

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL COUNCILLORS:*Addresses (all Sedgefield)**Tel. No.*

Cllr Allan Blakemore	32 Beacon Avenue TS21 3AB	01740 621820
Cllr David Brown	Town Farm House, 3 West End TS21 3BW	01740 622894
Cllr Mark Cant	Mordon Moor Farm TS21 2HN	07818 243774
Cllr Vanessa Carmichael	47 Cunningham Court TS21 3BP	07889 219195
Cllr Melvyn Carr	3 the Square TS21 2AB	629070 / 07530 315331
Cllr Joanne Elliott	The Old Registry, 2 Church View TS21 2AY	07881 807012
Cllr Alda Hummelinck	37 Station Road TS21 2BY	01740 238331
Cllr Chris Lines	41 White House Drive TS21 3BX	623090 / 07971 868329
Cllr Julie Towler	6 Mitford Court TS21 2JE	07979 376997
Cllr Alf Walton	New Dawn, Low Hardwick Farm TS21 2EH	01740 620640
Cllr Gloria Wills	Hare Hills Lodge TS21 2EG	01740 622447

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr David Brown	Town Farm House, 3 West End TS21 3BW	01740 622894
Cllr John Robinson	28 Whitehouse Drive TS21 3BX	01740 620042

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Phil Wilson MP	4 Beveridge Walkway, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4EE	01325 321603
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TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES**Advice & Information Centre, Front Street, Sedgefield TS21 3AT**

Town Clerk:	Dr. Jane Ayre	town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	01740 621273
Community Dev. Officer:	Angela Simpson	angela.simpson@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	01740 621774
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Projects and Media Coordinator:	Natalie Chowns-Smith	natalie@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	01740 621273

Contacting your town council

The town council is always interested in your views, comments and suggestions, (particularly the positive ones!). There are several ways in which this can be achieved. The following table indicates the quickest way to get your voice heard or problem sorted.

PROBLEM	WHO TO CONTACT	ACTION WE WILL TAKE
Street lights not working Litter dropped Footpath problems Dogs fouling	Telephone council offices 01740 621273 (if no-one available leave a message on the answerphone). Send information via e-mail to Jane / Julia as shown or via the town council web-site at www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	We will sort out the problem or if necessary contact Durham County Council and contact you with the outcome.
Booking the Parish Hall	Telephone the council offices as above.	We will send you a booking form and information.
Wanting an allotment	Telephone / write to the council.	We will add you to the waiting lists and contact you when an allotment becomes available.
Seeking a donation for your group /organisation	Write to the town council.	The request will be placed before the next appropriate council meeting.
Concerned about a planning application or action the town council is undertaking	Write to the town council and / or come along to a council meeting. The monthly meetings are held at 7pm on the second Monday of each month (except August). You can speak at 'Public Participation'. Agendas for meetings are placed on the notice board outside the library.	Members will listen to your views and take into account when making their decision.
Want information re planning, crime warnings etc	Register with our Sedgefield information circulation e-mail system by e-mail to jane@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	We will add you to the database.
Want to volunteer to paint a seat, help with projects etc.	Contact the council offices or e-mail angela.simpson@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	We will be in touch!
You want to talk to an individual councillor	Contact details for all councillors are included in every Sedgefield Extra and / or available from the offices.	Alternatively a meeting can be arranged with the councillor. In addition councillors sometimes arrange a surgery - details are circulated.
You want to know what the town council is doing and how it is representing you	Come along to the monthly meeting of the Annual Town Meeting in May.	Members will listen to your views and comments.

Annual Report and Accounts

Copies of the town council's Annual Report and Accounts are now available from the town council offices and on our website.

READY FOR ALL SEASONS

Even though we've had a very mild winter, the town council still ensured that it had its winter gritting machinery and equipment, as well as salt stockpiles, ready just in case.

As part of this our gardener Mr Ben Gray, successfully completed his City and Guilds 580 Winter Service Health and Safety training.

Allotment Challenge 2017

After yet another successful competition in 2016, the Allotment Challenge will run again in 2017.

- Best kept and most productive plot
- Most improved plot

Allotment holders will be contacted closer to the time with information regarding the judging date and award ceremony.

Good luck!

SAVE THE DATE 2017/2018:

Summer Coach Trip to Keswick

Date: 14th June 2017

Tub Planting

Date: 22nd June 2017

Fireworks Display

Date: 3rd November 2017

Remembrance Service

Date: 12th November 2017

Sedgefield Snow Party

Date: 2nd December 2017

Carol Service

Date: TBC December 2017

Mayor's Annual Charity Ball

Date: 23rd February 2018



EXTRA

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THE OUTGOING MAYOR'S UPDATE

My year as Mayor of Sedgefield has been extremely rewarding and enjoyable. During the last 12 months, I have had the opportunity to spend time with some of the very many groups and individuals in Sedgefield who help to sustain our wonderful community.

I have also enjoyed meeting other civic dignitaries, either welcoming them to Sedgefield, or at events around the North East. It was always a huge pleasure to show off our town to visitors and a great honour to represent the community on occasions such as Remembrance Sunday, and other moments in the year that are very important to the people of Sedgefield, including me.

