

# SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
of the Council held at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall, Sedgefield,  
on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016



Cllr Mel Carr (Chair of the Town Council), Cllr Gloria Wills (Mayor), Cllr Allan Blakemore, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Vanessa Carmichael, Cllr Lynne Dentith, Cllr Tim Jeanes, Cllr Maxine Robinson, Cllr Ian Sutherland and Cllr Alf Walton.

Clerk: Dr Jane Ayre

24 Residents

## 1 Welcome by the Chairman:

Cllr Mel Carr welcomed everyone to the Council's Annual Town Meeting. He explained this meeting was in two parts, the first being the Annual Town Meeting itself when the Town Council and other organisations would report their activities over the previous financial year and then the second part from 8pm onwards would see the Mayor present financial donations to her chosen charities followed by the announcement of the Citizen of the Year 2015. Cllr Carr informed those in attendance that copies of the meeting's agenda and the Town Council's 2014/15 Annual Report had already been distributed around the room for information.

## 2 Apologies

Cllrs. Mark Cant, Chris Lines, John Robinson and Dudley Waters

The Clerk reported that apologies had also been received from Mr John Hannon who had intended to give a report on the Sedgefield Charities.

## 3 Chairman's Report 2015/16

Cllr Mel Carr reported that 2015/16 had been another busy year for the Town Council and as Chair of the Council there had been many varied items and issues on the agendas to be debated and considered, making it very interesting and enjoyable. One of the main items being The Sedgefield Plan which requires a great amount of consideration and steering to ensure it progresses as smoothly and swiftly as possible. The Town Council are now responsible for the continuing process after the excellent work of the Steering Group in preparing it. The aim of

The Plan is to put into place the controlled development of Sedgefield and ensure the impact of new homes in Sedgefield do not overwhelm existing infrastructure, facilities and amenities. It will be reviewed every 5 years until 2030. Cllr Allan Blakemore, as Chair of the Steering Group, is now pressing ahead to progress The Plan and the current position at the time of writing this report is that Durham County Council's six week statutory consultation period has concluded and potential Independent Examiners have been identified. The Town Council and Durham County Council are meeting on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016 in order to jointly agree upon the appointment of an Independent Examiner who will oversee the examination process which we hope will then be followed by a Community Referendum in which our electorate will have their say through a vote regarding formal adoption of this Plan. The Town Council will continue to keep residents informed about the Plan through the Sedgefield Extra, the Council's website and the Residents Database. Cllr Carr expressed his thanks to all those who had assisted in this process.

With regard to large scale planning applications Cllr Carr had represented the Town Council to oppose the Three Corner Field (proposed 42 units) which had been refused by DCC and the Town Council has just been informed earlier today that the appeal for this application has been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate. In addition, Cllr Carr had also represented the Town Council to oppose applications on land South of Beacon Lane (proposed 150 units which was refused), Eden Drive (proposed 230 units which was refused and now in appeal) and revised Eden Drive application (300 units which was refused). The Town Council continues to monitor this situation carefully.

The comments received from the Parish Hall User Survey carried out in relation to the Parish Hall review are continuing to progress and some of the issues are starting to be addressed with more in the near future.

The Town Council's Gardening Staff, Stephen Young and Roy Cairns, often working alongside Sedgefield In Bloom members, continue to keep Sedgefield looking at its best with the flower displays and weeding. The Town Council wish Roy all the best on his retirement this year. A recruitment process is now underway to seek a full-time Gardener to support Stephen Young.

Committees and Working Groups all contribute to the running of the Town Council and Cllr Carr thanked all for their enthusiasm and work with events such as Sedgefield Day, the Fireworks Display, the Halloween Howler and the Snow Party.

Cllr Carr expressed his thanks to the residents of Sedgefield, the Council's staff and fellow Cllrs for their support over the last year. Cllr Carr paid thanks to Cllr Gloria Wills for all her work as

Mayor of Sedgefield. Thanks were also expressed to Mr Brian Wills in his role as Mayor's consort and he was presented with a gift as a thank you from the Town Council.

#### **4 Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

The minutes from the Annual Town Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were proposed by Cllr Lynne Dentith as being a true record and this was seconded by Cllr Gloria Wills. The minutes were then agreed as being a true record of the meeting.

