. We live in a wonderful community. It is thanks to the sacrifices that were made in the World Wars that we are able to appreciate and enjoy Sedgefield as it is now, and ensure that it develops in an appropriate way for future generations.



## 2014 / 2015 Mayor's Report

### Cllr. Mel Carr

It has been an honour and pleasure to have held the position of Mayor of Sedgfield again together with my wife Ann.

Some of the many events and functions attended this year included the World War Commemoration Ceremonies which have been very impressive and the one at St Edmund's Church involving all ages certainly was.

Judging over 450 model paper planes made by the children of the Town's primary schools for the Sedgfield Day, the pumpkin lanterns at Halloween as well as Easter bonnets and eggs were all very challenging events. It was good that so many children were involved. The annual Snow Party was well attended proving that Santa Claus is as popular as ever!

Once again Sedgfield won Britain in Bloom Gold and thanks go to the Sedgfield In Bloom Group led by Howard Smith and the Council's Gardening Supervisor Stephen Young and his assistant Roy Cairns for all their hard work to make the Town a beautiful place to live, visit and work in.

Following this year's Carol Service I was pleased to award fellow Councillor Ian Sutherland with the position of Honorary Freeman of Sedgfield in recognition of his services to the Town over many years.

The Annual Mayor's Charity Ball together with the Quiz and Charity breakfast, supported by the ladies of the Inner Wheel of Sedgfield, raised over £4,500 and my thanks go to all who helped and supported these events.

At the Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 I will be presenting cheques to my main charity, Parkinson's UK, as well as other local worthy causes.

I would like to thank the Town Clerk, Dr Jane Ayre, her team and all the Councillors for their support over the past year. I would like to say a special thank you to Jane Young of the Town Council for her invaluable advice and support.

To my family, friends and the residents of Sedgfield I give a very big thank you for your support.



## Chair of Committee Reports:

### **Policy & Resources ( P&R) Committee**

#### **Cllr Gloria Wills (Chair)**

Once again this Committee has been extremely proactive and productive. It falls to this Committee to make resolutions on much of the expenditure incurred by this Council on your behalf. It also falls to this Committee to ensure that all our governance policies and procedures are in place in accordance with our fiduciary duty; this means that policies and procedures need to be reviewed at least annually and they must reflect new legislation as it becomes law.

We have been extremely fortunate in having an excellent new Town Clerk who has come to this Council with a fresh pair of eyes, and has quickly begun a marathon task of reviewing all of the policies and procedures of this Council. During this year we have also been asked to approve changes to Standing Orders to reflect new legislation on recording meetings as well as changes to our Scheme of Delegation and the introduction of a Debt Policy and changes to accounting procedures in accordance with the new Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. A Plain English Guide to the Act can be found on the Department for Communities and Local Government website.

During 2014/15 we have appointed a new Internal Auditor. We have been particularly prudent this year in our spending on your behalf and are very pleased to have been able to make changes to the format of our Financial Reporting and updating our IT systems. We have also managed to pay for the refurbishment of the Church Turning Circle, and investment in the Cemetery grounds and Cemetery Lodge and much more, all within budget, however, we know there is still a lot to do.

This coming year we will be working on a Business Plan and an Asset Management Plan to ensure we have a planned investment programme for our estates, such as the Council Offices, the Parish Hall, Cemetery Lodge and the Cemetery, the Allotments and Open Spaces and Recreational Facilities.

Much of our investment in these areas has been possible because of the work of the members of the Finance Working Group and Mrs Julia Rowsby of the Town Council who have been instrumental in the progress that has been made through their commitment and contributions.

We have taken the difficult decision to increase the precept this year and as a result this will rise by 1.76%. This was primarily as a response to the reduction in Local Government Support Grant which has been reducing year on year.

We will continue to endeavour to act responsibly in respect of how your public money is spent for the benefit of all the community we serve.

## Community Development & Engagement Committee

### Cllr Alf Walton (Vice Chair)

It has been another busy year for the Community Development & Engagement Committee.

The new style Firework Display on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 was a great success presented by a professional organisation along with a team of trained stewards and representatives of the British Red Cross to ensure crowd safety. It was unfortunately that I had to curtail the event just before the finale due to a change in the wind direction. Nevertheless this did not stop hundreds of you from enjoying this event.

The coach trips during the year were as usual sold out. Any ideas for other destinations would be much appreciated.

