

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th January 2022 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Bollen, Drew, Edwards, Koning (Chairman), McBride, Swambo, Tullett and Wall.
 Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk), David Stevens (Clerk's Assistant).
 Emily Timmins – Youth Worker.
 Chris McFarling – County Councillor.

1. ATTENDANCE

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

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 8th December 2021.
 b) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes. **There were none.**

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

No members of the public present.

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> .

The Chairman noted that overall crime numbers in the Parish were down but that numbers of crimes of ASB and Violence were worryingly high. Police to be asked if more details on these crimes are available at their next visit.

6. COMMITTEES

Resolved to receive reports, minutes and recommendations from committees and to consider any questions arising from them.

i) Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 15th December 2021.

Questions to Councillor Koning, Chairman of the Committee.

Councillor Edwards – has there been any progress on the request to delay the Wireworks Bridge repairs until autumn 2022? County Cllr McFarling reported that he is working with the project officers to see if an alternative temporary access can be allowed. Work cannot be carried out during autumn / winter as warmer and longer days are required. A meeting between officers (inc. engineers) and Wyvalley Greenway representatives on 20/01/2022, will be looking for suggestions on accessibility. Possible solutions - army Bailey bridge or ferry.
 Councillor Swambo – this may be an opportunity for businesses the Tidenham side of the Wye.

7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Glos CC - 'Have your say on future bus services' survey. Individual councillors - please complete as this is an area of concern to the Parish. Clerk to send link to councillors.

The FoDDC Monitoring Officer has sent an email with link, asking for support for a petition to allow councils to meet remotely when appropriate. Clerk to re-send email to councillors.

BOBA – council to create links with BOBA museum with a view to future support if required.

8. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING

Resolved to note report from Chris McFarling:

The introduction of 20mph road speed limits in certain areas is unlikely to go ahead as proposed. Full rollout of this has been resisted by the Scrutiny Committee for various reasons. The estimated cost of the proposal is £6m - £8m, although some calculations indicate that the reduction of speeds could reduce emergency services costs by £6m per year. In order to reduce the speed on a particular road, the normal procedures will need to be followed - considering results of speed monitoring, incidence of serious or fatal injuries and application for traffic restrictions order.

Cllr McFarling is currently looking into several road safety issues in the Parish, one of which being the Sedbury Lane crossing across the A48. Councillors reported that the Parish Council has looked at this in detail without success in the past. The Chairman commented that he was pleased the issue will be re-visited. Cllr McFarling will invite the Parish Council to an onsite meeting.

GCC cabinet are debating and likely to approve the draft budget for next year, totalling £590million. This will represent an increase in Council Tax of £42 per year for a band D property. The CC budget covers social care, children's services, roads etc.

Gigaclear – several complaints regarding fibre access to rural properties. Gigaclear have indicated they have a target of 80% of properties, although the Govt. target is well over 90%. Funding is a complicated mix of public subsidy and private investment. Glos CC have added an extra £2m into continuing the rollout. Gigaclear advice to Cllr McFarling was for residents to contact Fastershire, as not all Gigaclear call centre staff have the same information to hand. The Clerk pointed out that Fastershire also do not appear to have correct information available. Cllr McFarling has now developed a relationship with Gigaclear and will try to deal with individual enquiries.

Members of the public living in Tidenham have complained to Cllr McFarling regarding the Monmouthshire County Council planning application submitted by the Dive Centre for holiday lodges at the Livox quarry site. Cllr McFarling is concerned about the effect the development will have on the current natural re-wilding of the quarry and surrounding area, and the loss of tranquillity at the site. Clerk to circulate the planning application details to councillors.

9. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

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

It was agreed to hold a site meeting regarding the provision of outside storage at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall.

The Chairman reported that he and Councillor McBride had attended a very useful meeting at the Jubilee Stone with a Forestry England representative regarding the plaques and bench to be provided by the Parish Council. They were pleased to hear that a proper pathway will be created along the rather muddy stretch of path to the Stone from the B4228.

10. FINANCE

- a) **Resolved to approve payments** according to the Financial Statement for December 2021.
- b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for December 2021.
- c) **Resolved to approve** Councillor Tullett as a third signatory for Lloyds Treasurers Account following resignation of Councillor O'Toole.
- d) **Resolved to note** a refund of £58.50 has been received from FoDDC as 50% of the Lawful Development Application fee paid for the chat benches in the Parish. The District Council had not applied the 50% discount the Council is entitled to when quoting a price for the application.
- e) **Resolved to note** a cheque for £20.68 has been received in payment of wayleaves due from Western Power Distribution.