#### **5 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

#### **6 Reports**

##### **6.1 Town Council Annual Report 2015/16**

Cllr Mel Carr explained the format of the Council's Annual Report for 2015/16 which contained a Mayor's Report (page 8), Policy & Resources Committee Report (page 9), Community Development & Engagement Committee Report (page 10), Environment Committee Report (page 11), Personnel Committee Report (page 13), Community Chest Report (page 13), Sedgefield Extra Report (page 14) and Allotments Report (page 15). Cllr Carr reiterated his earlier thanks to all Committees and Working Groups whose members have worked very hard over 2015/16.

Cllr Carr also reported that during the course of 2015/16 work has been ongoing with the local AAP and Investing In Children in order to expand upon the work of the AAP's Youth Forum and focus in specifically upon need in Sedgefield. As a result an Agenda Day was held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016. Information received is being collated by Investing In Children and will be presented to the Town Council to then determine how we can help to fill any gaps. Also during 2015/16 have been on-going discussions regarding Butterwick Road Cemetery and the Town Council's approach to start to develop the new area of the cemetery behind the Remembrance Garden. This work will be a priority in 2016/17 and discussions have been on-going for some time with DCC in order to consider options for a new access to the cemetery.

Cllr Carr reminded residents there is currently a Councillor vacancy on the Town Council. This vacancy has been well advertised and the Town Council would welcome applicants before the closing date of 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

Cllr Carr informed residents that if they had any questions regarding the Town Council's Year End Accounts for 2015/16 to contact the Town Clerk.

Finally, Cllr Carr thanked the Town Clerk for her hard work over 2015/16.

## **6.2 Police Report:**

PC Keith Todd submitted apologies from Sgt Alex Clarke and proceeded to deliver the Police Report for 2015/16. Chief Constable Mike Barton is committed to leading a force which delivers excellent policing to the people of County Durham and Darlington, inspiring confidence in victims and our communities by protecting neighbourhoods, tackling criminals and solving problems. Durham Constabulary is the top performing Force in the country after receiving the highest possible "Outstanding" grading by inspectors, the only force in the country to achieve this. Over the next two years Durham Constabulary are looking to recruit 200 officers. PC Todd explained that funding for these new officers is as a result of a reserve having been built up in anticipation of an enforced budgetary cut which did not occur. This means the Constabulary will be able to increase policing with more Officers on the beat. Cllr Mel Carr said he hoped so see more Police Officers in Sedgefield.

Durham Constabulary is committed to neighbourhood policing and has aligned neighbourhoods with the Safeguarding teams. This will not only bring vulnerable people further under the safety umbrella of neighbourhood policing but will also see offenders being managed more closely by the same officers. The structure of "Safeguarding and Neighbourhoods", "Response policing and communications", "Crime and justice", "Support services" and "Taking and co-ordination" has been designed to make a more effective use of resources. Officers are directed where and when they are most needed, instead of being governed by geographic boundaries. The aim is to provide a modern, cost-effective neighbourhood policing service that responds to need.

PC Todd then focused specifically upon policing in Sedgefield village. Reported crime in Sedgefield for 2014/15 stood at 170 incidents. In comparison reported crime in Sedgefield for 2015/16 stood at 226 incidents. This represented a 33% increase in reported crime. The detection rate for Sedgefield over 2015/16 was 27%. These crimes were then broken down further:

- Burglary (dwelling) – have fallen from 5 to 4 incidents (-20%)
- Burglary (other) – have fallen from 34 to 26 incidents (-24%)
- Violence against the person – have increased from 20 to 48 incidents (+140%)
- Sexual offences – have increased from 3 to 9 incidents (+200%)

While the rise in sexual offences is generally regarded as a sign more victims are prepared to come forward, report the crime and seek help from the authorities, police say the surge in this category, and also violent offences is largely due to changes in recording practices. Last year a report by HMIC into the integrity of crime recording found major variations across forces in terms of how certain offences were categorized. Across England and Wales, police forces generally have now adopted a more rigorous approach to recording certain offences as 'violent' or as 'sexual offences' to align with the recommendations of the HMIC report.

PC Todd reported that the total number of incidents dealt with by Durham Constabulary in 2014/15 was 1593. In 2015/16 this figure increased to 1650.

