

SEDFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the proceedings of the **September ENVIRONMENT** of the **Council** held at **7 p.m.** in the **Council Offices**, Advice & Information Centre, Sedgfield, on **Monday 20th September 2010.**

Present

Cllr. Ian Sutherland (Chairman)

Cllr. Norman Dunn (Vice-Chairman) and

Cllrs. M. Brown, S. Hannan, S. Sutherland, D. Waters

Officer

L. K. Swinbank (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllrs. D. Brown, J. Robinson, M. Robinson, T. Jeanes, R. Taylor, P. Bodo, A. Blakemore

2. Declaration of interest

None

3. Allotments: Winterton

The Chairman welcomed residents from Winterton Cottages who had been invited to discuss the car parking area and allotments.

Issues raised included:-

a) Current Situation in purchasing the car park

The Chairman explained that there had been previous discussion between NHS Estates, Millers, DCC, STC and residents from the cottages – re the purchase of the car park area by the residents. Indeed the Town Council had turned down transfer of same in March 2009 – and thought that the residents had gone through with the sale.

It had been therefore a surprise when STC were approached in May/June by NHS requesting the Town Council take over the land – otherwise NHS were placing the land for sale on the open market.

As a result and due to the very short timescale STC had agreed to purchase the car park land and this is currently underway.

b) Car Parking Spaces

The Clerk confirmed that the allotment contracts include asking all allotment holders not to park on the tarmac. This clause remains – although it was pointed out that officially STC is unable to provide “private” car parking.

The grassed areas at the entrance are now strimmed and allotment holders encouraged to park on these areas.

A new grit bin will be requested – and grit is available from the Town Council.

c) Portacabin

An application for funding for a new portacabin has been submitted. If this is not successful then the existing will be screened by plants, shrubs etc.

In addition security lighting will be added.

d) Fencing

Post and rail fencing will be constructed around the allotment area as soon as possible and hedging will then be planted.

Other Matters

DCC will be asked to trim back the hedge at the access to the car park.

4. Matters of Information

4.1 Tree: North End

The Clerk informed Members that she had forwarded the disk regarding the drains to DCC.

RECOMMENDED

To await the information from Zurich re the insurance claim

5. Reports

5.1 Sedgefield in Bloom

The Sedgefield in Bloom minutes had been circulated.

The Chairman informed Members that Sedgefield has been awarded the Gold Medal and 1st place in the Northumbria in Bloom.

RECOMMENDED

To receive the information and await the results of the National Competition

6. Correspondence

6.1 Proposed Foxton Lane Wind Farm: Wind Prospect

The Clerk circulated a revised response.

RECOMMENDED

To forward the response to DCC

6.2 Charitable Funds – Winterton Hospital

A response has been received from NHS Estates regarding possible funding for converting the existing Winterton Cemetery records to a computer database. This has now been passed onto another department.

RECOMMENDED

To await the information from NHS

7. Litter Bins

Costings have been received re new litter bin for Eden Drive Play Area.

RECOMMENDED

To make application to County Durham Foundation re new litter bin scheme for Sedgefield

8. Church Wall

Members were reminded that it had been agreed to discuss a second phase repair of the Church Wall in September.

RECOMMENDED

To go ahead and ask Mr. Kearton to proceed as soon as possible

9. Quotation: Church View Footpath

Costings had been received for the above.

RECOMMENDED

To seek further prices

10. Issues Raised from Walkabout

These had been circulated.

RECOMMENDED

To refer to appropriate people/organisation

11. Redundant Plants

RECOMMENDED

All redundant plants to be made available for residents – and to advertise this in the Sedgefield Extra

12. Poo Fairy

Concern was expressed re the identified areas of problems as Station Road field and Ceddesfeld Grounds – out of all of the AAP area.

RECOMMENDED

To request details/statistics of complaints for these areas

13. Allotment Fencing

Prices had been received.

RECOMMENDED

Cllrs. I. Sutherland, N. Dunn, D. Waters plus the Clerk and Community Development Officer to discuss and have delegated powers to place the order

14. Lamp-post Stumps

Cllr. N. Dunn reported lamp-post stumps being left on Wallington Drive.

RECOMMENDED

The Clerk to report this to DCC

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