

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

Present: Councillors: Bollen, Drew, Edwards J, Edwards M, Koning (Chairman), Kotecha, McBride, Swambo, Tullett and Wall.

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

1 member of the public.

1. ATTENDANCE

a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those Councillors unable to attend from Councillors Hartford-Beynon and Molyneux. Apologies also received from Emily Timmins, Youth Worker.

b) **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Hartford-Beynon and Molyneux, and Emily Timmins.

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 February 2022.

b) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes.

The Youth Engagement Tidenham Initiative (YETI) Group will meet after 11th April with a focus on safeguarding.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor Chris McFarling, in his absence, for his support for the Council's successful grant application for the wild flower plug plants. Clerk to send written thank you.

Councillor Swambo reported that the community garden group is meeting on 18th March to work on association details.

Repair Cafes – Councillor Swambo reported that Sedbury Space are working on this and agreed to feedback progress to Council.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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

There were none.

5. POLICING IN THE PARISH

a) **Resolved to note** Police crime statistics for Tidenham and Sedbury can be accessed following this link. <https://www.ukcrimestats.com/Neighbourhood/6107>. The Chairman had seen the figures for January 2022 which had decreased in some areas. Anecdotal evidence from Councillors' present may suggest burglaries are increasing. The Chairman would like to develop better links with the Neighbourhood Watch organisation in the Parish.

b) **Resolved to note** Natalie Lang will be leaving as PSCO for the Tidenham area. Councillors were disappointed to hear this as Natalie has been very active and supportive in the Parish. Clerk to write to Natalie to thank her for her support.

6. COMMITTEES

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

i) Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 23rd February 2022.

There were no questions to Councillor Koning, Chairman of the Committee.

ii) Finance and Probity Committee meeting held on 2nd March 2022.

There were no questions to Councillor Bollen, Chairman of the Committee

- iii) Mopla Cottages Committee meeting held on 2nd March 2022.
There were no questions to Councillor Bollen, Chairman of the Committee.
- iv) Amenities Committee meeting held on 9th March 2022.
There were no questions to Councillor Swambo, Chairman of the Committee.

7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Chairman had been disappointed to read in the press that MPs Mark Harper and David Davies and the leaders of Gloucestershire and Monmouthshire County Councils had met in the Parish to discuss the possibility of a bypass for Chepstow and that the Parish Council had not been informed of this. All Councillors thought this to be discourteous, particularly considering the local interest and the Parish Council's efforts to engage with the Local Transport Survey, District and County Councillors on the subject of congestion. Clerk to write to each attendee. The Clerk expressed concerns that both District and County Councillors hold meetings locally without notifying the Parish Council. This often results in queries to the Clerk's Office that have already been dealt with at Council or Committee meetings and which, had the Parish Council been invited, could have been avoided. The Chairman and Councillors had noted that planning permission had been granted for a hydroponic farm in Lydney.

8. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING

Resolved to note report from Chris McFarling who was unable to attend the meeting and which was read by the Clerk.

9. YOUTH WORKER REPORT

Resolved to note report from Emily Timmins on the progress of the YETI (Youth Engagement Tidenham Initiative) Project.

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 February 2022.
- b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for February 2022.
- c) **Resolved to receive and note** the Receipts / Payments spreadsheet to February 2022 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee at the meeting on 2nd March 2022.
- d) **Resolved to receive and note** the Budget Monitoring Spreadsheet 2021/2022 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee at the meeting on 2nd March 2022.
- e) **Resolved to receive and note** the YETI Project Spreadsheet 2021/2022 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee meeting on 2nd March 2022.