Tackling anti-social behavior remains one of the main priorities for the Police and other partner agencies. In 2015/16 there were 121 incidents of anti-social behavior in Sedgefield which was a 6.5% decrease on the previous year. Of these incidents 51 were youth related (representing a 10% decrease on the previous year) and 16 incidents were alcohol related (representing a 44% decrease on the previous year). Police continue to target areas to tackle youth related anti-social behavior. PC Todd gave the example of the Youth Shelter outside the Town Council Offices from which he had removed a number of 18 year olds just prior to attending this meeting. The Police also continue to target those responsible for supplying alcohol.

PC Todd reported that despite the falling number of licensed premises within the Town, the Sedgefield Pub Watch Scheme remains active and meets every month. Over the course of the year a number of individuals have received 'banning orders' as a result of their conduct within licensed premises.

Members of the Sedgefield Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Panel continue to commit their time and effort for the benefit of the local community. New members are always welcome. PC Todd reminded everyone that members of the public can attend the monthly PACT meetings which take place in the Parish Hall. Anyone wishing to find out dates and time of these meetings can do so through the Durham Constabulary website, Facebook, Twitter or contact a member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

PC Todd concluded by informing the meeting that former PCSO Gavin Rutter has now joined Durham Constabulary and will commence his appointment on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2016. Ms Amy Jordison is now the replacement PCSO.

### **6.3. Durham County Council:**

Cllr Maxine Robinson submitted County Cllr John Robinson's apologies and read out on his behalf a DCC Report which he had prepared.

Cllr Robinson submitted his apologies for the meeting as due to his work commitments as a part-time Parish Clerk he was required to attend that Council's Annual Parish Meeting and AGM. Cllr Robinson reiterated that Annual Town meetings are vital for listening to the views of the electorate.

In May 2015 Cllr Robinson and wife Maxine were coming to the end of two wonderful years as Chairman of DCC and Mayor of the City of Durham. It was a hectic two years but gave many memories to cherish. Cllr Robinson wished to thank the people of Sedgfield for giving and allowing him that experience. The village was supportive and many residents had said they were proud as it put Sedgfield on the County map and spotlight for those years. Cllr Robinson expressed his thanks to fellow ward Cllr Rachel Lumdsdon for her support as well as fellow Town Cllrs especially Cllrs Ian Sutherland, Allan Blakemore, Dudley Waters and Mel Carr.

During 2015/16 County Cllr Rachel Lumdsdon has continued her role as Cabinet Support to Cllr Plews as well as County Planning. County Cllr John Robinson has had a different role as Chair of Adult, Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny plus North and Central Planning Committees. Both had enjoyed their roles and learned a great deal from them. They hope to continue these roles in the coming year.

The County Durham Plan is firmly back on the agenda and will hopefully be resolved and adopted in 2017. Without a County Plan the whole of the County is both at a standstill and an economic and social disadvantage. It has allowed a free for all from developers looking at our ward. Cllr Robinson hoped the County Plan could be adopted soon for the wellbeing of the whole of the County. Many applications have been submitted, from the individual wishing to extend their home to the large housing estates. Cllr Robinson was delighted the County Planning Committee listened and took on the views of the residents in regards to large scale development, arguments and observations all well made. The Committee had on three occasions turned down large scheme which to be fair could have on one occasion brought in £1 million to the local economy. Cllr Robinson was delighted to report the three corner field application was refused by DCC and was recently dismissed at appeal. Focus now moves to the big appeals in the summer for the three housing estate applications.

At last year's Annual Town Meeting members of the public raised the issue of young people. Over the year County Cllrs Lumdsdon and Robinson have been working closely with the young people and groups in the ward. The Cllrs are due to report shortly on the survey of young

people's views undertaken, and Cllr Robinson hoped this would link in with the views taken at the Youth Event on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in the Parish Hall by Investors in Children when they met the young people. Both County Cllrs have committed over the last two years funds to both Investing in Children and the Youth Service to provide for the youth. It remains their priority to respond to their wishes. Indeed, they are looking to support their wish to bring back the youth council and to produce a young people's newsletter.

