

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Bollen, Drew, Hartford-Beynon, Koning (Chairman), McBride, Swambo, Tullett and Wall.
Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk), David Stevens (Clerk's Assistant).
Emily Timmins – Youth Worker.
Chris McFarling – County Councillor.
4 members of the public.

1. ATTENDANCE

- a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those Councillors unable to attend from Councillors Edwards, Kotecha and Molyneux.
- b) **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Edwards, 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 19th January 2022.
- b) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes.
The Chairman commented that there are many posters displayed in the Parish against the Livox Quarry holiday development (Monmouthshire County Council planning application).
Councillor Swambo - a meeting to discuss the Community Service Award Scheme to be held 18th February 2022. The first community hub meeting will be held in Sedbury & Beachley Village Hall on 5th March 2022.

4. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Resolved to co-opt Jane Edwards to the Parish Council, who duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.

5. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To receive and consider any questions from the Public, which may be answered but not debated.
Those present wished to support item 16 on the agenda. Each felt that such an initiative was important for the Parish, particularly if it were to be expanded in future years. Item 16 was then considered at this point in the meeting.

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> .

7. 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 26th January 2022.
There were no questions to Councillor Koning, Chairman of the Committee.

8. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive and note any announcements from the Chairman of the meeting.
The Chairman informed councillors of a Local Leaders for Climate Action event at Lydney Town Hall on 5th March 2022 – all parish and town councils being invited – to include a People's Assembly. (See item 21).

Centre for Sustainable Energy – Chairman had downloaded details of the Parish’s carbon footprint and will introduce to councillors at a future meeting for consideration of changes the Parish Council can make.

9. **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING**

Resolved to note report from Chris McFarling who attended the meeting.

Glos. CC annual budget 2022/23 and four year strategy approved on 16th February 2022. Total budget of £519.6m and Cllr McFarling gave a breakdown on expenditure. The Green Councillors had achieved the provision of £120k for a ‘Tip Shop’ in the County and £40k for a bio-diversity co-ordinator who will collaborate across the County. 1,000 electric vehicle charging points will be installed across the County – Cllr McFarling has put the case for these to be in more rural areas. £30k left in Highways local fund – Denmark St being considered for improvement. Cllr McFarling asked councillors for suggestions for next year priority highway projects (including footpaths). Build Back Better Fund (item 16) – please submit application as soon as possible stating the involvement of young people. Cllr McFarling has also awarded a grant of £3500 for a mile of verge planting and educational boards on the Wye Valley Greenway. Wireworks Bridge – will definitely be closed for the summer but still working to find alternative access to Tintern for visitors. Some projects still working on – speeding on Bishton Lane and has been contacted regarding the mud on the roundabout by Wyedean Fields Barratts development. David Stevens to liaise regarding this.

10. **PARISH CLERK’S REPORT**

Resolved to receive and note the Parish Clerk’s Report. Clerk to investigate coins/medals for children in the Parish and how they may be distributed fairly. A meeting with Two Rivers Housing has been arranged for 25th February – Cllrs Drew, Koning and Swambo to attend along with the Clerk.

11. **FINANCE**

- a) **Resolved to approve payments** according to the Financial Statement for January 2022.
- b) **Resolved to receive and approve** the Financial Statement for January 2022.
- c) **Resolved to note** application forms for change of signatories and Council debit card have now been signed and sent off.
- d) **Resolved to note** EON, supplier for the Loop Road defibrillator non-metered electricity supply, have transferred the account to Npower at the same unit rate - 33.80 p/kwh.

12. **EMILY TIMMINS, YOUTH WORKER - PROBATION**

- a) **Resolved to note** successful completion of 3 month probationary period by Emily Timmins.
- b) **Resolved to appoint** Councillor Swambo as safeguarding support for the Youth Worker.

13. **YOUTH WORKER REPORT**

Resolved to note report from Emily Timmins on the progress of the YETI Project. County Councillor McFarling – concerned to hear of levels of mental health issues amongst young people. There may funding for outdoor activities.

