

# SEDGEBERROW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Sedgeberrow Parish Council Meeting held in the Betteridge Room at Sedgeberrow Village Hall on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at 7.15pm.

Present                      Cllr's Mrs M Pratt [Chairman], Mr J De Paris and Mr R Hunt  
In Attendance        Ms J Shields (Clerk), and Mr M Parker.

**1.        Apologies: To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr A Stow and PCS Pardoe.

**2.        Declaration Of Interests.**

Councillors were reminded to update their registers of interest and to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and their nature.

**3.        To Consider The Adoption Of The Minutes Of The Meeting Held On the 10<sup>th</sup> July 2014.**

The minutes having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a true record.

Meeting was closed.

Mike Parker (Chair) Sedgeberrow Sustainable and Manageable Energy gave an update on the following items:-

- *External Wall insulation*
- *Photovoltaic panels on the Village Hall roof.*
- *Intelligently Green Award*
- *Turbine feasibility study.*

Full report at the end of the minutes.

Meeting resumed.

**4.        Police.**

*Apologies but we will be unable to attend the PC meeting.*

*There have been no incidents to report.*

*We have the police surgery which will take place on 25th September @ 10:00 at the Church, school drop in sessions on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 14:30 and village walkabout on the third Friday of each month from 13:30 - 14:30.*

*If the PC have any matters they wish to raise please contact us.*

**5.        County Councillor.**

No report.

**6.        District Councillor.**

No report.

**7.        Progress Reports For Information.**

a)     Clerk.

The Highways agency have advised that there are sufficient signs in place for the cycle path.

b) War Memorial.

The clerk has submitted an application form to Wychavon for funds from the New Homes Bonus and for funding from the War Memorials Trust.

The chairman will count the lettering on the Wall Plaque and Memorial, the Clerk will complete the returned forms, as instructed.

The council will proceed with the quote from IML.

c) Lengthsman.

Invoice and VAS figures for July and August had been received.

d) Village Clean Up.

The Flood Group and SESAME carried out the Village Clean up on the 6<sup>th</sup> September, a cheque for £100.00 was given to each group.

e) Mobile Post Office.

Due to Ashton Under Hill Post Office being within 3 miles of Sedgeberrow, the village does not qualify for the mobile Post Office. However the Postmaster at Ashton is retiring.

## **8. Correspondence.**

The council agreed for Cllr Hunt to represent the council at PACT Meetings.

Clerk to contact the Heartbeat Trust for a quote for a defibrillator.

Chairman to pursue the School in their purchase of a defibrillator.

No one is available to attend any of the Worcs, CALC training sessions or the Parish Conference.

Clerk to contact neighbouring parishes regarding 'Permitted Development Rights'

The drainage work has been carried out at the Hollows.

Cllr Hunt will answer the E mail regarding the Survey of the Village for the Flooding & Historic Environment Survey.

## **9. Highway Matters.**

The recently received E mail regarding parking in Winchcombe Road, has been forwarded to Highways the Local Policing team.

The Local Policing Team will be advised of the problems in parking at school opening and closing times in Churchill Road.

The complaint regarding the overgrown bridleway at the Acres was passed to Worcestershire County Council.

The drain opposite the school needs jetting – Clerk to inform Highways.

## **10. Finance.**

a) To Receive Bank Reconciliation As At 31st August 2014.

The reconciliation was presented to the council.

No remittance had been received.

b) To Receive Accounts To Date.

c) To Approve Payments.

The council approved the following payment:-

Lengthsman, March £162.50, April £139.50, May £180.00, June £197.50. Clerks Expenses £28.33, Wychavon Sport £39.00, New Look Solutions £90.00 July and £60.00 August, Grant Thornton £100.00 and Poppy Appeal £30.00.

d) The completed audit had been received.

## **11. Planning.**

a) To consider applications since last meeting.

- i. W/14/01112/LB - Church House, 89 Main Street, Sedgeberrow.  
Replacement bay Window. No objections.

- ii. W/14/01671/PN - 12 Main Street, Sedgeberrow. Installation of an Air Conditioning unit. No objection if operating times are considered for the neighbouring property.
- iii. W/14/01755/PO - Land adjoining, 49 Main Street, Application under section 106BA of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to amend the requirements relating to affordable housing as set out in legal agreement dated 15 July 2014 associated with planning permission ref.no. W/12/02727/OU (approving erection of 20 dwellings). Objection. – We most strongly to the amendment of the requirements relating to affordable housing as set out in the Section 106 Agreement dated 15th July 2014.  
This land was originally earmarked in the SWDP for 12 dwellings, but the applicants chose to apply for 20 dwellings and only signed up to the Agreement a month ago. If they want 20 dwellings they should be prepared to accept the conditions. To amend this Agreement would set a precedent for other developers and would go against the Government's policy for increasing housing development.
- b) To report decisions since last meeting.  
Approved by Wychavon  
W/14/01094/PP - Applegarth, Sandfield Lane.  
W/12/02727/OU - Land adjoining, 49 Main Street,  
14/00759/CU 12 Main Street, Sedgeberrow, Evesham  
W/13/02000/OU - Land off, Winchcombe Road, Sedgeberrow
- c) SWDP Update.  
The Chairman had attended a recent meeting, the Inspector had turned down the SWDP as it fell short of housing by 6,200, the majority of the shortfall has been found in Worcester City and Malvern Hill, and therefore Wychavon only need to find 320 which have now been allocated.
- d) Other Planning Issues.  
The council has concerns regarding planning applications for housing in Toddington as it could impact on the Isborne and therefore Sedgeberrow.