The Snow Party proved most popular with an enthusiastic turnout of snowmen made by local children. This was the first Snow Party I have attended and I enjoyed getting involved as one of the snowmen in the parade! Thanks to Angela Simpson for her organisation of this event.

A Fire Service representative allayed our concerns of the Fire Station being moved out of Sedgefield. The Fire Station will now stay in Sedgefield and be redeveloped.

Possible uses for Section 106 monies associated with the redevelopment of Thurlow Grange are now being considered by the Committee for the good of Sedgefield.

Sedgefield Sowers & Growers is the new allotments group formed to enhance the gardening opportunities on the allotments. New members should contact Ms Kimberley Mearns or Mr John Adair for further information.

The Farmers' Market continues to be operated by the Sedgefield Development Trust and has over the last year attracted new stall holders. The Development Trust have provided the Town Council with regular progress reports throughout the last year.

The Sedgefield 700+ held a successful Sedgefield Weekend in 2014 and their plans are well advanced for this year's Sedgefield Day on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

The Committee has continued to oversee the grant funding work which is undertaken by the Town Council.

Over the last year a number of presentations have been given to the Community Development & Engagement Committee as follows – proposals from the Skerne Landscape Partnership in relation to a potential Heritage Lottery bid and Sedgefield Squash Club in relation to their expansion plans.

Finally the Citizen of the Year for 2014 will be announced following the Annual Town Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015. This continues to be jointly co-ordinated between the Town Council, the Rotary and the Development Trust. Once again there were a substantial number of nominees and we thank everyone who participated.

## **Environment Committee Report :**

### **Cllr. Mel Carr (Chair)**

One of the key projects during 2014/15 for the Environment Committee has been the refurbishment of the Church Turning Circle. The uneven granite sets that had been laid some years ago had become loose, uneven and difficult to walk on. A decision was made to look at replacing them and after talking to Conservation Officers, suppliers and various contractors then looking at sample sets and colours the Committee was able to draw up a specification. Tenders were then sought and eventually a local contractor was awarded the work. The refurbishment work was undertaken early in the New Year with minimal disruption to the Church or Town. We are delighted with the new Circle and this has been reflected in the significant number of compliments made by residents and visitors. Some additional sanding, seeding work and turfing are scheduled very soon to complete the area.

At the Butterwick Lane Cemetery a very large overgrown hedge and old wire fencing has been replaced with metal fencing to match the existing fencing elsewhere in the Cemetery. The area around the compost bays has been tidied up and gaps in the existing hedging at the top of the Cemetery have been replanted in order to improve the appearance of the area. Over 2014/15 we have listened to Cemetery visitors concerns regarding grass cutting and as a result in 2015/16 we are going to trial and monitor a different type of approach to grass cutting. Cemetery Lodge has been painted both inside and out to make a more presentable entrance to the Cemetery and has now been re-let.

Winterton Cemetery is also the responsibility of the Town Council and work may be needed soon to ensure that it is maintained as required.

Finally, the next section of the Grade 1 listed St Edmund's Cemetery Wall near to the Social Club is to be repaired in Spring/Summer 2015.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors on the Environment Committee. 2014/15 has been another busy but very productive year for the Committee.

### **Sedgefield Extra Committee Report:**

#### **Town Clerk**

During 2014/15 the Town Council has continued to publish its community newsletter called the Sedgefield Extra. Four editions are published per year and we are extremely grateful to the volunteers from the Sedgefield Development Trust who deliver this around the Town on our behalf. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you updated on what the Town Council has been doing on your behalf as well as providing useful contact information and details of forthcoming events. Over the course of 2014/15 we have also sought to use this newsletter as a way of making you aware of future work to be undertaken by the Council. We hope that you find the Extra a useful publication and we would welcome any feedback as to what additional content you would like to see in future editions.

## **Personnel Committee Report:**

### **Cllr Gloria Wills (Chair)**

In late 2013 this Committee was set up initially to deal with the appointment of our new Town Clerk, however, it was very soon recognised that there was an immense amount of work which needed to be done in respect of our Human Resources Policies and Procedures, which are required, and in particular with regard to reviewing existing, and development of new policies, to ensure we are compliant with our legal obligations as employers.

The agenda for this Committee has not diminished and in fact it has been a major piece of work which will continue over the coming year and beyond.

It is also important to us that we are seen to be a good employer and it is our intention to reach a position whereby all our employees are paid the Living Wage or above. Staff development and succession planning is also important to us and this is also part of our on-going commitment to our staff and our role as a good employer.

