

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th September 2021 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Drew, Edwards, Hartford-Beynon, Koning (Chairman), Kotecha, McBride, O'Toole and Swambo.
Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk), David Stevens (Clerk's Assistant).
County Councillor - Chris McFarling.
Emily Pettiford – Youth Worker.

1. ATTENDANCE

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

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 21st July 2021.
- b) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes.
The Chairman suggested that an editorial group be chosen in October to help with preparation of the newsletter.
Councillor Swambo asked for the establishment of a cross community working group to be considered at the October meeting.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To receive and consider any questions from the Public, which may be answered but not debated.
There were no members of the public present.

5. POST COVID 19 LOCKDOWN MEETING RULES

Resolved to approve revised safe meeting measures - until January 2022 before reviewing in December 2021, according to the prevailing circumstances at that time subject to amending the distance to 1.5 metres.

6. POLICING IN THE PARISH

To note Police crime statistics for Tidenham and Sedbury can be accessed following this link.
<https://www.ukcrimestats.com/Neighbourhood/6107>
Clerk to invite PCSO Natalie Lang to attend the November meeting.

7. COMMITTEES

Resolved to receive reports, minutes and recommendations from committees.

i) Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 28^h July 2021.
There were no questions to Councillor Koning, Chairman of the Committee.

ii) Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 25th August 2021.
There were no questions to Councillor Koning, Chairman of the Committee.

iii) Finance and Probity Committee meeting held on 1st September 2021.
There were no questions to Councillor Bollen, Chairman of the Committee.

iv) Mopla Cottages Committee meeting held on 1st September 2021.
There were no questions to Councillor Bollen, Chairman of the Committee.

ii) Amenities Committee meeting held on 8th September 2021.
There were no questions to Councillor Swambo, Chairman of the Committee.

8. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

A visit to the allotments is still to be arranged – Councillors Koning, McBride and Swambo to attend. Clerk to arrange.

Haydn Bynon, Parish handyman, will be retiring in October. Haydn to be invited to the October meeting for a presentation – Chairman to arrange hamper.

9. **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING**

To note report from Chris McFarling who attended the meeting.

Councillor McFarling thanked councillors for the response to the FoDDC climate action survey which challenged some of the District's draft actions.

Four motions recently debated at County Council: Call for an amended version of the Govt's Planning White Paper; Call for more engagement from Govt. on tackling deprivation/poverty in Gloucestershire and to keep the £20 per week increase in benefits (not fully supported and to be passed to County MP's); The creation of a joint local and national task force empowering local councils (with funding or powers) to act to mitigate climate change; Report being prepared on Glos. water course quality.

At the end of June a motion was passed for all County Highways to adopt 20mph speed limit in areas where vulnerable users and vehicles mix. If agreed at County level local councils will not have to push for this. Now being considered by Environment Scrutiny Committee looking at costs, methodology for prioritising and working with Police. Councillor Edwards asked how this will be enforced? – with random checks – there is evidence reduced limits reduce average speed to 24 mph. Safety, health and environmental benefits have been shown.

Councillor Swambo – free electric community vehicles in Monmouthshire – any plans here? This would help those unable to access medical appointments by public transport – if not could there be help with taxi fares? Chris McFarling to look into.

Councillor Edwards – there is poor infrastructure for EV's with many charging points being out of order.

Councillor McFarling will look into but CC waiting for Government guidelines on provision of charging points.

10. **PARISH CLERK'S REPORT**

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

11. **FINANCE**

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

b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for August 2021.

c) **Resolved to receive and note** the Receipts / Payments spreadsheet to August 2021 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee at the meeting on 1st September 2021.

d) **Resolved to receive and note** the Budget Monitoring Spreadsheet 2021/2022 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee at the meeting on 1st September 2021.

e) **Resolved to note** The Finance and Probity Committee carried out extra checks on payments and entries made during 2020/21 when meetings were held remotely at the meeting on 1st September 2021 and all were found to be correct.

12. **EXTERNAL AUDIT CONCLUSION**

a) **Resolved to note** audited 2020/21 AGAR and External Audit Report and that no actions are required.

b) **Resolved to note** audited AGAR and Notice of Conclusion of Audit have now been added to website.

