

SEDFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the proceedings of the **FEBRUARY ENVIRONMENT** of the **Council** held following the Community Development and Engagement committee in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on **Monday 17th February 2014**.

Present

Cllr. Mel Carr (Chairman)

Cllr. Mark Cant (Vice-Chairman) and

Cllrs. Allan Blakemore, David Brown, Vanessa Carmichael, Rebecca Hagan, Tim Jeanes, Chris Lines, Maxine Robinson, Ian Sutherland, Alf Walton, Dudley Waters, Gloria Wills

Officer

L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. Lynne Dentith, John Robinson for lateness

2. Declaration of interest

Cllr. Gloria Wills re item 10 Planning Application re Heley House Farm as deferred from the Monthly meeting.

3. Matters of Information

3.1 Bays / Polytunnel at the Cemetery

RECOMMENDED

To add this to the Matters of Information sheet and also to discuss this at the Environment committee meeting in March.

3.2 Speed Indicators

Cllr. Maxine Robinson suggested seeking information from Coxhoe Parish Council re their speed indicator signs. In addition it was suggested that the DCC Councillors be asked to consider funding speed indicator signs in Sedgefield.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

4. Public Participation

The Chairman, Cllr. Mel Carr closed the meeting whilst the public gave their views and comments.

The meeting was then re-opened.

4.1 Speed Indicators

Mrs. Julia Bowles (Chairman of Residents' Forum) confirmed that the Residents' Forum had made an application for Moveable Speed Indicator Signs.

4.2 Consultation on Housing at Eden Drive

Mrs. Julia Bowles expressed concern about the proposed footpath diversion as included in the proposals for the new development at Eden Drive.

4.3 Banning Alcohol on the Streets

Mrs. Julia Bowles gave comments about the above.

4.4 Station Road Flooding

Mrs. Scott expressed concern about the continued problem of flooding on Station Road field and asked that some progress be made with this.

Mr. Simpson commented that NWA have seemingly lost their drainage plans for much of Sedgefield.

5. Reports

5.1 Sedgefield in Bloom

The Clerk said one report had been circulated and the minutes of the bloom meeting held the previous week had been circulated at the meeting.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

5.2 Trees Mitford Court

The Clerk had circulated a report on the trees at Mitford Court.

RECOMMENDED

To submit the application for listed trees consent to carry out the works before taking any further action.

5.3 Turning Circle

The Clerk had circulated a report on the meeting with the Conservation Area Officer in respect of the above.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information and await the outcome of the report and advice.

6. Correspondence

The Clerk had circulated at the meeting a copy letter from Mr. C. Brooker to DCC in regard of the junction of Rectory Row / Stockton Road in Sedgefield.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

7. Financial Position

The Clerk had circulated the up to date estimates / budget for the committee.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

8. Grass cutting Tenders

The Clerk had circulated a tender from Mr. C. Walker (Grass cutting contractor) in respect of the grass cutting season prices for 2014. The Clerk said she had invited a further tender which had not been received.

RECOMMENDED

i) To receive the information.

ii) To ask Great Aycliffe and Durham County Council if they would like to tender for the work.

iii) To discuss at the March P&R committee.

9. Village Centre Parking

The Chairman Cllr. Mel Carr read out a report which he had prepared in regard of the parking in Sedgefield. He stressed the need to consider the businesses particularly in respect of the enforcement of the double yellow lines.

Cllr. Allan Blakemore said his major concern was about the number of the cars that are parked illegally and he welcomed the enforcement of the parking restrictions.

Cllr. Chris Lines said that the Sedgefield Plan will consider parking as part of its remit.

Cllr. Gloria Wills said that parking suggestions arising from the Sedgefield Plan should be incorporated into the proposed medium term plan.

10. Planning Application re Heley House Farm

This had been deferred from the Monthly meeting the previous week.

Cllr. Gloria Wills expressed an interest and took no part in the discussions.

The Clerk circulated a response from Mark O'Sullivan (Planning Officer, DCC) in answer to the queries which the Clerk had raised re the use of "heavy plant". Members expressed concern that there could be movement of heavy industrial plant through Sedgefield if approved and there were also queries as to why a change of use was indeed necessary if the application appertained only to agricultural plant.

RECOMMENDED

The Clerk to contact DCC and seek clarification again on why there is a need for a change of use, on what basis DCC are determining what is meant by plant, and also stressing the ongoing concerns of the movement of heavy industrial plant through Sedgefield.

11. Station Road Flooding

The Clerk reported that DCC have acknowledged the request for Freedom of Information in respect of additional information re the Geo Technical Survey which was carried out some years ago as part of the new development for Station Road. In addition a response has been received from Northumbrian Water which confirms that they tested the surface water sewer and found it to be free from defects.

RECOMMENDED

To seek clarification re the dye testing on the surface water and ask in particular which drains this referred to.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m.