Once again the Councillors who have given a great deal of their time to this Committee have been invaluable to the progress we have made.

## **Community Chest:**

### **Cllr Vanessa Carmichael (Chair)**

In previous years the Council was able to make donations and grants to local groups and organisations under Section 137 of the Local Government Act. The Localism Act 2011 introduced the General Power of Competence which has replaced this and is a power of first resource. To enable the Council to use this power, the Responsible Financial Officer must hold the CiLCA (Certificate in Local Council Administration) qualification. In Sedgefield Town Council our Town Clerk, who is also our Responsible Financial Officer, holds this qualification.

In December 2013 the Council agreed to set up the Community Chest Committee to deal with all requests for small amounts of funding. The fund was pump primed by savings from that year's budget and this is topped up year on year by a ring-fenced amount in the Annual Budget. This year the Committee has given donations to local groups and individuals as follows:

- Mr Luke Towler
- Sedgefield Churches Together
- Sedgefield Twinning Association
- Inner Wheel Club of Sedgefield
- Youth Café
- Friends of St Edmund's Church
- Miss Gemma Hill

## Allotments - Cllr. Alf Walton : Allotments Champion

This year has seen changes with Butterwick and Winterton allotments. The waiting list for allotment plots was reduced to zero as a combined result of some people returning their plots to the Council, some vacant plots being brought back into cultivation and several larger plots being halved at the request of the current holders. A new waiting list will now be created for anyone else wishing to request an allotment.

An allotment competition was introduced last growing season with challenge cups and prizes of gardening vouchers available for both sites. This proved to be very successful and will be repeated next year with judging in late July/early August hopefully encouraging other plot holders in their growing endeavours.

At this present time the majority of plots on both sites are in excellent cultivation. Last year there was a reduction in the rabbit population but it appears they are on the increase again (that's what rabbits do!) mainly on the Butterwick site where a number of plot holders have installed their own rabbit fencing. Hopefully in the near future there will be rabbit netting around the Butterwick site.

The formation of the Sedgefield Sowers & Growers Group has the majority of plot holders coming from the Butterwick Site and we would like to encourage more from Winterton. The aim of the Group is to bring together people socially and discuss gardening problems and successes as well as to enable grant funding to be sourced for allotment projects.

Finally, I would like to thank Angela Simpson for administration of the allotments and Stephen Young and Roy Cairns for helping in keeping the sites free from non-compostable material.



## Review of the Past Year : Dr Jane Ayre, Town Clerk

Since taking up my position as Town Clerk on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014 I can certainly say that life has been very busy and varied! I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has made me feel very welcome in Sedgefield.

Over the last 12 months, as well as undertaking the work outlined earlier in this Report by the Chair of the Council, the Mayor and the various Committee Chairs, considerable time has been spent on reviewing and refining our internal operating systems including those relating to finance, IT and governance. As a result the Council has now been accredited the Foundation Level of the new Local Council Award Scheme and has aspirations to build further upon this Award.

The Town Council Offices have continued to be extremely busy with over 6,000 visitors coming through the doors and over 2,000 phone calls being made to our Council's Reception Line alone. We take pride in being able to help people with their concerns and enquiries and in over 300 instances have progressed these with the responsible principal authority, Durham County Council. Thanks go to Julia Rowsby and Jane Young who are the Council's first point of contact for so many of these enquiries and requests.

The Parish Hall continues to be an extremely popular venue for many and I'd like to thank Les Parrish, Chris Dunn, Joyce Stephenson and Esther Harte for all their work at the Hall.

Through the last year the Town has once again looked stunning and this has been reflected in the numerous awards and accolades which have been received. In addition, considerable work has been undertaken over the last year to enhance the Cemetery and ensure that it operates appropriately. Thanks go to our gardening staff Stephen Young and Roy Cairns as well as the dedicated volunteers within the Town who assist and support.

2014/15 has been another successful year for the Town in terms of securing grant funding as well as hosting a varied programme of community events. Thanks go to Angela Simpson for her work in community development and engagement.

During the year we said farewell to Josie Doolan who had loyally served the Council for over 25 years. We wish her well in her retirement.

I have greatly enjoyed being involved in many community events this year including the Sedgefield Weekend, the Mayor's Quiz, the fireworks display, Remembrance Sunday, the Christmas Carol service and the Mayor's Ball. At all of these events I have seen first-hand how much Sedgefield means to all of you.

