

**SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND**  
**ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the proceedings of the **JANUARY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE** of the **Council** held at **6.30 pm** in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014.**

**Present**            **Cllr. Vanessa Carmichael (Chairman)**  
                         **Cllr. Rebecca Hagan (Vice-Chairman) and**  
                         Cllrs. Allan Blakemore, David Brown, Mel Carr, Lynne Dentith, Tim  
                         Jeanes, Chris Lines, John Robinson, Ian Sutherland, Alf Walton,  
                         Gloria Wills

**Officer**            L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

**1. Apologies**

Cllrs. Mark Cant, Maxine Robinson, Dudley Waters

**2. Declaration of interest**

Cllr. John Robinson Item 5.2

**3. Matters of Information**

**3.1 Bowling Green**

Cllr. Ian Sutherland informed Members that the Bowling Club are about to submit an application for planning permission for the bowling green on land adjacent to the Cricket Club.

**3.2 Dance Hardwick Hall**

The Clerk informed Members that the contract which was received from the Hardwick Hall in June now needs to be signed – this to be discussed later on in the meeting.

**4. Public Participation**

The Chairman, Cllr. Vanessa Carmichael closed the meeting whilst the public gave their views and comments.

**4.1 New Year's Eve Fireworks**

- a) Mrs. Freda Dovaston said she had come along to listen to the discussion on the New Year's Eve Fireworks.
- b) Mr. Howard Smith stressed the feelings of much of the community in seeing the

fireworks being reinstated.

#### **4.2 Youth Provision**

Mrs. Ellen Guest said she had come along to the meeting as youth provision had been added to the agenda from the monthly meeting the previous week and also stressed the need to include the young people and in particular those participating in the Duke of Edinburgh award on any youth forum / meeting.

The meeting was then re-opened.

### **5. Reports**

#### **5.1 Grants/Projects Update**

The information sheet had been circulated. Cllr. Chris Lines informed Members that whilst the Sedgefield Sprouts application had been turned down by the AAP, a further application has been made to Health Awareness Funding Stream.

The Clerk informed Members that the application made on behalf of the Residents' Forum for the speed signs has been turned down.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information.**

#### **5.2 Farmers' Market**

The report from Cllr. Lynne Dentith had been circulated. In addition Cllr. Dentith reported that the group is looking to invite College students to design posters for the Farmers' Market which will be put up in some of the bus shelters in Sedgefield to advertise the Market each month.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information.**

#### **5.3 Residents' Forum**

The minutes of the meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014 had been circulated.

In addition Cllr. Gloria Wills reported that the Forum have suggested that a new cycling track be included in the woodland which DCC bought. Whilst young people already use this woodland for cycling it may be appropriate to ask the young people if they wish to continue to use it and if so then it could become a viable project to upgrade the footpaths, cycle ways etc. Cllr. John Robinson said he is taking it up with the DCC Environmental officer.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information.**

#### **5.4 Sedgefield Plan: Steering Group**

The minutes of the Steering Group held 16<sup>th</sup> December had been circulated. Cllr. Chris Lines stressed the need for as many as possible to complete the questionnaire by the deadline which is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information**

## **5.5 Sedgefield 700+**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 had been circulated. Cllr. Allan Blakemore informed Members that the 700 group is awaiting the outcome of the grant application for the Sedgefield weekend which will then determine the facilities / events which will be held on that day.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information.**

## **6. Correspondence**

### **6.1 World War I Commemorations**

A letter had been received from CDALC re DCCs planned events to commemorate the Government Centenary activity. These will focus on three key dates: -

- August 14<sup>th</sup> 2014 – The Centenary of the Day Britain entered the war
- July 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 – 100 years after the Battle of the Somme
- November 11<sup>th</sup> 2018 – the Anniversary of the Day the guns fell silent

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information.**

## **7. Civic & Mayors Events: See information sheet**

### **7.1 Annual Charity Dinner & Dance**

The Clerk informed Members that details of the above have been circulated to all Members, the Chairman and Mayor from local town councils in Durham and previous guests. The Clerk informed Members that the Hardwick Hall are now requiring the contract to be signed which guarantees that 100 people are paid for, for the event.

**RECOMMENDED**

- i) **To receive the information**
- ii) **The Clerk to sign the contract for Hardwick Hall on behalf of the Town Council.**

## **8. Financial Position: Community Development and Engagement committee**

The up to date figures / budget had been circulated.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information.**

## **9. New Year's Eve Fireworks**

Cllr. John Robinson said there had been considerable interest in establishing a new group in Sedgefield to organize the New Year's Eve Fireworks. He said in the past the Town Council had organized a New Year's Eve Dance and the profits from that had been used to fund the fireworks. He said that New Year's Eve for this year had been booked with the intention of the profits being made paying for the fireworks however this would be the fireworks for 2015

and he as County Councillor would fund the 2014 fireworks. He asked for a copy of the petition.

The Chairman, Cllr. Vanessa Carmichael said a working group is being established to look into the fireworks for both November and New Year's Eve. The Clerk stressed that whilst another group / organization could organize the fireworks etc. the Town Council still has a responsibility as owners of the village green and that they would still need to make provision for insurance.

**RECOMMENDED**

- i) To receive the information**
- ii) To establish the working party**
- iii) To give a copy of the petition to Cllr. John Robinson.**

**10. Insurance**

This was withdrawn by Cllr. John Robinson.

**11. Report: Citizen of the Year**

A report in regard of the arrangements for the Citizen of the Year had been circulated.

**RECOMMENDED**

**To receive the information.**

**12. Request from Young People Re Duke of Edinburgh Award**

A letter has been received from the Duke of Edinburgh Group requesting funding towards the costs of the young people registering for the scheme.

**RECOMMENDED**

The Clerk to contact Mrs. Ellen Guest and if the next planned Community Chest meeting in March is too late for this to be discussed then a special meeting to be arranged.

**13. Youth Issues**

The Chairman, Cllr. Vanessa Carmichael said this had been added to the agenda at the request of the monthly meeting the previous week and had arisen from a letter from Mrs. Ellen Guest stressing the need for a youth facility and also a youth forum / meeting.

Cllr. John Robinson gave information on meetings being arranged re Youth Hub and a Youth Forum.

Cllr. Chris Lines said that whilst STC may not be able to provide a youth service as such it could look at each town council project and see how youth can be included.

**RECOMMENDED**

- i) To receive the information**
- ii) To establish a working party to take this forward.**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.45 p.m.