

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 17th March 2021 at 7.00pm held as a virtual meeting through the Zoom video conferencing platform.

Present: Councillors: Drew, Edwards, Hartford-Beynon, Koning (Chairman), Molyneux, O'Toole, Tullett, and Wall.
Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk), David Stevens (Clerk's Assistant).
Patrick Molyneux – County Councillor.
3 members of the public.

1. ATTENDANCE

- a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those Councillors unable to attend from Councillors Bollen and Swambo.
- b) Resolved to accept those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Bollen and Swambo.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) **To receive Declarations of Interest** in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members.
Interests may be declared at any time during the meeting should they become apparent.
- b) **To consider any Dispensation Requests** received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered.
None received.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a) **Resolved to approve** as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2021.
- b) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes.
The Chairman reported that the newsletter had been delivered throughout the Parish. Several Councillors reported that they had not received it. The Clerk pointed out that it is delivered with other junk mail – in case it had been put into the recycling and will check with Royal Mail.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To receive and consider any questions from the Public, which may be answered but not debated.
Mr John Powell commented that in his opinion the Finance and Probity Committee meeting of 3rd March 2021 had been incorrectly chaired and that the minutes of the meeting were in breach of regulations.
Mr Stephen Barker would like Councillors in future to consider the designation of a neighbourhood area.

5. POLICING IN THE PARISH

Resolved to note Police crime statistics for Tidenham and Sedbury can be accessed following this link.
<https://www.ukcrimestats.com/Neighbourhood/6107>
Clerk to ask if the statistics for crimes of Anti Social Behaviour and Violence, both of which had increased in number, could be given to show the incidence of women victims.

6. COMMITTEES

Resolved to receive reports, minutes and recommendations from committees.

- i) Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 24th February 2021.
There were no questions to Councillor Koning, Chairman of the Committee.
- ii) Finance and Probity Committee meeting held on 3rd March 2021.
There were no questions to Councillor Molyneux, Chairman of the meeting.
- iii) Mopla Cottages Committee meeting held on 3rd March 2021.
There were no questions to Councillor Molyneux, Chairman of the meeting.
- iv) Amenities Committee meeting held on 10th March 2021.
Questions to Councillor Tullett, Chairman of the meeting.
Councillor Edwards felt that having visited the site of the gates at Tutshill Church, the amount agreed at the meeting was excessive. Councillors were informed that a motion cannot be reversed within 6 months except by a special motion, which requires written notice by at least 6 councillors to be given to the Clerk.

7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive and note any announcements from the Chairman of the meeting.

The Chairman had contacted the chairman of the Save Our Sun Committee on the current status of the bid to purchase the pub which is now looking even more run down and unsightly.

The District Council is holding a webinar aiming to raise the importance and appreciation of local distinctiveness and local character when considering planning applications on 15th April 2021. The Chairman and Councillor Tullett agreed to attend.

8. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

Resolved to receive and note the Parish Clerk's Report.

Information on the Jubilee Stone had been found – Clerk to email Forestry Commission to see if a plaque or sign post can be erected.

9. FINANCE

a) Resolved to approve payments according to the Financial Statement for February 2021.

b) Resolved to note payment of £62.40 made to Defib Store 11 March 2021 as an urgent payment for replacement defibrillator door handles as requested by the Amenities Committee.

c) Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement for February 2021. The Chairman confirmed that he had received and checked copy bank and building society statements against the Statement prior to the meeting.

d) Resolved to receive and note the Receipts / Payments spreadsheet to February 2021 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee at the meeting on 3rd March 2021.

e) Resolved to receive and note the Budget Monitoring Spreadsheet 2020/2021 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee at the meeting on 3rd March 2021.

10. EARMARKING OF FUNDS IN RESERVES – 2019/20 BUDGET

Resolved to approve earmarking of funds for the following amounts for work that was approved during the 19/20 financial year but has not yet been invoiced:

a) £390 – Dawn Cracknell for hedge trimming.

b) £1032 – WM Garden Services for St Luke's Churchyard gates.

(Total 19/20 earmarked funds = £1422).

11. EARMARKING OF FUNDS IN RESERVES – 2020/21 BUDGET

Resolved to approve earmarking of funds for the following amounts for work that has been approved during the 20/21 financial year but has not yet been carried out and/or invoiced:

a) £4812 - WM Garden Services - Wyebank Road fence.

b) £360 - WM Garden Services - Wyebank Road fence disposal.

c) £2154 - Celtic Roots - T266 Tree.

d) £280 - Celtic Roots - Tree adjacent to T266.

e) £228 – Dawn Cracknell - Mopla Road/Shirley's Grove Hedge Trimming.

f) £4266 – Greenfield Garden Services - Year 1 Trees.