In 2015 the floral awards, community award and youth award presentation joined and were presented by the MP. This was well received especially by the young people. In 2016 these will be relaunched as the Pride of Sedgefield Wards by working with the Rotary, Civic Trust and SCA and DCC sponsorship. Awards for gardening, thanking and recognizing the work of community groups, last year's winners of this award, The Ellen Robinson Cup, Sedgefield In Bloom and the youth awards. The later covering all aspects of art, sport, dance, school, young carer, extra mile award, and Youth Ambassador. Linked to Rotary competitions there will be a repeat of master chef, young photographer of the year, artist of the year and debating. Winners will then progress through these awards to regional and then national.

Over 2016, starting with meetings arranged in May 2016, work will be undertaken to move forward dementia cafes and Dementia Friends in Sedgefield and the ward. Links are being explored with credit unions. There is also support for expanding the play area at Winterton Park, a project with County Cllr Rachel Lumsdon is leading on. County Councillors are also looking at re-launching the Friends of the Library, using the volunteers who came forward.

County Cllr MIF and Neighbourhood Funding has gone to support numerous groups and organisations in the area, from drama to sport to brass bands. Both have supported Sedgefield Day and this year injection of in excess of £5,000 towards its costs and to provide the village with a PA system. A bid is currently being processed to add more gazebos and sound equipment for the village to use. County Cllrs are processing a bid to support the redevelopment of the squash and out of school fun clubs. Money has also been identified to support the Harriers.

The big issue on the horizon is Devolution and the Mayor for the North East. This is still under discussion and to date Gateshead Council have pulled out. County Cllrs will continue to keep the Town Council and residents informed via a newsletter as soon as possible.

Cllr Robinson concluded that 2016/17 will be an exciting and challenging year with planning appeals and the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Mel Carr asked if there was a report from County Cllr Rachel Lumsdon. The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Lumsdon had been invited to attend, however, no report had been received.

#### **6.4. Sedgefield Development Trust:**

Mr Roger Clubley reported that 2015/16 had been a very good year for the Trust and it was better placed than in the year before predominantly as a result of the move away from payments in arrears for Sedgefield News to payments in advance. There had been initial worry that this would result in advertisers withdrawing from the News, however, this had not been the case and in fact advertising demand is increasing. As a result of this the Trust has a greater sense of stability both financially and actively.

With regards to Sedgefield News, Mr Clubley reported that a new Editorial Team has been created which includes two young reporters. Mr Clubley said that someone with graphic design skills would be beneficial to the Team and if anyone was willing to volunteer to please get in touch with him.

The Trust's new website is receiving 1500 visits per month with most visitors staying up to 5 minutes per visit suggesting that they are able to access the information they require. There is also evidence that the site is being used by potential visitors to the area as they plan their visit looking at where to stay/eat/visit etc. The associated use of Facebook and Twitter has also increased the Trust's profile by reaching a much wider audience.

Mr Clubley expressed his thanks to Gloria Wills for her work with DIDO, a group that now has over 75 members.

Mr Clubley said it was over one year since the first results had been reported in relation to the Trust's work with The Energy Switch programme. This programme operates three times per year with August being a key month prior to people increasing their energy usage. The savings to date for the local area are significant and over £80,000. Mr Clubley expressed his thanks to Mrs Julia Bowles for her work with the programme.

With regards to the Farmers Market it is now over 2 years since the Trust took over the running from the Town Council. The number of stalls attending each market is being sustained with charity stalls also providing to be very popular and well used. Often music events are planned to coincide with the Market although sometimes the weather does hamper this with the cancellation of the Maypole dancing at the last Market being a prime example. Sedgefield Village Games have organized activities to coincide with the Market and this has also proved



successful. Mr Clubley reported that income from stalls is covering outgoings and he thanked the Town Council for their on-going support.

Mr Clubley expressed his thanks to Gloria Wills for her work with the Sewing Group which is proving to be very popular. Sewing machines have been purchased through grant funding. There are some issues with storage which will need to be resolved over the coming months.

The Trust has played a role alongside the Town Council and the Rotary Club in selecting the Citizen of the Year 2015 to be announced later this evening.

Looking ahead to 2016/17 Mr Clubley reported that beekeeping courses run by the Trust in conjunction with Hardwick Park had been very successful and work is now underway to identify a location in the town for an apiary from which Sedgefield Honey can be produced. The Trust is always keen to receive from the community their ideas for the Town. Previously ideas suggested have included tree planting, planting and food growing projects which would only be considered in conjunction with other groups and organisations from the Town. Finally, at the last AGM Dawn Seymour joined the Trust. The Trust is looking forward to another productive year in 2017/18. Full details can be found on the Trust's website.

