

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.**

**Present:** Councillors: Bollen, Hartford-Beynon, Koning (Chairman), Kotecha, McBride, O'Toole, Swambo, Tullett and Wall.

Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk), David Stevens (Clerk's Assistant).

Emily Timmins – Youth Worker.

County Councillor - Chris McFarling.

Caroline Smith - Senior Manager Engagement & Inclusion Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group.

Marion Andrews-Evans, Director of Nursing and Quality Lead.

Philip Meredith - Aneurin Bevan Health Board.

Haydn Bynon

1 member of the public.

**1. ATTENDANCE**

**a) Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those Councillors unable to attend from Councillors Drew, Edwards and Molyneux.

**b) Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Drew, Edwards and Molyneux.

**The Chairman suspended Standing Orders at this point for a presentation of a hamper to Haydn Bynon who was thanked for his service and support for the Parish Council and its amenities now that he is retiring. Also item 4 - presentation and Q & A session with the NHS representatives present – this item was brought forward by the Chairman.**

**Standing Orders were reinstated following this item for the remaining business on the agenda.**

**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 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

**b) To consider** any questions arising from those minutes. **There were none.**

The Chairman confirmed that the Newsletter Editorial Group and Cross Community Working Group will be considered at the November meeting.

**4. PRESENTATION BY CAROLINE SMITH - SENIOR MANAGER, ENGAGEMENT & INCLUSION GLOUCESTERSHIRE NHS CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP**

Caroline was joined by Marion Andrews-Evans, Director of Nursing and Quality Lead and Philip Meredith from Aneurin Bevan Health Board.

Caroline introduced herself as the cross-border health care lead. Prior to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) approx. 9000 people lived in Gloucestershire but were registered to Welsh GPs. English NHS are legally responsible for NHS provision but Wales has responsibility for funding. The NHS Constitution sets out patient entitlements, including rights around choice of care facilities, waiting times etc. Around 2013 policies on each side became muddled with Wales wanting to fund Welsh residing patients. All referrals for further treatment are co-ordinated at a national centre which will offer cross border access for those living along the length of the Welsh / English border. A survey in 2008 showed people wanted to keep their Welsh GPs.

Councillor Koning – minor injuries – where will residents in Tidenham Parish go for minor injury treatment particularly once Lydney Hospital closes – there is no unit in Chepstow?

Caroline Smith - Lydney is currently still open and the new Cinderford Hospital is due to open around summer 2023 (planning application submitted in last few weeks). There is currently an ongoing piece of work looking at the possibility of a GP led service in Lydney, replicating GP led minor injuries services elsewhere. A new GP surgery in Lydney is also being considered. Philip Meredith – Royal Gwent and Neville Hall still have minor injuries units but A&E now at the new Cwmbran hospital.

Councillor Koning – X-rays in future? Caroline Smith – X-ray facilities currently at Lydney (not at The Dilke due to staffing issues). Chepstow has X-ray referral facilities.

Councillor Wall – recently had to travel to Southmead, Bristol, after a wait of 10 days notified locally. Caroline Smith – Tidenham Parish is covered by the South West Ambulance Service who will ask where emergency patients wish to be taken.

Councillor Swambo – as the community services are gradually being withdrawn, what provision will there be for attending hospital appointments? There is no public transport usable by patients in the Parish. Caroline Smith – the aim as the CCG is for patients to be treated nearer to home - home visits if possible – and to restrict the amount of travel required by patients. There is some community transport available but only for those with clinical need. Marion Andrews-Evans – there has been positive feedback on telephone GP consultations over the last year or so but it is recognised that this can be difficult to manage. Councillor Bollen – had been informed of a patient paying £50 for a taxi to and from hospital with no help available. Caroline Smith – legally not able to fund transport – perhaps links with local organisations should be tried. Councillor Bollen reported that Dial a Ride would not take the patient. Councillor Koning – reiterated the crucial need for transport under the new hospital set up. It is currently difficult enough and people are genuinely very worried. Councillor Swambo – has social prescribing been standardised across England and Wales? Caroline Smith – Wales pay for it but it is arranged through English GPs.

Councillor Bollen – can we arrange another public meeting in the Parish? Caroline Smith – yes. Clerk to liaise. Caroline Smith – will send details of the Patient Advice and Liaison Service to the Clerk.

## 5. **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

**To receive and consider any questions from the Public**, which may be answered but not debated.

The member of the public present was a student at Wydean School studying politics and was interested in the work of parish councils.

## 6. **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>. The Chairman expressed concern at the significant increase in crime in the Parish during August which Councillor Swambo thought may be partly as a result of the end of lockdown and summer holidays. It was noted that PCSO Natalie Lang will attend the November meeting.

## 7. **COMMITTEES**

**To receive reports, minutes and recommendations from committees** already circulated, enclosed herewith or to be circulated and to consider any questions arising from them.

**There were no committee meetings since the September meeting.**

## 8. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Resolved to receive and note announcements from the Chairman** of the Council:

The Chairman congratulated the Clerk for her successful completion of the CiLCA qualification which would benefit the Council. The Clerk thanked councillors for their support and will introduce the benefits of the qualification to the council at the November meeting.

The Chairman had attended a presentation by Councillor Swambo on a new entrepreneurial project for 16 – 18 year olds. Councillor Swambo reported that the project will be run by a Trust and will be for 1 year aiming to prepare young people for self-employment and raising their horizons. There will be a summer project working with the Wye Valley Greenway running a rickshaw service and afterwards working with Employment Plus on preparing CV's, looking at further education etc. Councillor Swambo thanked County Councillor McFarling for his support with generous seed funding. Emily Timmins, Parish Council Youth Worker, will be an essential part of the project.