(Total 20/21 earmarked funds = £12,100).

12. RINGFENCING OF FUNDS IN RESERVES

a) Resolved to approve ringfencing of funds of £14,893 for future significant projects.

b) Resolved to approve ringfencing of funds of £20,865 for Tump Solar Farm Community Benefit.

c) Resolved to approve ringfencing of funds of £2800- capital fund for Councillors' tablets - not spent 2020/21.

13. INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

Resolved to note Internal Auditor's Report and that no issues had been identified and no actions required. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for her efforts in achieving this positive Auditor's Report.

14. **TIDENHAM WAR MEMORIAL HALL AND RECREATION TRUST**

- a) **Resolved to approve** the proposed amended agreement with the addition of '2 nearby picnic benches' under the equipment owned by the Parish Council.
- b) **Resolved to approve** continuation of grass cutting for Shirley's Grove for the 2021 season as per budget agreed December 2020.

15. **STANDING ORDERS SECTION 19 – HANDLING OF STAFF MATTERS**

- a) **Resolved to approve** adoption of revised Section 19 of Standing Orders as recommended by the Finance and Probity Committee and as per minute January 2021 Page 28 Item 11.
- b) **Resolved to approve** establishment of Staffing Sub Committee.
- c) **Resolved to approve** Terms of Reference for Staffing Sub Committee.
- d) **Resolved to approve** appointment of Councillors to Staffing Sub Committee as Parish Council Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillor O'Toole.

16. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2021**

Resolved to approve postponement of Annual Parish Meeting until Covid 19 lockdown rules have eased and face to face meetings can be held as recommended by GAPTC/NALC.

17. **POOR'S ALLOTMENTS CHARITY - NUMBER 249854**

- a) **Resolved to approve** the role of the Clerk from 1st April 2021 to include Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of Poor's Allotments Charity – estimated workload approximately 10 hours per year.
- b) **Resolved to charge** Poor's Allotments Charity an annual fee of £200, payable to Tidenham Parish Council and that expenses incurred such as stamps etc. should also be charged to the Charity.
- c) **Resolved to note** subject to the proposals at a) and b) above being carried, Trustees of the Poor's Allotments Charity will be asked to approve the new arrangements and make appropriate changes to the Charity Constitution.

18. **YETI – YOUTH ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE**

- a) **Resolved to approve** support in principle for the proposed YETI Project as outlined by the Parish Council Youth Working Group.
- b) **Resolved to approve** submission of grant application to Gloucestershire County Council Growing Our Communities Fund, which closes 31st March 2021, for £10,000 being the social prescribing element of the project.

19. **STAFF ANNUAL LEAVE *(due to its confidential nature, the resolution for this item has been recorded and attached as a codicil to these minutes)***

20. **CORRESPONDENCE**

To receive and consider any other correspondence as detailed in the Clerk's Report.

The recent correspondence between the Clerk and BOBA was discussed. The Clerk stated that she feels more information is required before any decision on the Beachley site is considered.

21. **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

To receive and note any matters which councillors wish to raise and where appropriate add to the agenda for the following meeting or meetings of committees.

Councillor Wall – had already circulated his report from the Chepstow Society meeting he had attended on behalf of the Council and added that he may consider becoming a member of the Society. Councillor Koning asked if the pedestrianisation of the shopping area will be properly done with paving etc. Councillor Wall stated it is experimental for 18 months, with access for emergency vehicles, under a traffic order that expires at the end of 2021, and that they will attempt to attract new shops. Councillor Drew asked if there was any discussion regarding the future of the old Wye Bridge – there was none.

Councillor Drew – reported a pothole in the depression on the roundabout at the entrance to the Wydean Fields site which is difficult to see when full of. Also – the refurbished bench by St John's School is now surrounded by Gigaclear and other utility green cabinets.

Councillor O'Toole – can the Parish Council canvass support for a NDP before revisiting after the six month period? Councillor Koning responded that this can be done at the Annual Parish Meetings later in the year.

22. FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved to note the dates of future council and committee meetings:

Wednesday 24th March 2021 – Planning and Highways Committee meeting.

Wednesday 21st April 2021 – Full Council Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 20.47hrs

THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020

These minutes were approved by all Councillors at a virtual meeting of the Parish Council held under the above regulations during the Covid 19 lockdown period on 21st April 2021 and deemed to have been signed as of that date. **Minute 2020/21 April 2021 page 38 item 3 a).**