12. 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) £1000 – Ormerod Road roundabout.
- (Total 20/21 earmarked funds = £6,172).**

13. EARMARKING OF FUNDS IN RESERVES – 2021/22 BUDGET

Resolved to approve earmarking of funds for the following amounts for work that has been approved during the 21/22 financial year but has not yet been carried out and/or invoiced:

- a) £144 – WM Garden Services – Wyebank Road detailed plan.
 - b) £552 – Defib Store – Two replacement defib. batteries.
 - c) £1446 – Greenfields Garden Services – Year 2 tree work.
 - d) £1116 – WM Garden Services – Wyebank Road fence.
 - e) £1078.20 – Newsletter costs as agreed January 2022.
- (Total 20/21 earmarked funds = £4336.20).**

14. **RINGFENCING OF FUNDS IN RESERVES**
 a) **Resolved to approve** ringfencing of funds of £15,000 from future significant projects reserves for HM Queen Platinum Jubilee projects.
 b) **Resolved to approve** ringfencing of funds of £9,136 for future significant projects.
 b) **Resolved to approve** ringfencing of funds of £16,991 for Tump Solar Farm Community Benefit allocated to YETI project.
15. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**
Resolved to note start time of the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 4th May 2022 to be 7pm – not 6pm as in item 19 January 2022 agenda.
16. **COVID 19 MEETING ATTENDANCE RULES**
Resolved not to withdraw rules of attendance at meetings following the removal of Government Covid 19 domestic restrictions in England and to further review in one month.
17. **STAFFING SUB COMMITTEE**
Resolved to approve appointment of Councillor Hartford-Beynon to the Staffing Sub Committee.
18. **GLOS. COUNTY COUNCIL BUILD BACK BETTER GRANT APPLICATION**
Resolved to note the application for £700 towards the cost of native species wildflower plant plugs under the Build Back Better Fund has been approved. Clerk to formally thank County Councillor McFarling for his support.
19. **COMMUNITY INCLUSION CLINICS**
Resolved to note feedback from the first Community Inclusion Clinic on Saturday 5th March 2022 at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall. Councillor Swambo thanked all that attended – the event had received some very positive feedback and 19 residents attended. It is hoped to increase this number next time. Councillor Tullett thought ‘inclusion clinic’ might not suggest the purpose of the event. Future events to be called Community Hubs.
20. **LOCAL LEADERS FOR CLIMATE ACTION**
Resolved to note feedback from Councillor Wall on the afternoon session of Local Leaders for Climate Action event in Lydney, Saturday 5th March 2022 which had provided some useful suggestions for the Council. Councillor Wall to join Councillors Hartford-Beynon and Koning as part of the Climate Action Group. Councillor Hartford-Beynon to report back on the morning session at the April meeting.
21. **CHEPSTOW SOCIETY**
Resolved to note report from Councillor Wall on the Chepstow Society meeting February 2022.
22. **UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN APPEAL**
To consider donation from Tidenham Parish Council to the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal through the Disasters Emergency Committee. Under the General Power of Competence, the Council is able to make such a donation. Amount to be agreed by Councillors – there are funds remaining / unused in the Grant Budget for 2021/22 of £1500.
Resolved – remaining Grant Budget of £1500 be earmarked for applications for help to purchase essential items by refugees offered accommodation in the Parish under the Government’s Homes for Ukraine scheme.
23. **RENEWAL OF ZOOM SUBSCRIPTION**
Resolved to approve renewal of annual Zoom Subscription of £119.90 (£143.88 inc VAT) and that this renewal be set up using the Parish Council Debit Card – subject to its arrival before the renewal date of 15th April 2022.
24. **LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE – COMMUNITY GARDEN**
Resolved to note the cost of the application to the FoDDC for the Lawful Development Certificate application was £115.50 not £103 as they previously quoted and which was agreed December 2021, which became apparent once the application was submitted.

25. HM QUEEN PLATINUM JUBILEE MEDALS

- a) **Resolved to approve** purchase of 500 medals of the Gold Tudor Rose design for primary school age children in the Parish from Trophies Plus Medals Ltd - cost £400.50 inc VAT (£333.75 ex VAT) which includes a discount of 10% on the published price of 89p each.
- b) **Resolved not to approve** purchase of 500 medals of one of two designs with engraving for primary age children in the Parish from Trophies Plus Medals Ltd - cost £850.50 inc VAT (ex VAT £708.75) which includes a discount of 10% on the published price of £1.89 each.
- c) **Resolved to note** if a) or b) above agreed, parents living in the Parish with children attending schools outside of it will be invited to apply for a medal. An article will be included in the next newsletter. Councillors will attend the local schools to deliver / present the medals.