The Council has been approached to provide a community garden which will be considered over the coming months. The Clerk informed councillors that a tentative enquiry to the District Council had resulted in a pre-planning application being set up. Councillor Swambo has approached various organisations for advice. The Chairman had seen through Facebook that the Chepstow Transport Study has published some results of the previous consultation to which the Parish Council contributed, giving 3 options going forward. Councillor Wall had seen this as part of his lead councillor role with Chepstow Society and will include in a report for councillors.

#### 9. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING

**Resolved to note** report from Chris McFarling who updated councillors that a motion in September to adopt 20 mph speed limits in areas where people and vehicles mix was rejected and passed to the Scrutiny Committee and a new consultation will be launched. Parts of the proposal were acceptable but further work will be done on Police liaison (how will it be enforced?) and costings, although Cllr McFarling had seen an independent cost calculator on the savings a speed reduction would have on NHS and blue light services – the initial costs could be recouped in a matter of months. Cllr McFarling asked for the Council's support and it was agreed that consideration of support would be added to the November agenda.

Councillor McFarling had attended a presentation on a bid for a proposed nuclear fusion plant and research site at Berkley and Oldbury. Nuclear fusion, if successfully developed for use, would provide a carbon neutral source of energy which could also be used to create hydrogen for many uses. The bid is for £200million for a ten year build project with a plan to produce energy by 2040.

The District Council has launched a consultation 'The Forest We Want' on the possibility of the Forest of Dean being designated a Biosphere. Clerk to circulate details to councillors.

District Council Climate Action Plan – responses to the consultation have now been collated – thanks for the constructive feedback received. This will be considered by cabinet in November but the cost will be a big issue.

#### 10. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

**Resolved to receive and note the Parish Clerk's Report.** The Clerk reported that the Tump Farm community benefit amount of £5,555.76 has now been received.

#### 11. FINANCE

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

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

#### 12. CERTIFICATE IN LOCAL COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION (CILCA)

**Resolved to note** the Clerk has now achieved the CILCA Certificate.

#### 13. TIDENHAM WAR MEMORIAL HALL AND RECREATION GROUND TRUST

**Resolved to sign** the new Agreement between the Trust and the Parish Council, commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, which was duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

#### 14. LONE WORKING POLICY

**Resolved to adopt** the Tidenham Parish Council Lone Working Policy.

#### 15. YETI PROJECT

a) **Resolved to note** verbal report from Emily Timmins, Youth Worker on her work during the first few weeks of the Project.

b) **Resolved to note** the total expenditure for the initial setting up of the Youth Worker in post was £1193.00 (laptop £1002 inc VAT, refurbished mobile phone £139 inc. VAT, Enhanced DBS check £52 inc VAT). The increase of £193 above the agreed £1000 set up costs (Minute June 2021 page 6 item e) agreed with Chairman under urgent requirements.

c) **Resolved to note** satisfactory enhanced DBS certificate for Emily Timmins seen by the Clerk.

d) **Resolved to note** TP Jones, payroll company, have confirmed that the current fee of £48 plus VAT per quarter for preparation of payroll includes up to 3 employees so there will be no increase in fees.

- e) **Resolved to approve** setting of initial parameters for expenditure from the Social Prescribing Fund as: up to £100 per item of expenditure without prior authorisation (all such items to be separately accounted for in accounts to the Project) and expenditure to be for the benefit of young people (up to age 24) in the Tidenham Parish community, including those living and attending school in the Parish.
- f) **Resolved to approve** payment of £100 'float' to the Youth Worker for purchases under the Social Prescribing Fund. Purchases to be claimed as monthly expenses and repayment of the £100 as a deduction from final salary at the end of the project or on termination of employment to be added to the Employment Contract.

#### 16. NEWSLETTER

**Resolved to approve** proof reading of draft newsletter by Councillors Tullett and Swambo when available, to avoid delay in delivery.

#### 17. QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY – OAK TREES

**Resolved to approve** locations for the planting of the 2 oak trees being supplied by The Honourable Company of Gloucestershire: Councillor Hartford-Beynon to contact Tutshill School, Councillor Swambo to contact residents of Mercian Way regarding one being a replacement for a diseased tree that needs to be felled. Emily Timmins to ask young peoples' ideas for where they should be planted.

#### 18. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (NALC) TRAINING

**Resolved** - councillors to bring topics for submission to NALC for the 2022/23 training programme to the November meeting.

#### 19. CLERK AND CLERK'S ASSISTANT SALARIES

**Due to the confidential nature of this item members of the public and press were excluded from the meeting.**

#### 20. CORRESPONDENCE

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

**Councillor Bollen declared in interest in this item and did not take part in the vote.**

A letter had been received from a Sedbury resident regarding footballs being kicked into her garden on a regular basis – it was agreed Emily Timmins to visit with PCSO in the first instance.

#### 21. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

**Resolved 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 – Castleford Hill – reported a tree at a dangerous angle and likely to topple. David Stevens to look into and report.

Councillor Bollen – Silent Soldiers in the Parish for the Poppy Appeal. She has ordered a wreath for the council. The Clerk confirmed that Haydn Bynon will be erecting the soldiers week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> October. Clerk to contact the builders, Beacon Estates, regarding the refurbishment of the Ormerod Road roundabout.

Councillor Tullett – disappointed that she has been unable to receive a reply from Wydean School regarding her role as lead councillor and to liaise with the student council. The visitor to the meeting will feed this back to the head / head of sixth form. Councillors Koning and Swambo to visit school after half term.

#### 22. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021 – Planning and Highways Committee meeting.

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – Amenities Committee Meeting.

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – Full Council meeting.

**The meeting concluded at 21.08hrs**