

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 Ann Carr	3 The Square TS21 2AB	01740 629070
Cllr Melvyn Carr	3 The Square TS21 2AB	629070 / 07530 315331
Cllr Alda Hummelinck	37 Station Road TS21 2BY	01740 238331
Cllr Chris Lines	41 White House Drive TS21 3BX	623090 / 07971 868329
Cllr Leo McCormack	30 St Luke's Crescent TS21 3NL	01740 621037
Cllr Julie Towler	6 Mitford Court TS21 2JE	07979 376997
Cllr Alf Walton	New Dawn, Low Hardwick Farm TS21 2EH	01740 620640
Cllr Fiona Warrand	14 Hawthorn Road, TS21 3DA	07452 939238
Cllr Mavis Wayman	32 White House Drive TS21 3BX	01740 620337
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
Front Street, Sedgefield TS21 3AT**

Town Clerk:	Dr. Jane Ayre	town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	01740 621273
Admin. Officer:	Jane Young	jane@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	01740 621273
Financial Asst./Receptionist:	Julia Rowsby	julia@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	01740 621273
Projects & Media Coordinator:	Natalie Chowns-Smith	natalie@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	01740 621273

Contacting your Town Council

CONCERN	WHO TO CONTACT	WHAT ACTION WE WILL TAKE
Parish Hall enquiry / Cemetery matters / Village Green	Council Office - 01710 621 273 or email julia@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	Answer your questions and provide assistance.
Wanting an allotment.	Projects & Media Coordinator 01710 621 273 natalie@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	We will add you to the waiting list and contact you when an allotment becomes available.
Seeking a donation for your group / organisation.	Write or email the town council / Community Chest / Mayor via Council Offices or town.clerk@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	The request will be placed before the next appropriate council meeting.
Concerned about a planning application or action the town council is undertaking.	Write or email the town council and / or come along to a council meeting. A schedule of which can be found on the Town Council's website at www.sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk/events. Public participation is a standing agenda item on each committee agenda.	Members will listen to your views and take into account when making their decision.
Wanting regular information regarding planning applications and community matters.	Admin Officer 01710 621 273 jane@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk	We will add you to the Residents Database email circulation list.

Contacting Durham County Council

CONCERN	WHO TO CONTACT	CONTACT INFORMATION
General Enquiries	Customer Services	03000 26 0000
Refuse / street lights / pest control / dog fouling / stray dogs / grass cutting / litter / graffiti / roads and footpaths	Highways / Streetscene / Street Lighting	03000 26 1000
Planning Applications	Planning	03000 26 1060 / www.durham.gov.uk/planning
Benefits	Revenues & Benefits	03000 26 2000
Council Tax	Council Tax	03000 26 4000
Apply / Renew Bus passes	Sustainable Transport	03000 26 8667
Apply / Renew Blue Badge	Blue Badge Scheme	03000 26 9425
Council Housing	Livin	0845 50 55 500

Alternatively, Durham County Council concerns can be placed via text on 07786 027 280 starting with the word INFO or the online complaints portal www.doitonline.durham.gov.uk. It is very important that you register your views with Durham County Council – your voice matters and could make a difference for all local residents!

VILLAGE GREEN

The town council is currently reviewing the way in which it operates and maintains areas of village green around the town.

Further updates will be given about this matter in future editions of the Sedgefield Extra.

Dog Fouling

Sedgefield is blessed with lots of lovely walking routes, village green land and open spaces.

So that everybody gets full enjoyment of these, we would like to politely remind all dog owners to clean up after their furry friends. Dog waste bags are for sale in the town council offices at a cost of 60p for a pack of 50 bags.

Butterwick Rd Cemetery

Please refrain from putting filled dog waste bags into the recycle bays at Butterwick Rd Cemetery.

The purpose of these bays are so that material can be reused without contamination.

HEADSTONE SAFETY TESTING: COMPLETE

We have now completed our annual headstone safety testing operations at our cemeteries.

Unfortunately, a number of headstones have been found to require urgent attention and have been marked with red/white warning tape. Where next of kin details are known, the council has written letters detailing the work that needs to be undertaken to make the headstones safe. An advisory notice has also been displayed in the cemetery noticeboard. If you are visiting the cemetery and find a headstone marked with warning tape please contact the council offices so that we can provide you with the necessary advice on what to do next. If repair work is not undertaken by Monday 4th March 2019, the council will oversee a programme of work to lay down these unstable headstones.



EXTRA SEDGEFIELD

PUBLISHED BY SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

No. 103 FEBRUARY 2019

MAYOR'S Civic Ball

The Mayor, Cllr Mavis Wayman, will be hosting the annual Mayor's Civic Ball at Hardwick Hall Hotel on Friday 1st March 2019.

Tickets for this black tie event cost £30 each and include drinks on arrival, a three course meal and entertainment by local band Mosaic. Mosaic, a seven-piece group, boasts a set list that covers seven decades, with a variety of songs guaranteed to keep you entertained all

evening. The band, formerly known as 'Silver Street', has been performing locally for 30 years, including appearances at previous civic balls in Sedgefield.

