

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

Minutes of the proceedings of the **JUNE COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE** of the
Council held at **7 pm** in the **Council Offices**, Advice &
Information Centre, Sedgfield, on
Monday 16th June 2014.

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

Officer Jane Ayre (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllr John Robinson

2. Declaration of interest

None

3. Matters of Information

3.1 Bowling Club

Cllr Ian Sutherland reported that the Bowling Club have now forwarded to the architect the last of the information required in order to support their planning application. The architect will be submitting the Bowling Club's planning application next week.

RESOLVED:

To receive the information

4. Public Participation

The Chairman, Cllr. Rebecca Hagan, closed the meeting whilst the public gave their views and comments.

Mrs Julia Bowles reported that following attendance at a Neighbourhood Watch meeting the issue of parking had been discussed at another meeting between Durham County Council Highways representatives and Homebrythe House residents. Mrs Bowles questioned if the Town Council were aware of this meeting or had been involved in any way.

The meeting was then re-opened.

Cllr Hagan replied that the Council had not been aware of, or involved in, any meeting between residents and Durham County Council Highways.

RESOLVED:

- i) The Clerk to liaise with PC Todd regarding parking issues at Homebrythe House.**

5. Reports

5.1 Grants/Projects Update

Cllr Rebecca Hagan reported that she is due to meet with Mrs Angela Simpson, Community Engagement Officer, to consider the layout and content of future Grants/Projects Updates being presented to the Community Development and Engagement Committee.

RESOLVED:

To receive the information

5.2 Equality Act 2010 (The Public Duty)

Cllr Rebecca Hagan gave a powerpoint presentation on the Equality Act 2010 highlighting what the Town Council is required to do as a public authority. Particular emphasis upon was given to Section 149 which relates to the Public Sector Equality Duty which applies to all decisions and policies made by the Town Council to ensure there is no discrimination. All policies must be reviewed with this legislation in mind. The Clerk suggested that this be done in conjunction with the development of a Policy Log as agreed at a recent P&R meeting. It was agreed that this was a good idea. Cllr Hagan also stated that Equality Impact Assessments must also be a part of this review work. Cllr Gloria Wills suggested that an appropriate checklist could be developed to ensure we adopt a suitable approach to such assessments. Cllr Ian Sutherland asked what the penalties were for non-compliance with the legislation and which groups could be liable under it. Cllr Rebecca Hagan responded that non-compliance can result in financial

penalties with some awards being unlimited and that Schedule 19 of the Act lists the organizations/groups liable under the Act.

Cllr Maxine Robinson reported that some work had already been undertaken previously by the Council in this area. For example, reviewing disability access around the village, dropped kerb stones etc.

Cllrs thanked Cllr Rebecca Hagan for her presentation.

RESOLVED:

- i) The Clerk to forward to all Cllrs a copy of Cllr Hagan's presentation.**
- ii) The requirements of the Equality Act 2010, in particular the Equality Impact Assessment responsibilities, to be considered as part of the Council's Policy Log currently being developed.**
- iii) The Clerk to look back through the Council's archives to find work previously undertaken.**

5.3 Sedgefield 700+ (Verbal update for 11th June 2014)

Cllr Allan Blakemore gave an update on the latest position with the Sedgefield Weekend on 12th-13th July 2014. The event is now being actively promoted with brochures and posters in wide circulation. The final Sedgefield 700+ meeting took place on Wednesday 11th June 2014, A wide range of activities are planned for the weekend.

Cllr Dudley Waters had previously queried the insurance cover for the veterans re-enactment, however, the Sedgefield Veterans have now confirmed that they have their own separate insurance for this aspect of the weekend.

Cllrs Dudley Waters and Maxine Robinson stated they did not believe EON had provided any funding for this event yet were credited in associated publicity for this event.

RESOLVED

- i) The Clerk to liaise with Mrs Angela Simpson, Community Engagement Officer to clarify EON funding.**

5.4 Proposed Art Exhibition (Verbal report)

Cllr Rebecca Hagan reported that this item was to be deferred to the next meeting of the Community Development and Engagement Committee.

RESOLVED

- i) Proposed Art Exhibition to be on the next Community Development and Engagement Committee agenda.**

6. Electricity Supply on Village Green

Cllr Rebecca Hagan reported that at last month's meeting Cllrs had approved Mr Roger Clubley's request to use the Council's electricity supply used to supply the Christmas tree to enable the Sedgefield Lyrics Junior Choir to perform at the June Farmers Market. This had been agreed as a one-off arrangement.

This electricity supply was put in place solely for the purpose of lighting the Council's village Christmas tree and was connected in such a way as to make it vandal proof. It was agreed that further investigation needs to be undertaken in relation to this power supply in order to be able to consider whether further requests to use it can be considered.

RESOLVED

- i) The Open Spaces Working Group to consider this issue as part of their work and report back to the Community Development and Engagement Committee.**

7. Youth Issues

None.

8. Correspondence

None.

9. Civic & Mayors Events: See information sheet

Cllr Mel Carr reported that on Saturday 12th July 2014 he will be attending the Sedgefield Day which is being organized in conjunction with the Sedgefield 700+.

RESOLVED:

To receive the information

10. Financial Position: Community Development and Engagement Committee

The Community Development and Engagement Committee financial position had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllrs queried expenditure item 43 for £540 against public information.

RESOLVED