From the very start of the year, I set out to try and reach out to a new audience as mayor. Building on the excellent work of my predecessors, I wanted to do things a little less formally at times, and that informed much of my approach to the role. I also did my bit to invest a sense of fun into some events involving the mayor. I hope that the community will forgive me for my personalised Santa hat at the Snow Party and the printed chains of office on my Mayoral Marathon running vest!

One of the privileges of being mayor was that I was able to raise money for good causes during the year. I chose three charities that are close to my heart for different reasons - The Lullaby Trust, Sir Bobby Robson Foundation and Friends of Sedgefield Harriers - and also promised to support other local good causes. I managed to raise over £7,200, which will be shared among the three charities and community groups. This was only possible thanks to the many people who supported my events and I am extremely grateful to everyone who contributed.

The team at Sedgefield Town Council has been incredibly supportive at every stage. I owe them a huge debt of thanks. Likewise, many of my fellow town councillors have attended or supported my events, as have county councillors



and civic dignitaries from around the region, and of course a large number of Sedgefield residents. Numerous businesses have provided prizes for events or helped publicise my initiatives, and that has been very helpful, while venues such as St. Edmund's Church, the Parish Hall, Ceddesfeld Hall and the Manor House have been invaluable. Sedgefield's schools have also helped to spread the word about mayoral events, and provided performers who have been the highlight of civic events.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to my family and friends, who have played a huge role in my year as Mayor of Sedgefield. Whether volunteering at or attending events, or contributing in other ways, they have provided more assistance than I can adequately acknowledge. In particular, I am enormously grateful to my sons Ciaran, Charlie and Samuel, and to my amazing wife and (reluctant but dedicated!) Mayoress of Sedgefield, Catherine. Whether they want me or not, they can have me back now!

Town Council Election Results

On 4th May 2017 Sedgefield Town Council had an uncontested election whereby the 11 people nominated to stand to become a councillor were automatically elected. Introductory articles from each of these councillors can be found overleaf.

There are now four councillor vacancies at Sedgefield Town Council. Any persons willing to fill these vacancies should request from the Town Clerk (town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk) an application form and return this on or before 12 noon on Friday 23rd June 2017. Further details can also be found on Sedgefield Town Council's website.

Welcome to the Mayor 2017/2018

Sedgefield Town Councillors were delighted to elect Councillor David Brown as Mayor of Sedgefield for 2017/18.

Councillor Brown, pictured below with his wife Elizabeth, has been a long-standing member of the town council. More information regarding the mayor's events in 2017/18 will be posted on the town council's website and in our next edition of the Extra.



CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Angela Bannister, a very well respected member of the community who was delighted to receive the accolade of this year's Citizen of the Year for Sedgefield.

For more information, take a look at this month's edition of the Sedgefield News!

Fletcher Room Refurbishment - WORK HAS BEGUN!

That's right, the Fletcher Room refurbishment is underway! The chosen contractors began work in the Fletcher Room and elsewhere in the Parish Hall on Monday 8th May 2017.

The work is set to be completed by Friday 9th June 2017 and will see all new décor, windows, insulation, flooring and soundproofing properties in the Fletcher Room, while the adjoining office will be transformed into a fully-equipped kitchen with a serving hatch leading into the Fletcher Room. A number of other major works are also currently being carried out alongside the Fletcher Room refurbishment to minimise disruption to Parish Hall use, including: new flooring in the foyer, ladies WC and men's WC; installation of Wi-Fi; drainage work and sanding and treatment of the main hall's dancefloor. Sedgefield Town Council would like to take this opportunity to say a sincere thank you to all Parish Hall users for your cooperation during this period and we can't wait for you to see the results!

A Word from the New Chairman of the Council

At the town council's Annual General Meeting on Monday 15th May 2017, Councillor Mel Carr was re-elected as chairman of Sedgefield Town Council for 2017/18.

Councillor Carr says that he is looking forward once again to chairing the council and continuing work on behalf of the town, working alongside those returning and new councillors.

Welcome to the New Councillors



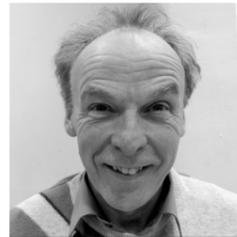
Allan Blakemore

I intend to continue with the work in the community as I have done for the last ten years.



David Brown

I have been a town councillor since 2003 and look forward to representing residents for a further four years. I am proud to say I have always lived in Sedgefield Parish. My father was a farmer at Bog Hall farm where I was brought up. Upon my marriage in 1964 I farmed at Hopper House Farm which is now run by my son and his wife. Understandably I am the voice for the rural residents (10%) who at this point in time contribute 20% of the precept! Please attend meetings and have your say.



Mark Cant

I am pleased to be able to continue to support the very positive work of the town council which has been carried out on behalf of the residents of Sedgefield over the past four years. As part of a team of very enthusiastic and largely non-political independent members, we aim to continue to deliver great results, as we hope you think we have done, since 2013.