## **12. Items For Future Agenda and Councillor Reports.**

Flood Group – Is intending to facilitate a New Isbourne catchment Flood group consisting of all parishes between Winchcombe and Hampton and all parishes which have tributaries into the Isbourne.

The chairman had attended the recent Wychavon Area CALC meeting where the speakers where Elaine Dicks and Kate Smith from Wychavon DC, the subject was the elections taking place on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Councils were reminded to allocate a budget for an election in the precept for next year.

Wychavon games.

The darts team had been knocked out in the first round.

Sedgeberrow has retained the Angling Trophy.

Agenda item for November – Precept.

## **13. Date of Next Meeting.**

November 12th 2014.

### External Wall insulation

Wychavon District Council and Act on Energy hosted a drop-in morning on the 6th September 2014, to raise awareness of their external wall insulation project for the village. 20 Sedgeberrow residents have expressed an interest to move forward with this project, by undertaking an energy assessment of their property.

For every resident who takes up this offer, through to completion of solid wall insulation works, then the scheme will donate £180 per household towards an energy efficiency measure for a village/community building.

Interestingly two residents in Winchcombe Rd will have scaffolding up in the next couple of weeks, to install solid wall insulation under the old government scheme that ended so quickly.

### Photovoltaic panels on the Village Hall roof.

Village Hall Committee agreed to explore with the School the possibility of a joint initiative for installing photovoltaic panels on the Betteridge Room and Hall roofs. As a result they have received quotations from three, County Approved, contractors with estimates of the costs and benefits of such installations over a 20 year period.

Rooftop Housing and Elizabeth Harris, Sustainability Officer at Worcestershire County Council came to the Betteridge Room for a briefing session on sustainable living and solar renewable energy for the School and Village Hall.

This meeting was an initial briefing about the potential value of such an initiative, helping to inform future decision making.

An analysis of the three proposals presents the estimated benefits shown below:

Roof	Expenditure up front	Annual Savings	% Return on income
Hall for School	County Spend to Save £1,886.00	13.8%,	
Betteridge Room	£7,000.00      £710.00	12.2%,	

Thanks to the County Council's "Spend to Save" initiative the School would have no up-front costs (£14,400.00) and would pay back the County's costs from part of their annual savings over an estimated 7 to 8 years.

It's still early days yet, but there is a some sense of urgency as the all-important Feed In Tariff (FIT) is due for a review, and consequently the amount of financial return, at the end of December.

For now it's a question of "Watch this Space".

### Intelligently Green Award

The Energy Section of the Wychavon Intelligently Green Award winner was awarded on the 16th July to the Hill and Moor Parish Council for their street lighting upgrade in 2012, reducing consumption and giving better lighting, for a saving of £1,249 a year.

#### Bulk Oil Buying

As from October the Sedgeberrow Oil buying Group, with its exclusive link to Evesons , has morphed into the price bidding, "SeSaME Oil Buying Club". The Key differences are:

1. The club is also being offered to the residents of Ashton under Hill, Beckford, Dumbleton, Wormington, Hinton and Aston Somerville.
2. The new buying club will seek price quotations on member's behalf from several oil companies, giving a greater competitive edge to their purchasing power.
3. Members will have to register online and order through the club.

It will take a little time to build up membership, but once this has been achieved there will be an even greater competitive edge to member's purchasing power.

All this has been made possible by SeSaME's membership of a new oil buying club, which already has two established buying clubs as members.

They are providing the software and experience to help the Club Manager, Mike Parker establish the new system and SeSaME is grateful to the Wychavon District Council for introducing us to it.

**Turbine feasibility study.**

Having commissioned and received two reports with funds awarded by the Rural Community Energy Fund for their turbine feasibility study, Sedgeberrow Energy Co-operative Ltd has had to put on hold a further bid, to extend funding and to investigate further questions that needed to be explored.

Western Power Distribution, responsible for the electricity grid in our area, has underlined concerns that Britain's ageing electrical grid has limited capacity for renewable energy. They have informed the Energy Co-operative that due to the amount of mainly solar, that's been installed locally, they have suspended grid connection offers in a very wide area that includes primary sub-stations at: Evesham and surrounding area, Broadway, Stratford, Alderton, Stowe and Morton. They need to do large scale upgrade works which will take a minimum of 2 years, during which time new connection offers will not be issued.

Mike Parker (Chair)

Sedgeberrow Sustainable and Manageable Energy