## **7 Public Participation:**

Cllr Mel Carr asked members of the public if they had any questions for the Town Council or any of the other organisations who had presented reports.

Mrs Julia Bowles asked the Town Council why an Examiner for The Sedgefield Plan was not appointed whilst Durham County Council were going through their six week statutory consultation period. Mrs Bowles then commented that classroom extension work now appears to be underway at the Community College and asked how this work was being funded when previously the community had been told that the only way this building work could be funded was by selling the former school farm site and building houses. Mrs Bowles then expressed her pleasure at the three corner field planning application having been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate. She suggested that as this field is such an important feature to the Town and so valued that Sedgefield Development Trust may consider forming a type of community fund in order to purchase this field and protect it for the future. Cllr Allan Blakemore reassured Mrs Bowles that the Town Council has been pushing DCC as much as it can regarding the issue of appointing an Examiner for the Neighbourhood Plan. Indeed the meeting scheduled for Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016 had been scheduled quite some time ago as it is not possible to gain immediate access to the Officers with whom such discussions need to take place. The Town Council's intention at the forthcoming meeting is to push for the appointment of an Examiner.

The Town Council had wanted to have a seamless transition from the conclusion of DCC's statutory consultation process to the commencement of the actual examination. Cllr Blakemore said that he felt an even bigger barrier to progress from DCC would be the identification of a date for a Community Referendum in relation to the Plan as significant lead in time is required by the department of the County Council responsible for this process. Cllr Blakemore said he felt The Sedgefield Plan was strong but he would be more confident once an actual Referendum date was in place and work could begin on promoting a "Yes" campaign. Mrs Bowles urged the Town Council to continue to keep applying pressure upon DCC as there was considerable mileage for DCC to delay this process further. Mrs Bowles also pointed out that when reading the consultation documentation that has recently been issued in relation to the 'new' County Durham Plan this clearly stipulates that the County Council can appoint their Examiner whilst other work on the Plan is being undertaken. In conclusion of this particular matter Mrs Bowles stated that her contact at DCLG has said that speed should be very much the essence in relation to Neighbourhood Plans. With regards to the question of the Community College, Cllr Mel Carr said that he believed the building work was being funded by DCC in the interim until the building of houses takes place on the former farm site and money is returned to DCC. Cllr Mel Carr agreed that the suggestion from Mrs Bowles regarding the three corner field was a worthy idea. Mrs Norma Neal asked who currently owns this field and Cllr David Brown was able to confirm this as Mr Hopkinson.

Mr Walter Howell reported that the traffic beacon indicator at the crossing near the Hardwick Arms Hotel has been damaged. He asked if it was possible to increase the yellow lines to outside the Hardwick Arms Hotel in order to alleviate current congestion which is a danger to people crossing the road. Cllr Maxine Robinson replied that County Cllr John Robinson is aware of this situation and discussions are underway regarding this matter. Cllr Allan Blakemore suggested this particular issue be made a priority at a future PACT meeting.

Mrs Norma Neal expressed her concerns regarding the state of the Hope Inn as it is starting to look shabby. Mrs Neal reported that Sedgefield has been placed in the Champion of Champions category for this year's Northumbria in Bloom competition and this property stands right in the middle of the Town clearly visible to all. Mrs Neal asked if the Town Council could contact the property owners regarding this matter. The Town Clerk replied that attempts have already been made to seek from the property owners the dates for their planned refurbishment programme, however, no response has been received. The Town Clerk will contact the property owners again. Mrs Neal then asked by certain assets in the Town Council's 2015/16 accounts were shown as having a £1 value. The Town Clerk and Cllr Gloria Wills explained that some of these assets were either historically gifted to the Council or are on a long-term lease basis with an attached peppercorn rent which thus affects the value. Work is scheduled

to be undertaken during 2016/17 to review the Fixed Assets Schedule in conjunction with the Town Council's Internal Auditor.