On reflection there have been lots of positive experiences from my first year as Town Clerk and I look forward to the challenges ahead in 2015/16.

## Review of the Past Year : Events:

The Town Council has supported and worked with a number of local groups and organisations over the last 12 months including:

- Working with Sedgefield 700+ to co-ordinate and deliver the Sedgefield Weekend in July 2014;
- Engaging with local primary schools delivering community workshops which linked to the Sedgefield Weekend;
- Working with Sedgefield Veterans to co-ordinate the Spitfire on the green experience,
- Continuing to work closely with Sedgefield in Bloom to co-ordinate entries in both the Britain and Northumbria in Bloom competitions. 2014 was yet another hugely successful year for the Bloom winning Gold in both competitions;
- Tub planting with local schools to deliver a beautiful array of blooms on our village green;
- The popular annual Mayor's Charity Quiz;
- A sell-out fireworks display and Halloween Howler competition;
- A poignant and well attended Remembrance Day Service;
- A Snow Party now in its 9<sup>th</sup> year and growing in popularity year on year;
- Working with the Rotary Club to provide the Christmas Tree and lights on the Village Green
- A Christmas Carol Concert at St Edmund's Church which included an amazing joint Sedgefield Primary and Hardwick Primary Choir;
- The presentation of Cllr Ian Sutherland's Honorary Freeman Award;
- The annual Mayor's Charity Ball with its highest ever level of attendance and support.

Successful funding applications submitted in 2014/15 included:

<b>Cemetery Recycling Bays</b>	<b>£900</b>
Polytunnel and compost bays	£4,830
St Edmund's Church Wall Refurbishment	£3,800
Sedgefield Weekend	£6,500
IT Facilities for Parish Hall and Council Offices	£4,502
Sedgefield Day 2015	£550

Funding remains both a necessity and a priority and the Town Council continues to apply for grants from a number of funders. In 2015/16 funding will be sought for the following projects:

- Sedgefield Day
- The Sedgefield Plan
- Outdoor Adult Gym Facilities
- Ceddesfeld Hall bedding/landscape improvements

## Finance 2014/15

### Income / Expenditure Account

Year Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2014		Year Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2015
	<b>Receipts:</b>	
£ 0.00	<b>Advice &amp; Info Centre</b>	£ 0
£ 16,770.69	<b>Agency Serv</b>	£ 9,645.56
£ 1,541.76	<b>Bank Interest</b>	£ 1,279.16
£ 9,662.24	<b>Buildings</b>	£ 4,327.04
£ 11,680.20	<b>Cemetery Income</b>	£ 12,330.20
£ 4,764.55	<b>Community services</b>	£ 16,517.41
£ 14,862.65	<b>Environmental Services</b>	£ 10,225.30
£ 13,920.00	<b>Grants</b>	£ 0
£ 2,239.66	<b>Income – misc</b>	£ 7,084.82
£ 14,459.00	<b>LCTS DCC Grant</b>	£ 13,942.00
£ 7,287.84	<b>Mayors Charity</b>	£ 10,021.20
£ 22,544.52	<b>Parish Hall Hire</b>	£ 21,616.50
£232,419.00	<b>Precept</b>	£231,454.00
£ 15,535.00	<b>Sedgefield Plan</b>	£ 836.72
£150,000.00	<b>Terrace Hill</b>	£ 0
<b>£517,687.11</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>£339,279.91</b>
	<b>Expenditure:</b>	
£ 6,601.17	<b>Advice &amp; Info Centre</b>	£ 7,275.47
£ 9,140.52	<b>Agency Serv</b>	£ 9,455.06
£ 4,350.30	<b>Capital</b>	£ 0
£ 3,002.00	<b>Cemetery</b>	£ 6,899.27
£ 4,747.97	<b>Cemetery Lodge</b>	£ 7,239.28
£ 507.06	<b>Civic Hospitality</b>	£ 888.39
£ 2,354.00	<b>Community Chest</b>	£ 1,880.00
£ 21,300.26	<b>Community Development</b>	£ 13,009.80
£ 35,239.72	<b>Environment</b>	£ 53,035.13
£ 21,674.56	<b>General Admin</b>	£ 24,793.69
£ 42,000.00	<b>Grants</b>	£ 16,750.00
£ 9,469.04	<b>Loan Repts</b>	£ 8,628.02
£ 6,592.82	<b>Mayor's Charity</b>	£ 7,787.01
£ 34,091.23	<b>Parish Hall</b>	£ 31,048.42
£138,725.31	<b>Personnel</b>	£136,331.94
£ 8,614.48	<b>Sedgefield Plan</b>	£ 11,473.44
<b>£348,410.44</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>£336,494.92</b>
£165,129.67	<b>Balance as at 1/4/2013</b>	£334,406.34
£517,687.11	<b>Add total income</b>	£339,279.91
£682,816.78		£673,686.25
£348,410.44	<b>Deduct total expenditure</b>	£336,494.92
<b>£334,406.34</b>	<b>Balance as at 31/3/2014</b>	<b>£337,191.33</b>