Vanessa Carmichael

The last four years as a councillor have been a very new experience for me and I have enjoyed the challenge. It has given me the opportunity to learn about local government and many local issues which I would not otherwise have been involved in. I am looking forward to the next four years as your local councillor, representing your views.



Mel Carr

I was born in Sedgefield and have lived here for over 60 years. I live with my wife Ann in the centre of the village. We have two daughters Louise and Emma and two granddaughters who have been a great support to me over the last four years. I am pleased to be a town councillor again and will continue to work for the interests of all residents to retain the special and unique character of Sedgefield.



Jo Elliott

I have lived in Sedgefield for 13 years with my husband and two children. I work at Durham University as a computer programmer and have a wealth of experience in managing projects and making key business decisions around implementing change and IT Strategy. I'm delighted to have been elected as councillor on the town council and I'm committed to working with colleagues to ensure Sedgefield is a safe, happy and enjoyable place to live.



Alda Hummelinck

I moved to Sedgefield with my partner Phil six years ago and still remember the warm welcome we received from everybody we met. Over the past few years, I have been a regular runner and volunteer at the Sedgefield parkrun and recently became committee member and acting secretary for the Sedgefield Harriers. I am aware that there will be aspects to village life that I am not yet familiar with and people I haven't met yet, but Phil and I are proud to live in this beautiful village and be part of this warm community, and that is what I would like to preserve and strengthen.



Chris Lines

As always, there are plenty of major issues to address in Sedgefield. As the town grows, we need to ensure that the characteristics that make our community so special are sustained and that new development is not excessive. It must be successfully integrated, while also bringing vital investment with it. I look forward to playing my role in that and in improving youth provision, enhancing facilities and events for everyone, and working closely with community groups.



Julie Towler

I have lived and worked in Sedgefield for over 35 years and have been the owner of Jaiz Hair Salon for 30. My husband Andrew and I have brought our two sons up within the village community and have embraced all that Sedgefield has to offer. I have also been a volunteer Guide leader for the last 33 years. I hope to be a good asset to the council and look forward to working as a team.



Alf Walton

My family have been in Sedgefield for seven generations. I joined the town council four years ago and have really enjoyed the challenges that was set out. My wife Antoinette has been a diamond looking after work at home when I am at meetings and out about the village seeing to environmental issues. I look forward to another four years serving Sedgefield.



Gloria Wills

I have enjoyed the last four years as your local councillor, working hard to ensure your views and concerns are taken forward on issues that matter to you; and to ensure we invest public money in services which benefit everyone in our community. I will continue to build on that work, and together with my fellow councillors, complete the projects which are already in the pipeline and which will benefit the village for years to come.

Youth Provision IN SEDGEFIELD

In recent editions of the Extra, we have reported on the work that is being done to improve facilities and activities for young people in Sedgefield.

This is being led by the town council's Youth Working Group, but crucially, has involved wide ranging engagement with and input from young people, who are helping to shape the future of youth provision in the town. The town council has allocated resources to sustain this project and among other initiatives, we are delighted to confirm that a regular youth club will be starting up in the near future.

The plan is to base the club in the Fletcher Room once that has been refurbished, with dedicated regular sessions for young people aged under and over 11. These will be managed by fully qualified youth workers. As soon as

the full details of the youth club have been finalised, we will use a wide range of channels to publicise the sessions to young people. Once the club is up and running, we will review it on a regular basis, to ensure that it is delivering what young people need and is an effective use of public money.

There are other youth provision ideas in the pipeline and we will continue to make sure that young people play a key role in developing (and in time delivering) those. If anyone would like to find out more, please get in touch with us. Contact natalie@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01740 621273.

Appointment of New Projects and Media Coordinator

After 18 months of working at Sedgefield Town Council I am delighted to have been awarded the position of Projects and Media Coordinator.

I have had a thoroughly enjoyable time working in the office so far and have received some very warm (and appreciated!) feedback from Parish Hall users and local residents alike. Among many other things, I look forward to continuing my work alongside the Estates Working Group to improve the facilities in the Parish Hall and other future projects for the community. **Natalie Chowns-Smith**



Northumbria in Bloom Judging

Northumbria in Bloom's spring judging took place in Sedgefield on Monday 10th April 2017.

Northumbria in Bloom judges will be visiting the town again to conduct their judging for this year's summer event, on Wednesday 19th July 2017. Good luck to our gardening staff and Sedgefield in Bloom's volunteers who will be working hard, as always, to maintain the high standards of previous years. We will announce the results of both judging events when they are available on the Sedgefield Town Council website and in future editions of the Extra.

THANK YOU AND FAREWELL

Sedgefield Town Council would like to thank the following councillors who are leaving this year, some of which have served the town council for over 35 years:

Lynne Dentith, Tim Jeanes, John Robinson, Maxine Robinson, Ian Sutherland, and Dudley Waters

Your work over the years has been greatly appreciated and your dedication to Sedgefield commendable. We wish you well for the future.