11. YOUTH WORKER REPORT

Resolved to note report from Emily Timmins on the progress of the YETI Project.

Emily reported that the proposed HAF holiday event had not had any applicants and that she has asked the CC to review their marketing and application process for future events. Having already ordered craft packs for the event, these were offered on social media for local children and 8 were delivered by hand, giving an opportunity to meet people locally.

Councillor Edwards asked about the administration of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme – Emily confirmed her involvement will be with the volunteering / community aspect of the Award which is administered over all by Wydean School.

Councillor Swambo confirmed that the Barnwood Trust is involved in the FoD mental health hub and he is undertaking scope and research in the Forest – especially for children.

12. **YETI WORKING AND SUPPORT GROUP**

Resolved to appoint Councillors Drew, Koning, Swambo (lead) and Tullett, along with Emily Timmins and the Clerk, to re-instate the YETI Working Group to support the Youth Worker, with a view to Councillor Koning standing down from this once a replacement is appointed.

13. **STANDING ORDERS**

Resolved to review and re-adopt Standing Orders as previously adopted March 2021.

14. **NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2022**

- a) **Resolved to approve** inclusion of 6 advertisements in the newsletter at a charge of £50 each – total income £300 towards the costs of delivery - from local businesses.
- b) **Resolved to approve** quotation from Storm Marketing for the design of Newsletter of £200.00 plus VAT - total cost £240 for 6 pages.
- c) **Resolved to approve** quotation from Hanley Court printers for the printing and packaging (suitable for delivery to Royal Mail dist. centre, Swindon) of 3200 newsletters of £867 (no VAT) for 6 pages 115gms paper.
- d) **Resolved to approve** use of Royal Mail Door to Door Service for distribution of the Spring 2022 Newsletter cost £70.61 plus VAT per 1000 – total cost £226 plus VAT (£271.20 inc. VAT).
- e) **Resolved to approve** Clerk to pay agreed amounts as and when they are required.
- f) **Resolved to note** articles or suggestions to be sent to Clerk as soon as possible.

15. **HM QUEEN – PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022**

Resolved to approve payment of up to £200 to Forest of Dean District Council Planning Dept. for the cost of a planning application fee for the shelter / bandstand in Tutshill as part of the earmarked £15,000 Jubilee fund @ 50% discount. Councillor Swambo confirmed that a quotation had been received from AJ Tensile Fabrications in Caldicot for a bespoke structure and that drawings ready for submission to the FoDDC Planning should be received shortly.

16. **JUBILEE STONE – PARSON'S ALLOTMENT**

Resolved to approve purchase of Forestry England hard wood bench for £405 plus VAT including a plaque (total cost £486). Note – Forestry England only allows benches it supplies to be installed on its land.

17. **GOVERNMENT TACKLING LONELINESS WITH TRANSPORT FUND APPLICATION**

Resolved to approve Council support for a bid to the above fund for an electric minibus for the benefit of the whole Tidenham Parish community. Councillor Swambo confirmed that the GCC bid will include a part time driver who administers the scheme and a charging point. The bid will be for all costs for a period of three years and the vehicle would be available for all in the community to use.

18. **COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS**

Resolved to approve creating a framework to provide recognition to those who give so much to our communities with Councillor volunteers to research and make recommendations to Council on its introduction. Councillor Swambo has prepared a draft framework for these.

19. **COMMUNITY INCLUSION CLINICS**

Resolved to approve introduction of pop up multi stakeholder clinics to increase community access and inclusion. Councillor Swambo to lead on progressing this project and report to Council at an appropriate time.

20. CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved to note any other correspondence as detailed in the Clerk's Report.

A member of the public had contacted the Clerk after receiving the newsletter, interested in being involved in the Community Garden.

A member of the public had emailed with questions regarding the proposed wild flower grass land in Wyebank Road which the Clerk had answered.

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 Drew – Tylers Way / junction Beachley Road – a large area of road surface is starting to sink. For Planning and Highways Committee.

Councillor Tullett – pavement Beachley Road / Sedbury Lane corner – half broken up and difficult to use. For Planning and Highways Committee.

Councillor Swambo – reported that 29 people had attended the Christmas Day Lunch in the Hall which had been a great success. Thanks to the Parish Council for their support. The event had received over 500 positive comments on Facebook.

Councillor Koning thanked Councillor Bollen for having the heating repaired in the hall which was now warm for the meeting.

22. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 26th January 2022 – Planning and Highways Committee meeting.

Wednesday 16th February 2022 – Full Council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 21.02hrs