Mrs Julia Bowles asked what the Town Council was doing with Cemetery Lodge. The Town Clerk reported that a decision had been made by the Town Council to sell Cemetery Lodge, however, this cannot be done until the Lodge is 'isolated' from the actual Cemetery and the work of the Town Council. Currently discussions are underway with DCC regarding potential land that could be used to provide a new access to the cemetery (as currently the only access to the cemetery is at the side of the Lodge). In addition to this the Town Council has installed a dedicated work cabin for the Gardening staff which is also part of this isolating process and further work will take place in 2016/17 to secure and cordon this site. Cllr Gloria Wills expressed her frustration at the length of time being taken by DCC to provide answers to questions regarding land ownership and potential sale of land. She felt this was particularly disappointing when considering that DCC had stated upon becoming a Unitary Authority that nothing would change in terms of quality of service delivery. Mrs Julia Bowles pointed out that the Town Council always has the option of the taking the issue of delay to the Local Government Ombudsman. Cllr Mel Carr also expressed his frustration and gave the example of the matter of a site at Spring Lane which the Town Council had over an on-going period of two years urged the County Council to take enforcement action, however, the County had instead refused to do so and this had resulted in a planning application being lodged which then needed to go to DCC Committee and then the Planning Inspectorate before finally being dismissed.

Mrs Sarah Guest asked where the new access to the Butterwick Road Cemetery would be. The Town Clerk replied that no new access location has been confirmed as such a decision cannot be made until answers are received from DCC regarding land ownership and potential costs. Cllr Gloria Wills pointed out that as well as their been an urgent need to develop the new area of the existing cemetery the Town Council also needs to identify further land in preparation for the next cemetery in the Town. Mrs Norma Neal pointed out that the existing Butterwick Road Cemetery has been in use since 1911 and has served the Town very well.

Mr David Jasper noted in Cllr Carr's Chair's Report in the Town Council's Annual Report that a Parish Hall User Survey had been undertaken. Mr Jasper asked what issues this had identified and what refurbishment work is likely and by when. Cllr Carr replied the User Survey had identified issues which related to the entire Parish Hall building including usage, storage, sound, lighting, décor and many more issues. As a result of this the Estates Working Group have had a much bigger task to undertake than was first appreciated. Mrs Norma Neal pointed out that a very good suggestion had been made by the Town Council to create a Parish Hall User Group,

however, she was disappointed that this had not happened yet and whilst she appreciated that in some areas of work delays were being caused by DCC this was not the case in relation to the Parish Hall which is entirely a Town Council matter. Cllr Gloria Wills reiterated that there has been a lot of issues identified, all of which have needed very detailed discussion and investigation. Some Hall Users only have basic needs while others have quite complex needs and this has added to the workload. Cllr Wills said the Town Council is committed to getting the Parish Hall right and on a sustainable footing by using money wisely. Cllr Allan Blakemore, Parish Hall Champion, confirmed that Town Council has unearthed more issues to resolve than expected and he wanted residents to be reassured that the Town Council are working hard to get this right. Cllr Alf Walton echoed the comments of Cllrs Carr, Wills and Blakemore. Mrs Norma Neal commented that the new lights in the Fletcher Room are a great improvement.

Cllr Mel Carr thanked the public for their participation.

## **8 Presentations**

The presentations and various awards were during the second part of the Annual Town Meeting beginning at 8.15pm

### **a) Presentation of Cheques from the Mayor's Charity**

The Mayor said he was delighted to present cheques to local groups.

Cheques were then presented to: -

- DIDO
- Pop In
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sedgefield Brownies
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sedgefield Brownies
- Guides
- Taste & See
- Harriers – Juniors
- Squash Club – Juniors
- Scouts
- Fishburn Dance & Drama
- Friends of Sedgefield Community Hospital
- Sedgefield Players
- SPYS
- Sedgefield Village Veterans
- Fishburn Tea Dance
- Cricket Club

- Sedgefield In Bloom
- Wynyard FC Under 8's
- Sedgefield Village Crime and Neighbourhood Watch Panel
- Alzheimers Society

**b) Citizen of the Year**

Mr Mel Broadbelt and Mr Roger Clubley announced that Mr Walter Howells was the Citizen of the Year 2016. Presentations and speeches were then made by Mr Mel Broadbelt of Sedgefield Rotary, Mr Roger Clubley of Sedgefield Development Trust and Cllr Gloria Wills as Mayor in recognition of his considerable services to Sedgefield over many years. Thanks were also made to Mr Howell's wife Mildred.

The Chairman, Cllr Mel Carr thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.45pm.