The evening will be raising money for Cllr Wayman's chosen charities, Diabetes UK and Prostate Cancer UK, and local community groups through a tombola and auction. To book your tickets now, contact jane@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01740 621273.

NEWLY CO-OPTED CLLR - CLLR STEPHEN WINTER



Cllr Stephen Winter was co-opted on to the council in November 2018.

Cllr Winter had the following to say about his new appointment: "There are many challenges ahead as the town develops and I'm keen to preserve that 'village heart'. This can be done by ensuring that any new developments recognise that special character, are not excessive, and are only a positive contribution". Cllr Winter is also keen to engage with the younger people of our town and looks forward to being an active member of the town council.

Citizen of the Year

Do you know someone of any age who has made an exceptional contribution to Sedgefield?

If so, why not nominate them for the annual Citizen of the Year Award? Award entry forms will be included in an upcoming edition of the Sedgefield News. The award will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting.



Annual Town Meeting Notice

Sedgefield Town Council's Annual Town Meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Tuesday 7th May 2019 in the Parish Hall.

Further information about this will be posted on our website, displayed on the noticeboards and via Twitter. All residents are welcome – and encouraged – to attend. It's an ideal opportunity to find out what your town council and other community groups have been doing over the last year, along with plans for the future. There will also be a chance to ask councillors any questions that you have about the work of the town council.

Fond Farewell

We'd like to take this opportunity to say a fond farewell to Chris Dunn, one of our long serving Parish Hall Security Officers, who recently left us to take up a new job elsewhere.

We wish him well for the future.

YOUTH CLUB COLUMN



Following our October 2018 relaunch, we are delighted to have seen an increase in members and we still have room for more!

We had great fun baking for our cake/sweet treat sale at Sedgefield Snow Party at the end of last year so we've stocked up on lots of baking/cooking equipment to hold dedicated baking sessions throughout the year. If you would like to know more information about the youth club, please contact natalie@sedgefieldtowncouncil.gov.uk and keep an eye out in the next edition for an article written by a youth club member!

Festive Recap

Sedgefield Snow Party was a great success with a fantastic programme of events across the town.

The morning began with the Methodist Advent Day at the Methodist Church and the grand opening of the Christmas Tree Festival at St. Edmund's Church. Santa and his elves made their anticipated return to the Parish Hall, with help from members of Sedgefield Youth Club, who cooked up some delicious cakes and sweet treats for all on the good list!

The craft fair at Ceddesfeld Hall was accompanied by refreshments kindly provided by the catering section of the SCA, closing just in time for the carols in St. Edmund's Church. We saw a fantastic turnout on the village green for the Snowman Parade and Christmas lights switch on. Congratulations to Imogen Twist, aged 10, for winning the honour of

pressing the big switch - we hope you enjoyed your festive goody bag!

Thanks go to everyone involved in the planning and running of the event, with special thanks to Chris Blakeborough for



Imogen Twist.

providing music throughout the day and the Rotary Club for installing the (perfectly shaped) tree and lights!

A month earlier, the annual fireworks display in Ceddesfeld Hall grounds



The Mitchell family.

proved to be a popular event for all the family, with hot dogs and warm drinks provided by Sedgefield Scouts. Thank you to all staff and councillors who made the event possible and congratulations to the Mitchell family for carving the winning Halloween Howler pumpkin!

The Mayor had a busy festive season: hosting her Remembrance Lunch in the Parish Hall, taking part in the annual Mayor's Carol Service at St. Edmund's Church with a performance from the choirs of Sedgefield Primary School and Sedgefield Hardwick Primary School, and decorating her Christmas tree at the Christmas Tree Festival!

A big thank you to both primary schools for taking part in the Sedgefield Snow Party craft activity, providing the Mayor with many wonderful angel decorations for the tree.

INFORMAL SURGERIES REMINDER

Over recent months, Sedgefield Town Council has been trialling an informal surgery prior to the monthly meeting, held in the town council offices on the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm.

These surgeries are opportunities for residents to raise issues and discuss them with councillors outside of the formal setting at the council's set schedule of meetings. All are welcome!

COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT 2019/20

Over recent years there have been significant changes in local government funding and it is anticipated that further change will also be seen in coming years.

Every year, each town and parish council sets a precept which is a charge that is determined locally as is added to, and collected along with, Council Tax.

This precept money is then used to deliver services and amenities within that town or parish. In addition to this precept, many principal local authorities also provide town and parish councils with further funding.

Over recent years the level of funding from central government distributed via Durham County Council has reduced and this reduction will continue in 2019/20.

It is unclear at this time whether such funding will exist beyond the coming financial year.

For Sedgefield Town Council to not only continue to deliver its current services but also to continue refurbishment work in the Parish Hall and town council offices, purchase land from Durham County Council and undertake essential work to extend Sedgefield Cemetery, it has been necessary to increase the precept for 2019/2020 by 5.49%.

This equates to an increase of £7.94 per Band D household per annum.



Sedgefield Primary School angel decoration winners.



Sedgefield Hardwick Primary School angel decoration winners.