13. **CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

a) **Resolved to adopt** the following declaration:

'Tidenham Parish Council resolves to recognise the climate emergency. We fully support the Forest of Dean District Council declaration on the climate emergency. We will work with the Tidenham community, FODDC and other parish councils to develop and support local initiatives that will contribute to, protect and

enhance all aspects of our locality including the built environment, the natural environment, transport, ecology and renewable energy'.

- b) **To consider** appointment of Climate Action working Group of three councillors. Cllrs Hartford-Beynon and Koning currently joint lead councillors for this. **This item not considered – to be considered October 2021.**
- c) **Resolved to approve** responses to FoDDC Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2022-25: Call for Evidence, as presented and prepared by 6 councillors, with amendments as discussed at the meeting to be made by Councillor Hartford-Beynon and the Clerk before submission to FoDDC by 23rd September deadline.

14. PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

Resolved to note resignation of Councillor Bollen from the Planning and Highways Committee of the Parish Council.

15. TIDENHAM WAR MEMORIAL HALL AND RECREATION GROUND TRUST

Resolved to approve appointment of Councillors Hartford-Beynon and Swambo as Parish Council representative Trustees to the Trust.

16. GDPR/DATAPROTECTION ACT 2018 FEE

Resolved to note payment of annual renewal of data protection fee of £35 payable under the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 was collected by direct debit on 25 June 2021 (annual direct debit payment agreed June 2018 Minute page 5 item 11).

17. EON – UNMETERED ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - BEACHLEY DEFIBRILLATOR

- a) **Resolved to note** unit cost of unmetered supply increases from 22.10p per kWh to 25.40p per kWh from 1st September 2021.
- b) **Resolved to approve** payment of future bills by direct debit and direct debit mandate duly signed.

18. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Resolved to adopt Training and Development Policy for Tidenham Parish Council.

19. PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE RENEWAL

- a) **Resolved not to approve** renewal of Parish Council Insurance Policy with Hiscox, as recommended by Came and Co Brokers, for one year to 30th September 2022 @ £2161.06 (including Insurance Premium Tax). Administration fee of £50 waived for this year.
- b) **Resolved to approve** renewal of Parish Council Insurance Policy with Hiscox, as recommended by Came and Co Brokers, under a 3 year Long Term Agreement to 30th September 2024 @ £2053.01 per annum (including Insurance Premium Tax). Administration fee of £50 waived for this year.

20. EMPLOYMENT OF YOUTH WORKER *(due to its confidential nature, the resolution for this item has been recorded and attached as a codicil to these minutes).*

21. CORRESPONDENCE

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

The Honourable Company of Gloucestershire – Plant a Tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Clerk to accept offer of 2 English oak trees for planting in the Parish.

Essential Forestry Commission operations in Parson's Wood. (Clerk to arrange signage for consideration for Jubilee Stone.)

22. 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 Drew – had received reports of metal detecting on Tutshill Recreation Ground and Poor's Allotments. Trust already aware of Recreation Ground. Clerk to report to Poor's Allotments.

Councillor McBride – tree roots are lifting the pavement at the top of Severn View Road / Castleview creating a trip hazard. David Stevens to report.

Councillor Kotecha – illegal quad bike activity on / near play park, Mercian Way. Previous advice is to contact Police to report.

Councillor O’Toole – the cover for the lamppost outside of the Old Police House and bus stop, Tutshill is on the ground. David Stevens to report. Also – path from Gloucester Road through Bigstone Meadow is overgrown.

Councillor Edwards – the hedges in Rosemary Lane are very overgrown and need cutting.

Councillor Hartford-Beynon – War Memorial Hall trust have asked that the hedge along Mopla Road be cut down to 6ft when cut – David Stevens reported that the cutting is being carried out in next few days. Also – there have been issues regarding the grass cuttings left on the football pitch on the Rec. having to be cleared before it can be used. David Stevens already looking into options.

23. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 22nd September 2021 – Planning and Highways Committee meeting.

Wednesday 20th October 2021 – Full Council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 21.05hrs