

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND
ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the proceedings of the **MARCH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE** of the **Council** held at **6.30 pm** in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgefield, on
Monday 17th March 2014.

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

Officer L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. Rebecca Hagan, Chris Lines, John Robinson, Maxine Robinson

2. Declaration of interest

None

3. Matters of Information

None

4. Public Participation

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

The meeting was then re-opened.

4.1 Hardwick Hall License Application

Mrs. Julia Bowles, Chairman of the Residents' Forum said a group of residents have met with the management of Hardwick Hall and Mrs. Bowles said it was essential to have the noise from all events controlled.

4.2 Large Scale Housing

Mrs. Bowles commented on the application re the new development on Eden Drive.

5. Reports

5.1 Grants/Projects Update

Information had been circulated.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information

5.2 Farmers' Market

Cllr. Lynne Dentith informed the meeting that preparations for the launch in April are well underway.

The Clerk informed Members that the official transfer agreement which has been signed by the Chairman Cllr. Chris Lines has now been sent to Mr. Roger Clubley, SDT.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

5.3 Residents' Forum

The minutes were circulated at the meeting.

Cllr. Gloria Wills thanked the Residents' Forum for all of their work.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

5.4 Sedgefield Plan: Steering Group

The minutes had been circulated.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

5.5 Sedgefield 700+

The minutes had been circulated.

Cllr. Allan Blakemore reported that he was optimistic that the grant from CDCF would be sufficient to fund the activities which had been planned.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

5.6 Sedgefield Extra

The Clerk said that the meeting had been held to begin work on the May edition of the Sedgefield Extra.

A follow up meeting will be arranged.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

5.7 Hardwick Park

A report from the Chairman, Cllr. Chris Lines had been circulated the previous week.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Farmers' Market: Great Aycliffe Town Council

A letter has been received from Great Aycliffe Town Council in respect of their proposed market.

RECOMMENDED

The Clerk to write back and give information re the monthly Sedgefield Farmers' Market.

6.2 Fixed Play Equipment

Information has been received from Durham County Council in respect of their policy for Fixed Play Equipment.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

6.3 Charity Dance

The Clerk had circulated the draft figures from the recent Mayor's Charity Dance.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

7. Civic & Mayors Events

The information sheet had been circulated. It was noted that: -

- The Annual Meeting is Tuesday 6th May
- The Coach Trip is 10th June
- Sedgefield Weekend is 12th / 13th July

8. Financial Position

The Clerk had circulated the up to date figures re the committee.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information.

9. License: Hardwick Hall

The Clerk had brought information to the meeting from Durham County Council in respect of the application for a new Premises License for Hardwick Hall Hotel. Members expressed some concerns in regard of the conditions of the license.

RECOMMENDED

- To write to the Licensing Department and request that the event be restricted to one evening and that there is more effort in controlling the sound from both the fairground and the artists at the event.**
- To stress that it is essential that sound monitoring staff are present on site throughout the event.**

- iii. **To ask that this application be deferred to the Licensing committee when representation can be made.**

In addition concerns were raised over the parking overnight and the Clerk is to ask if the License covers this aspect and seek clarification that the structures for the event are of a temporary nature only.

10. Sedgefield Show

Cllr. David Brown asked if the Show entries can be dropped into the offices for the Show.

RECOMMENDED

This was agreed.

11. Community Engagement Event

The Clerk had circulated a report from Cllr. Gloria Wills in regard of holding a surgery to ascertain the views of the residents with regard to the application for 113 dwellings from Story Homes on land at Eden Drive, Sedgefield. Cllr. Wills said it was important that the Council engage with the community in order that the Council can submit an informed response to the application. In addition Cllr. Gloria Wills suggested that a planning consultant be engaged to prepare a comprehensive response and who could be used if necessary for future responses to further applications for development in the future. The Clerk confirmed that she had emailed Mr. Henry Jones, Planning Officer at DCC requesting confirmation of the final date for submission of responses.

RECOMMENDED

- i. **The Clerk to write and suggest that the Planning meeting to determine the application is held at County Hall or similar which has a large meeting room.**
- ii. **The Council to arrange a day / evening surgery which will be “manned” by Town Councillors in order that residents can bring their views.**
- iii. **To appoint a Planning Consultant for this piece of work. (Specifications etc. to be forwarded to the Clerk).**
- iv. **To advertise the surgery in the Sedgefield News.**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8 p.m.