

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th April 2022 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Bollen, Edwards J, Hartford-Beynon, Koning (Chairman), Kotecha, McBride, Swambo, Tullett and Wall.

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

Emily Timmins – Parish Youth Worker.

2 members of the public.

1. ATTENDANCE

a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those Councillors unable to attend from Councillors Drew, Edwards M and Molyneux. Apologies also received from Chris McFarling, County Councillor.

b) **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Drew, Edwards M 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 16th March 2022.

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

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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

There were no questions from members of the public present.

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> .

b) **Resolved to note** reply from Natalie Lang -

Thank you for your kind words, it was very kind of you.

I have enjoyed my time working in the parish of Tidenham and meeting members of the council who care so much about the people in the community.

Councillor Kotecha informed councillors of social media reports of 3 boys throwing items at cars / trains.

Other councillors had received reports that a train had had to be stopped.

Clerk to contact Police to establish when a new PCSO will be in post.

6. COMMITTEES

Resolved to receive reports, minutes and recommendations from committees.

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

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

7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Chairman reported that the YETI sub group had met and there is likely to be an extraordinary meeting of the Council on Wednesday May 11th at 6pm to discuss the YETI Project.

8. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MCFARLING

To note report from Chris McFarling who may attend the meeting. **Chris McFarling had sent apologies as he was unable to attend the meeting.**

9. YOUTH WORKER REPORT

Resolved to note report from Emily Timmins on the progress of the YETI (Youth Engagement Tidenham Initiative) Project. There will be a craft morning for parents and children on Friday 22nd April at the Hall. Emily reported that the community had been invited to attend the 1st Rifles home coming event on Saturday 30th April – Clerk to share poster for this with councillors. Councillor Swambo reported that the Easter Egg Hunt had been a fabulous event and it had been great to see 36 children plus parents attending. Councillor Tullett asked about the proposed teen only gym sessions at Freedom Leisure. Emily reported that the manager was supportive of the idea to set aside regular teen only gym sessions at the leisure centre. Emily reported that the manager was supportive of the idea to set aside a regular evening for young people to use the leisure centre. Emily to meet in 2 weeks to discuss further.

10. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

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

11. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL – GAPTC AND SLCC

- a) **Resolved to approve** renewal of membership of GAPTC 2022/2023 of £1378.80 – numbers of electors 4432 (this includes the NALC element of 7.49 pence per electorate and a discount of £116.56 for having a CiLCA qualified Clerk).
- b) **Resolved to approve** renewal of membership of SLCC 2022/2023 of £234.

12. SEDBURY AND BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL

Resolved to note the electrical inspection has been carried out. The contractor identified some minor work required to complete the Certificate and was able to carry this out whilst on site for an extra cost of £50 plus VAT (total £60) more than the original inspection quotation of £400 plus VAT (total £480). The total cost of the certificate and extra work is therefore £450 plus VAT (total £540).

13. FINANCE

- a) **Resolved to approve payments** according to the Financial Statement for March 2022.
- b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for March 2022, subject to amendment of the bank reconciliation figures and circulation to councillors.
- c) **Resolved to note** Monmouthshire Building Society Account Interest for 21/22 of £381.32 has been received.
- d) **Resolved to note** Bank Reconciliation at end of 2021/2022.
- e) **Resolved to note** Notes to Accounts for end of 2021/2022.

14. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME - LGPS

Resolved to note the Employer's Contribution Rate for the LGPS has reduced from 1st April 2022 to 21.1% of salary from 22.4%.

15. ASSET REGISTER

- a) **Resolved to adopt** Asset Register as shown in the 2021/2022 Annual Accounts. Clerk to amend bus shelter being maintained by Liz McBride on behalf of Sedbury Rainbows.
- b) **Resolved to note** all assets have been visually checked during the year by the Clerk's Assistant, contractors or through playground checks.
Councillor Kotecha reported a broken gate on the Sedbury playing field (due to be repaired) and broken glass on the path from the shops.

16. JUBILEE STONE

Resolved to note the final expenditure for signs at the Jubilee Stone will be less than the amount of £768 inc. VAT agreed December 2021, due to Forestry England now not approving directional signs. The cost of the information plaque will now be £234 (£195 exc. VAT) plus an amount of approx. £20 for installation including pole by Forestry England contractor.

17. BEING A BETTER COUNCILLOR COURSE

Resolved to note Councillor Jane Edwards has been booked to attend the above GAPTC course on 25th May 2022 – at a cost of £70 (membership price).

18. COMMUNITY HUB EVENTS

To consider date and contribution from Parish Council to next Community Hub event.