## Finance 2014/15

### Balance Sheet

Year Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2014		Year Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2015
	<b>Current Assets</b>	
£ 3,480	Debtors	£1,242
£ 21,695	VAT	£18,468
£ 5,663	Payments in Advance	£5,804
£309,867	Cash in Hand	£316,606
<b>£340,705</b>	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>£342,120</b>
	<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
£ 6,299	Creditors	£4,929
£ 0	Receipts in Advance	0
£ 6,299	Total Liabilities	£4,929
<b>£334,406</b>	<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>£337,191</b>
	<b>Represented By</b>	
£323,601	General Fund	£328,626
£ 2,253	Mayor's Charity	£ 3,628
£ 445	Paths Partnership	£ 445
£ 6,371	Bloom Account	£ 2,450
£ 1,686	Youth Forum	£ 1,686
£ 50	Sedgefield 700+	£ 356
<b>£334,406</b>		<b>£337,191</b>

The P&R Committee met in January 2015 to consider the precept request for 2015/16. Through continued financial vigilance Sedgefield Town Council was able to keep its increase in precept to 1.76% which compares favourably to the average increase for Town and Parish Councils across County Durham of 3.27%.

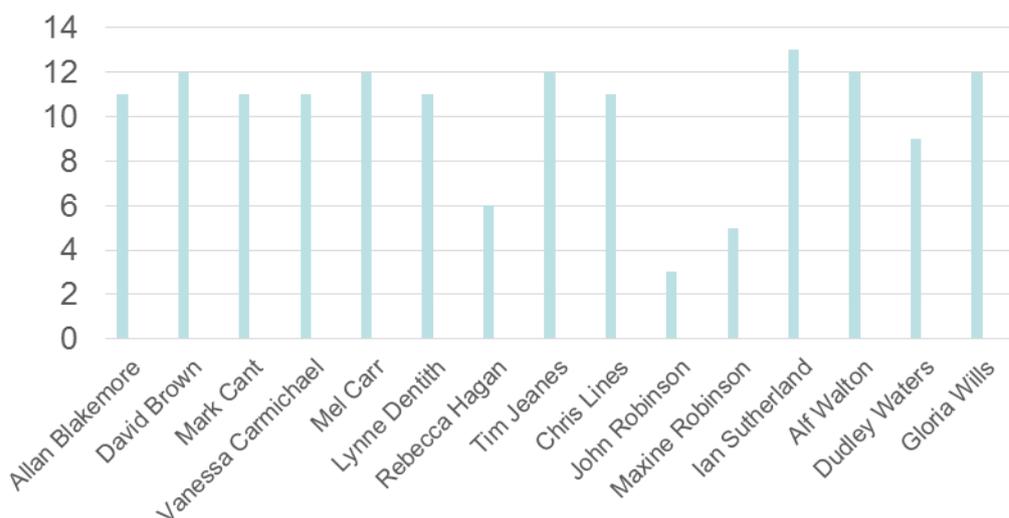
In accordance with legislation – it is now a statutory requirement to publish allowances received by members of the Town Council. The agreed allowance per month for Members of Sedgefield Town Council is £25.74.

This was claimed over the past civic year by:-

CLrs Mel Carr, Rebecca Hagan, Tim Jeanes, Ian Sutherland and Dudley Waters.

### Councillor Attendance at Meetings

A request was made to publish the attendance record of Members of the Town Council in 2013/14. This request was agreed and below are the attendance figures for the Council's Monthly meetings, Annual General Meeting and Annual Town Meeting (Total 13) for 2014/15. These figures do not include attendance at Committee meetings, Working Group meetings or other meetings.



## Contact Details

### DURHAM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Rachel Lumsdon 18 Glebe Close, Fishburn TS21 4DE

Tel 03000 268 739

Cllr John Robinson 28 White House Drive TS21 3BX

Tel 01740 620042

### MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

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