

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SEDBERGH

Minutes of the monthly meeting for the Parish Council of Sedbergh, held at 7.30pm in the Committee Room, Sedbergh People’s Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh - Thursday 13 November 2025

Present: Councillors Arnold (Chair), Longlands, Cowperthwaite, Thomson, Lancaster, Sedgwick, Bromley, Capstick, and the Clerk.

1. Apologies for absence and casual vacancies

Apologies were received from Cllr Brooks. Following the recent resignation of Cllr Welti, there are now two casual vacancies. Members resolved that if confirmed, by Westmorland and Furness Council, that a by-election has not been requested - the Clerk should place an appropriate advert in the Lookaround/notice board.

2. Declarations of Interest and any new requests for dispensations

Item 12 – Correspondence, Cllr Lancaster

3. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

4. To adopt the minutes of Sedbergh Parish Council’s monthly meeting, dated 9 October 2025

Following previous circulation of the draft minutes, Members resolved that they were a true record and they were signed by the Chairman, Cllr Arnold.

5. Matters to note from the Minutes of 9 October 2025 not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda

There were no additional items to note, all items included on the agenda. However, Members wished to take this opportunity to express thanks to former Councillor, Ian Hutt (along with various support) for recent lighting at Queen’s Garden (Halloween events) and Main Street, Sedbergh (Remembrance)

i) any relevant Member updates from outside bodies Cllr Thomson gave a brief update on meetings recently attended, which included the Town & Parish Council Neighbourhood Pledge Meeting and Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan – Annual Forum.

6. Report/Update from Westmorland and Furness Council

Cllr Hodgson attended and gave a summary on current matters, including mobile outages/network/mast issues, number of utility work/road closures recently and the Lune Gorge Project Stakeholder meeting (also attended by Cllr Longlands). In relation to mobile network outages, Members wished to particularly highlighted their concern around the potential lack of emergency (999) connectivity during these failures, which Cllr Hodgson took on board. Finally, it was noted that a new pharmacy business was hoping to take over the former Jhoots site on Main Street. (Councillor Mitchell did not attend) **i) Community Governance Review (CGR), response to consultation.** The Clerk had attended the recent Westmorland and Furness Council briefing on the CGR and circulated information to Members. Members resolved that they were content with the current parish format and, therefore, asked the Clerk to submit a ‘no change’ response to the consultation. Cllr Lancaster, in addition, hoped that all other neighbouring parishes would do the same.

7. Planning

Members had not met and the following applications were discussed at the meeting.

S/03/37G Borrett Farm, Birks Lane, Sedbergh Full planning permission for siting of 5 no. holiday-let pods with hot tubs, decking, parking, and installation of package sewage treatment plant.

Members resolved, no objections.

S/03/691A/LB 7 The Folly, Sedbergh Listed building consent for replacement of existing timber single glazed sash windows with new double glazed timber sash windows purposes. Members resolved, no objections.

S/03/300C 4 Farfield Mill Cottages, Sedbergh Householder planning permission for installation of 12 solar panel system split between the front and rear roof slopes of the property. Members resolved, no objections.

S/03/77C Greenmantle, Marthwaite, Sedbergh Household planning permission for installation of air source heat pump on north east facing gable wall and solar panels on south/east facing roof to rear of property. Members resolved, no objections.

8. Finance

Members resolved to accept the minutes from the meeting held on 10 November 2025, which included the requests for payments (attached). **i) Members to consider proposed draft budget/plans 2026-2027 and beyond.** Formal consideration of the budget has been deferred.

9. Amenities Committee

Members of the Amenities Committee had not met due to being unable to secure a date that would be quorate. The Chair was absent from this meeting, but hopes to convene a meeting early in 2026.

10. Update on Projects

Members noted an acknowledgement from Westmorland and Furness Highways in respect of the Parking Survey response. There were, currently, no further updates available for the playground, and Cllr Hodgson was asked to follow up, with Highways, on the New Bridge lay-by project.

11. Queens Garden

Members of the Queen's Garden Committee had not met. It was noted that following confirmation from YDNPA and, subsequently, WFC, the Committee are now progressing plans to relocate the trees as described in the plan. Members also agreed to request the Parish Handyman to blow leaves from the steps at the garden. Members finally noted recent correspondence received about the Plan, from a resident, and Cllr Thomson offered to meet the resident in the garden to answer questions.

12. Correspondence

Receive items of correspondence (late items to be tabled at the meeting) and additionally consider any items for a future Agenda.

- i) Query Queen's Garden Plan** – (see item 11)
- ii) Query watercourse Guldrey Fold** – correspondence received on behalf of residents, raising general concern for the culvert/water course running west to Bramhaw. Members were sympathetic, acknowledging that the intensity of water and pressure on various culverts leading from the fell, and previously highlighted to Westmorland and Furness Council. However, Parish Council have no jurisdiction over flooding.
- iii) Westmorland and Furness Council** – Members noted an invite to meet with the Flood & Development team in the new year.
- iv) Sedbergh & District History Society** – Members noted correspondence asking the Council to consider adopting the former BT Kiosk on Main Street. The History Society would like to refurbish the kiosk and use it as a mini exhibition site. It was agreed to be included as an Agenda item in December.
- v) Westmorland and Furness Council** – The Clerk noted, following prior resolution to asset transfer Parish Street lights, that the formal legal transfer agreement had now been received. The Clerk will cross reference lights included and include as an Agenda item for December.
- vi) Sedbergh Late Night Opening** – invitation for SPC to enter a floral display at St Andrew's Church. Members resolved a budget of £100 for flowers, and Cllr Thomson will progress.
- vii) Sedbergh Economic Partnership (SEP)** notes circulated.
- viii) Westmorland and Furness Council** – Members noted a forthcoming 'Winter Ready' information event for Councillors.

13. Date and Time of next meetings. The Parish Council normal monthly meeting 7.30pm on Thursday 11 December 2025 in the Committee Room, Sedbergh People's Hall, Howgill Lane, Sedbergh. Please note, the January meeting is scheduled 15 January 2026

(The meeting closed at 8.30pm)

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