Resolved – next Hub event to be held in July in the Bandstand on the Tutshill Rec. once installation agreed, with the next being in Tutshill Memorial Hall in September. The next to be held in the Old School, Tidenham Rosemary Lane, Tidenham Chase.

19. LOCAL LEADERS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Resolved to note feedback from the Local Leaders for Climate Action event in Lydney, Saturday 5th March 2022 from Councillor Hartford Beynon. This had been a useful session. There are plans to develop a Climate Partnership website as a hub / resource, including details such as local contractors, community transport etc. Councillor Wall reported that he had joined the recent Group Zoom meeting which had discussed the event and agreed to hold further events in different parts of the Forest. Feedback had been positive with the most popular subject community gardens – some private gardens being offered for use as such in parts of the Forest. To identify possible suggestions made at the Climate Action meeting Cllrs HB, Wall and Koning will meet to produce a short list of ideas to discuss at a future meeting.

20. COMMUNITY GARDEN

To receive feedback from Councillor Edwards on progress to date.

Councillor Edwards provided a report on progress so far. A visit to Caldicot Community Garden had been useful. They had offered donations of topsoil, astro turf and wood for raised beds. It had been suggested that temporary Heras fencing be used around the site while the natural boundaries grew – this provides a cost effective solution with a potential resale value and Cllr Edwards had contacted local builders to enquire about the possibility of this being donated. Contact had also been made with Wydean School Principal to assess if they would be interested in being involved in the project. There is an access point within the boundary (David Stevens reported this is not a recognised public right of way) and there now needs to be discussion on the proposed layout. Cllr Edwards suggested that a newsletter article emphasising the inclusive nature of the community garden be included. The Chairman thanked Cllr Edwards for her work and emphasised the importance of now including local residents before setting up a core committee to look at a constitution and agreement with the Parish Council. Councillor Wall offered to provide advice on planting.

21. HM QUEEN PLATINUM JUBILEE MEDALS

To consider distribution of medals to schools now that they have been received.

Resolved – Councillor Bollen to present to Offa's Mead Academy, Councillor McBride to Tutshill School and Councillor Edwards to St John's School. Clerk to liaise with the schools.

22. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

To consider format of meeting 4th May.

Resolved – tea/coffee and cakes to be provided and Councillor Swambo to prepare presentation on the Council's work over the past year.

23. TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS MEETING – 25TH APRIL 6PM FoDDC OFFICES

Resolved to note Councillors are invited to a meeting of Town and Parish Councils to be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coleford on Monday, 25 April 2022 at 6pm. The Chairman will be attending and has asked for an agenda item to be included asking for advice on how Parish Councils can be involved at the early stages of Section 106 discussions with developers to enable input from the local community. Councillors Koning, Swambo, Tullett and Wall to attend

24. LETTERS TO MPs and COUNTY COUNCIL LEADERS

Resolved to note responses from letters sent regarding a meeting held in the Parish to discuss a potential Chepstow bypass, following the March Parish Council meeting from David Davies MP and Mark Hawthorne, leader Glos CC.

25. WYEBANK ROAD NATIVE WILDFLOWER PLUG PLANTING EVENT

Resolved to note the plug plants were all planted with good support from the community on 19th March 2022. Clerk has emailed Marc Carlton, Marcus Perrin and Mark Cleaver thanking them for their support and advice. One watering session has been required so far. Several Councillors volunteered to remove the dock weeds.

26. CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved to receive and note any other correspondence as detailed in the Clerk's Report. **There was none.**

27. 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 – still having issues with the installation of Gigaclear Broadband service and had been given incorrect information on several occasions. Also – has found it impossible to reach the Police on the non-urgent 101 contact number but now has the telephone number for Coleford Police Station.

Councillor Bollen – reported that local people had been unable to contact the Police either by 101 or 999 (20 minute wait to answer) when somebody was unconscious outside of Sedbury shops – neither could Coleford Police Station be reached. Councillor Swambo reported that he has regular contact with the local Police and that they have reported to him that they are struggling with a shortage of funding / officers whilst undertaking work that is not necessarily within their role. Councillors discussed that local people are annoyed that the proportion of the Council Tax payable to the Police has again increased and that the promised extra 400 officers have not materialised.

Councillor Bollen – an application has been made to close roads in the Sedbury area for the Royal British Legion Jubilee parade.

28. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 27th April 2022 – Planning and Highways Committee meeting.

Wednesday 4th May 2022 – **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Wednesday 11th May 2022 – Amenities Committee meeting.

Wednesday 18th May 2022 – **ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING.**

The meeting concluded at 20.27hrs