14. **LONE WORKING AND OUTREACH POLICY**

- a) **Resolved to adopt** revised Lone Working Policy to include Outreach risks, subject to the additional requirement of business use insurance for the Youth Worker’s vehicle.
- b) **To consider** appointment of Lone Worker Councillor ‘Buddy’, and implement full ‘Buddy’ system as in Policy. **This item was not considered.**

15. **NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2021**

- a) **Resolved to note** response from Royal Mail Door to Door Service regarding reported non-delivery of the newsletter in December.
- b) **Resolved to note** payments of £50 each for 5 of the 6 advertisements in the newsletter have now been received.

16. **WILD FLOWER GRASSLAND – WYEBANK ROAD**

- a) **Resolved to approve** trial area of land on Wyebank Road measuring 30m x 5m as an introduction to wildflower grassland in the Parish.

- b) **Resolved not to approve** quotation for native species plug plants for the trial area from Ecohab Wildflowers of £737.10 (no VAT), subject to over 75% of the plugs being available.
- c) **To consider** quotation for native species plug plants for the trial area from Boston Seeds of £557.42 (£668.90 inc VAT), subject to over 75% of the plugs being available.
- d) **To consider** quotation for native species plug plants for the trial area from Naturescape Ltd of £623.83 (£748.49 inc VAT), subject to over 75% of the plugs being available.
Resolved to approve expenditure as in c) or d) up to a maximum of £750 subject to the supplier having a minimum of 75% of the plug plants available.
- e) **Resolved to submit** grant application for the Glos. CC Build Back Better Councillor Scheme through County Councillor Chris McFarling for £700. Clerk to complete.
- f) **Resolved to approve** holding a community day at the site involving the Scouts, and anybody else interested, to plant the plugs plants. 12th March 2022 suggested subject to availability of those involved.
- g) **Resolved to approve** quotation from Simon Field for ad hoc watering sessions as may be required during the first few months after planting at £30 per watering and agree a maximum number of 4 sessions before further consideration is required.
- h) **Resolved to approve** sending a letter to the residents living opposite the site in Wyebank Road explaining the trial and how it will be managed. Number 34,35-55 and Wyebank Place. Councillor McBride to deliver.

17. SEDBURY & BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL – ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION INSPECTION

- a) **Resolved to approve** quotation from AB Electrical (Chepstow) Ltd for an Electrical Installation Condition Report at S&BVH of £400.00 (£480.00 inc VAT).
- b) **Resolved to note** Clerk had been unsuccessful in obtaining further quotations from other contractors.

18. COMMUNITY GARDEN

To consider date for a community meeting of those interested in being involved in the Community Garden to discuss ideas and the next steps. **This item not considered – Councillor Swambo reported that volunteers had agreed to hold an initial informal meeting before meeting with councillors.**

19. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Resolved to approve Wednesday 4th May 2022 @ 6pm as date and time for the Annual Parish Meeting at S&BVH. Format to be agreed.

20. COMMUNITY INCLUSION CLINICS

Resolved Councillor Koning to attend as representative to the first Community Inclusion Clinic on Saturday 5th March 2022 at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall. Councillor Swambo reported that it is intended to hold clinics every two months at different venues throughout the Parish.

21. LOCAL LEADERS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Resolved Councillors Hartford-Beynon (am) and Wall (pm) to attend as representatives to a Local Leaders for Climate Action event in Lydney Saturday 5th March 2022.

22. CORRESPONDENCE

To receive and consider any other correspondence as detailed in the Clerk's Report. The Clerk had had one email supporting the Wildflower Grassland project from a member of the public unable to attend the meeting.

23. 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 Bollen – Saturday drop-in / repair cafes and clothes exchanges have been working very well in other parts of the Forest – can we look at introducing in Tidenham? Cllr Swambo reported this was being looked into.
Councillor Wall – Is there any further information on the next Speedwatch training and do we have results from the previous campaign? David Stevens is awaiting training details and PCSO Natalie has promised data from the previous campaign.

Councillor Swambo – asked for volunteers to attend focus groups involving councillors from around the Forest, on mental health provision. Councillors Koning and McBride and County Councillor McFarling volunteered.

24. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 23rd February 2022 – Planning and Highways Committee meeting.

Wednesday 2nd March 2022 – Finance and Probity Committee meeting.

Wednesday 2nd March 2022 – Mopla Cottages Committee meeting.

Wednesday 9th March 2022 – Amenities Committee meeting.

Wednesday 16th March 2022 – Full Council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 21.05hrs