

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

Present: Councillors: Bollen, Edwards, Hartford-Beynon, Koning (Chairman), Swambo, Tullett and Wall.
Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk), David Stevens (Assistant Clerk).
County Councillor Chris McFarling
Mr Clive Russell.

1. ATTENDANCE

- a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Councillors Drew, McBride and Molyneux.
- b) **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Drew, McBride 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 28th September 2022.
- b) **To consider any questions** arising from those minutes. **There were none.**

4. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Resolved to co-opt Clive Russell 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. None Present.

6. 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>

7. COMMITTEES

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

- i) Amenities Committee meeting held on 5th October 2022.
There were no questions to Councillor Swambo, Chairman of the Committee.

8. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Chairman reported that Castleford House had been voted Best in the West at the Care Awards for the area and that 3 staff had won awards. They will now go forward to the National Awards. District Councillor Helen Molyneux will be sending a letter of congratulation on behalf of the District. Clerk to send letter of congratulation from the Parish Council.

Also – GAPTC require a councillor representative from the Forest of Dean District if anybody is interested in volunteering – email on this has been previously sent out by the Clerk.

9. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING

Resolved to note report from Chris McFarling.

The District Council Local Plan Second Preferred Option consultation has now ended and the Council are grouping responses in the same themes as the consultation which will then be presented in a report to Cabinet. Also at District Council meeting recently – recognition of the new King, oak tree planting, looking to restrict intensive poultry farming to help protect the Wye Valley and support for retaining Canop Ponds. Councillor McFarling has put forward a motion at Glos. CC to not allow licences for fracking in the County. He is looking at the funding to see if improvements to pedestrian access on Castleford Hill can be made. He is working with a local resident of Netherhope Lane where it has been shared that there is access to the Wye Valley Greenway tunnel. Whilst it is possible to access it, the road has been blocked by people parking nearby. There were some teething problems with the soft launch of The Robin transport scheme which it is hoped may help alleviate some of the transport problems caused by the withdrawal of routes by Stagecoach. A letter to the Transport Commissioner has been sent by the head of Transport at the County Council about the withdrawal of the Stagecoach routes, in view of the poor access to public transport in the Forest of Dean. Councillor Koning had heard a report from experts stating that the new settlement, originally proposed in the first Local Plan option, was the best option for the Forest and has this now been discarded as an option by the District Council? Cllr McFarling reported that the new settlement could still be an option and that he had supported this originally as the most sustainable option.

10. **PARISH CLERK'S REPORT**

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

11. **YOUTH WORKER REPORT**

Resolved to note report from Emily Timmins on the progress of the YETI Project. The Clerk reported that an invoice had been received for a cancellation fee for an ice cream van that was cancelled with 24 hours notice for one of the summer activities. The company concerned had not informed the Youth Worker of a cancellation fee at the time of booking and had attended two other summer events. The Clerk had contacted the company to discuss – the Church Youth Worker had offered a nominal sum at the time of cancellation which was not acceptable, but the response from them had been received too late to be included on the agenda for consideration.

12. **FINANCE**

- a) **Resolved to approve payments** according to the Financial Statement for September 2022.
- b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for September 2022.
- c) **Resolved to note** the VAT refund for 2021/22 of £7161.53 has now been received.
- d) **Resolved to note** the Tump Farm annual community benefit payment of £6203.53 has now been received.
- e) **Resolved to note** an invoice for £200 for the Clerk's time as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer to Poor's Allotment Charity has been sent for payment.

13. **EXTERNAL AUDIT CONCLUSION**

- a) **Resolved to note** audited 2021/22 Annual Governance and Accountability Report (AGAR) and External Audit Report and that no issues were identified.
- b) **Resolved to note** audited AGAR and Notice of Conclusion of Audit have now been added to website.

14. **COMMUNITY HUB EVENT**

Resolved to note the date of the next Community Hub event has been postponed to Saturday 19th November 2022. Volunteer councillors to attend during the event will be required and a list of participants attending to be agreed. Councillors Bollen, Hartford-Beynon, Tullett and Wall and Emily Timmins are available to attend during the day. Contributors to include SARA, Poor's Allotments, Severn Wye Energy, Parish Council, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, Tidenham War Memorial Hall Trust and the Youth Project.

15. **NEWSLETTER – WINTER 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 not to approve** quotation from Storm Marketing for the design of Newsletter of £200.00 plus VAT - total cost £240 for 6 pages. Councillor Swambo to design.

- c) **Resolved to approve** quotation from Hanley Court printers for the printing and packaging (suitable for delivery to Royal Mail dist. centre, Swindon) 3,200 A4 Long Edge folded leaflets 115gsm @ **£640**, 3,200 A4 ds leaflet inserts 115gsm @ **£324 Total if inserts used: £965**
- d) **Resolved to approve** use of Royal Mail Door to Door Service for distribution of the Winter 2022 Newsletter cost £70.61 plus VAT per 1000 – total cost £202.66 plus VAT (£243.19 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.

16. SEDBURY AND BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL – KITCHEN

Councillor Bollen declared an interest in this item and did not take part in the vote but was permitted to take part in the debate in order to provide feedback from the Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall Committee.

Resolved to provision of an oven and fridge/ freezer in S&BVH to help provide meals for those in the Parish struggling in the current economic climate and how this might best be achieved. Expenditure and work required to be included on future agenda. County Councillor Chris McFarling pledged support for the project and invited the Council to apply for a grant of £4000 towards it. The requirement for two disabled toilets to be explored. Councillor Swambo to prepare proposal. Extraordinary meeting to be held Wednesday 26th October at 6.30pm.

17. JUBILEE STONE BENCH PLAQUE

Resolved to approve increase advised by Forestry England in the cost of the plaque for the Jubilee Stone bench from £20 plus VAT (£24 total) to £26.30 plus VAT (£31.56 total). Clerk to contact Forestry England regarding the 50m of path that is impossible to walk due to mud / deep tracks.

18. POST COVID MEETING RULES

Resolved to approve ending of restrictions and website / agenda guidance. Councillors hoped that people would not attend meetings if testing positive and be sensible about mixing.

19. CORRESPONDENCE

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

20. 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 Swambo – a proposal has been sent to the Roman Catholic Church regarding the potential acquirement of the closed church in Sedbury for youth centre premises.

21. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

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

Wednesday 9th November 2022 – Amenities Committee meeting.

Wednesday 16th November 2022 – Full Council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 20.56 hrs