

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 29th June 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).

Emily Timmins – Parish Youth Worker.

1 member of the public.

Chris McFarling – Glos. County Councillor.

1. ATTENDANCE

a) Resolved to receive apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Councillors Hartford-Beynon and Molyneux.

b) Resolved to accept those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Hartford-Beynon 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) Resolved to note Notice of Dispensation for members of the Mopla Cottages Committee issued by the Clerk was signed at the meeting.

c) Resolved to note Notice of Dispensation for Councillor Trustees of Tidenham War Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground Trust issued by the Clerk was signed at the meeting.

d) 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 18th May 2022.

b) To consider any questions arising from those minutes. Lead Councillor roles to reviewed at the July or later meeting. Also, agreement for 'light touch' rules for the APM and review of staff working hours to be delayed until July or later. The application for the Local Council Award Scheme to be considered in July.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

County Councillor Chris McFarling gave his report:

His role is split between supporting residents in the Sedbury Division and involvement in the full County Council activities. Recently the CC is considering the future of 65 small to medium sized farms, the cost of living crisis, improving bus services and reducing crimes against women and girls. Cllr McFarling has been helping residents to navigate the Council website, particularly for renewal of blue badges – many people still do not have internet access – and ensuring hardcopies of forms are sent out. Please let Chris know of anybody struggling to obtain the £150 rebate (he is often contacted about this as some residents are confused about the role of the District and County Council). He is currently looking at parking rights in Bridget Drive – Cllr Swambo is Chair of Management Committee and will contact Chris. The Wyevalley Greenway floral mile is looking fabulous. Also dealing with Rosemary Lane closure and the difficulties with refuse collection. Cllr McFarling thanked David Stevens for the suggestions from the Planning and Highways Committee for the Highways Local fund money. He will try to get them all considered – Castleford Hill is a particularly big project. Councillor Koning asked if CC Highways will consult with the Parish Council before work carried out as the Council has better local knowledge. Cllr McFarling will ask Stuart Budd (soon to be Brian Watkins) to visit prior to road painting. Cllr Koning asked if the road painting scheme at St Briavels has been effective in reducing speed – Cllr McFarling replied that there had been a slight improvement and that the work had cost £20k. Cllr McFarling reported that a meeting for local Ukranian refugees is held every Sunday at the St Briavels Assembly Rooms – please let any hosts know of these. Some guests not getting on with hosts and District Council are looking at help with

housing. Cllr Koning stated that we do not know how many refugees are in Tidenham Parish. Cllr Tullett – are hosts getting help with learning English? Yes – through County Council. Cllr Bollen has had quite a few refugees purchasing school uniforms. Cllr Swambo – looking to raise funds to provide help with form filling. Cllr Drew – the state of Denmark Drive is appalling. Cllr McFarling confirmed that £15k worth of re-surfacing carried over from last year is still to be to be completed. Gigaclear resurfacing work in Norse Way should have been inspected – he will follow up. Cllr Bollen reported that Biffa are not collecting refuse in Tylers Way or Grahamstown Rd. because of parking obstructions.

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>

A continued increase in crime statistics was noted and that the police would be attending the July meeting.

6. **COMMITTEES**

Resolved to receive reports, minutes and recommendations from committees

i). Planning, Development Control and Highways Committee meeting held on 25th May 2022.

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

ii). Planning, Development Control and Highways Committee meeting held on 22nd June 2022.

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

7. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

The Chairman asked for an update on the situation with the gazebo - Clerk to apply for formal Lawful Development Certificate in order to progress.

Councillors Hartford-Beynon, Koning and Wall, with the Clerk's Assistant, prepared a response to the latest Chepstow Transport Hub consultation.

Gloucestershire County Council have asked for input on cycling in Gloucestershire for which funding for the Cheltenham area. No other councillors had comments for local cycle routes. The latest Transport Hub survey had more questions related to cycling in the area. Councillor McBride wondered if there was still to be a bridge for pedestrians and cyclists over the river, first suggested when the Fairfield Mabey site was closed.

8. **PARISH CLERK'S REPORT**

To receive and consider the Parish Clerk's Report - no Report required.

Emily Timmins, Youth Worker, presented her report. A programme of summer activities has been arranged with the help of Emma Durbin, Parish Church youth worker, with activities base on the recent survey results. Open to all but will hopefully provide activities for those who would otherwise have no summer interest or holiday. Activities to be funded through the social prescribing element of the Project. There has been an increase in community engagement since Easter which is encouraging. Some parents have asked for a summer fete (21st August at S&BVH) to raise funds for people struggling to provide for children in the current climate. Councillor Tullett had seen statistics that suggest few young people feel part of their communities – Emily is hoping that planned activities and community engagement will help to reduce such statistics locally. Other councillors suggested possible local funding streams.

9. **FINANCE**

a) **Resolved to approve payments** according to the Financial Statement for May 2022.

b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for May 2022.

10. **FoDDC RESIDENTIAL DESIGN GUIDE CONSULTATION – CAPTURING THE CHARACTER OF THE FOREST OF DEAN**

Resolved to approve responses from Tidenham Parish Council to the Consultation, to be submitted by the Clerk's Assistant.

Councillor Koning commented that the Parish Council should look again at the Community Land Trust and a Character Assessment specifically for the Parish. He hoped the District Council will consider the responses to the survey in detail.

Councillors Drew and Swambo commented that the majority of the parish was built after WW11 and that anecdotal evidence suggests it is becoming a dormitory area for Bristol.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

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

Correspondence regarding school parking during recent events had been forwarded to the Planning and Highways Committee. DEEP had written to the Parish Council and local residents to inform that no further explosive tests will be carried out at Dayhouse Quarry.

12. 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 Bollen – now that Gigaclear have mainly finished in the Parish, the gas board are starting work week commencing 4th July for some weeks to come.

Councillor Wall – has update from Chepstow meeting – will send to Clerk.

Councillor Swambo – can Clerk write to Two Rivers as there has still been no response from them regarding roundabout etc.? Also, it appears a container has been placed on the wild flower area in Wyebank Road.

Councillor Maria Edwards – has received complaints regarding the length of time it has taken for Gigaclear works in Rosemary Lane. It was suggested Highways would know how long the road closure has been agreed for.

13. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 6th July 2022 – Finance and Probity Committee meeting.

Wednesday 6th July 2022 – Mopla Cottages Committee meeting.

Wednesday 13th July 2022 – Amenities Committee meeting.

Wednesday 20th July 2022 – Full Council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 20.34hrs