26. BANDSTAND / SHELTER TUTSHILL RECREATION GROUND

- a) **Resolved to approve** Darell Gazebo as bandstand / shelter to place on Recreation Ground. Councillor Swambo reported that Trustees were in agreement with this design.
- b) **Resolved not to approve** quotation from Hand Made Places for supply, installation and delivery of Darell Gazebo of £19,565.50 (£23,478 inc VAT) with rubber mulch flooring, or £19,216 (£23,059.20 inc VAT) with Conipave flooring.
- c) **Resolved to approve** quotation from Greenfields Garden Services Ltd for supply, installation and delivery of Hand Made Places Darell Gazebo for £12,629 (£15,154.80 inc VAT) with rubber mulch flooring.
- d) **Resolved not to approve** quotation from WM Garden Services Ltd for Gazebo flooring of £4194 (£5032.80 inc VAT) with tarmac surface or £5994 (£7192.80 inc VAT) with resin bound finish surface.
- e) **Resolved to note** WM Garden Services Ltd still to quote for supply, delivery and installation of Darell Gazebo. Gazebo quotation had subsequently been received and was more expensive than Greenfields Garden Services quote.
- f) **Resolved to approve** final decision on purchase subject to agreement with Tidenham War Memorial Hall and Recreation Trust to pay minimum amount of 50% of ex VAT costs towards the purchase price. Councillor Swambo to seek written confirmation.
- g) **Resolved to note** according to FoDDC planning rules, Gazebo should not require planning permission – Clerk to ask advice. Councillor Edwards to speak with FoDDC Planning.

27. PARISH COUNCIL LOGO

- a) **Resolved to approve** a competition to design a new Parish Council logo amongst the four schools in the Parish. Youth Worker to co-ordinate.
- b) **Resolved to approve** rules of the competition, including that the Council has final choice of a winning logo and may choose not to use any of the submitted logos if none deemed suitable, subject to two additional items covering copyright and permission to amend/alter design for digital reproduction.

28. THE RISING SUN, WOODCROFT

Resolved to note email from the Rising Sun Woodcroft Community Pub Ltd., thanking the Parish Council for its support.

29. CLERK AND CLERK'S ASSISTANT SALARIES *(due to its confidential nature, the resolution for this item has been recorded and attached as a codicil to these minutes).***30. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

The Clerk had been contacted by a resident regarding a sign on S&BVH playing field showing a football pitch and which it was thought was a planning application – the sign had been used as a backing for a playground Covid warning sign.

A resident had contacted the Clerk regarding the planting on Wyebank Road.

31. 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 – residents of the new flats in Ormerod Road leave their waste bins on the pavement, sometimes for a couple of days, causing an obstruction.

Councillor Bollen – gave details of the Jubilee events being planned in Sedbury – 3rd June – Village Inn – activities and rides etc. in car park with music all day. Also 3rd June – S&B Village Hall – from 11am – lots of activities including music with food and games – most of which will be free. 4th June – Royal British Legion (RBL) carnival from Sedbury shops to RBL with fete, music etc. all day. Councillor Swambo – the Memorial Hall Trust will be discussing activities in Tutshill once the installation of the gazebo is confirmed and it was suggested by Councillors that perhaps something could be arranged for 5th June.

Councillor Maria Edwards – there has been no further information on alternative routes to access Tintern whilst the Wireworks Bridge is closed for 9 months. The Wye Valley Greenway is due to open shortly and the Council should have been notified. Councillor McBride reported that she had been told diversion signs to cross the river Wye at Brockweir are to be positioned.

Councillor Swambo – the War Memorial Trust AGM is on 26th April 2022. The Gloucestershire wide bid for transport funding had not been successful and alternative potential funding for the mini bus is being sourced. It is likely the Active Travel bid will be successful. A cheque for £100 had been received from somebody wishing to donate anonymously to the Community Garden.

Councillor Koning – is interested in some of the NALC events that are advertised but they are very expensive. Councillor Tullett questioned whether such expenditure could be justified by the Council.

32. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

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

Wednesday 20th April 2022 – Full Council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 21.13hrs