

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th January 2023 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Bollen, Edwards, Koning (Chairman), Swambo and Tullett.
Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk), David Stevens (Assistant Clerk).
County Councillor Chris McFarling.

1. ATTENDANCE

- a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Councillors Drew, Hartford-Beynon, McBride, Molyneux, Russell and Wall.
- b) **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Drew, Hartford-Beynon, McBride, Molyneux, Russell and Wall.
- Apologies were also received from Emily Timmins – Youth Worker.

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 14th December 2022.
- b) **To consider any questions** arising from those minutes. Clerk to contact local parish councils and Chepstow Town Council to explore the possibility of sharing resources etc. Councillors Koning and Swambo have begun a consultation with local groups offering local spaces to arrange an initial meeting to explore working together, eg. providing details of activities available throughout the parish in a central place. An information session on the Housing Needs Survey results has been arranged for Councillors only and details will be emailed to Councillors. Councillor Bollen reported that the committee will provide an internal defibrillator for the village hall.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To receive and consider any questions from the Public, which may be answered but not debated.
No 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>

6. COMMITTEES

- Resolved to receive** reports, minutes and recommendations from committees and to consider any questions arising from them.
- i) Planning, Development Control and Highways Committee meeting held on 21st December 2022. There were no questions. Councillor Wall, Chairman of the Committee, was absent.
- ii) Amenities Committee meeting held on 11th January 2023. There were no questions to Councillor Swambo, Chairman of the Committee.

7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Resolved to receive and note any announcements from the Chairman of the meeting.

The Chairman gave more detail on the approach made to local space providers exploring the possibility of working together, particularly where each is trying to find volunteers for various roles. Also looking to provide an easily accessible central point giving details on activities taking place across the Parish. All have so far expressed an interest in meeting to discuss.

GCC Net Zero Survey received recently – Parish Council Climate Action Group to complete. Clerk to send to councillors and add to Facebook to ask as many people as possible to complete.

The Parish Council has a responsibility to inform residents of the requirement for photo ID in order to vote at the May elections. Council to offer practical help to residents requiring assistance applying for voting ID documents and Clerk to add to noticeboards and website. County Councillor McFarling noted that the Government will be launching an advertising campaign to inform the community.

8. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING

Resolved to note report from Chris McFarling who reiterated the need for people to engage with the Net Zero Survey if the County is to succeed in reaching its goal, particularly as there may be some good ideas suggested by the public. Councillor Swambo asked if the provision of electric car charging points will be a consideration as there are currently none locally. Councillor Edwards suggested that minimum service levels for charging point providers must be improved before more are introduced. Councillor McFarling reported that 1000 points are due to be installed but these tend to be in urban areas.

Councillor McFarling expressed some frustration on being unable to deliver on some highways issues due to lack of resources. He will require a priority list from the Parish Council for next year's funding. Also – please report potholes to Highways online as this is the quickest way to have them added to the list.

9. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

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

10. YOUTH WORKER REPORT

a) **Resolved to note** report from Emily Timmins on the progress of the YETI Project.

b) **Resolved to note** a money claim has been made by CJ Copner Ice Cream Vans Ltd against the Council for £160 for cancellation costs that had not been agreed or notified at the time of booking, for a Youth Project event in summer 2022. Clerk has responded.

11. FINANCE

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

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

c) **Resolved to note** the precept requirement of £113,354 for 2023/24 has been requested from the FoDDC.

d) **Resolved to note** annual Wayleave payment cheque for £20.68 has been received from National Grid.

12. INTERNAL AUDIT 2022/23

Resolved to note the GAPTC Internal Auditor has been formally appointed. Clerk to send pre audit information prior to audit on 21st February 2023.

13. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Resolved to note Annual Parish Meeting 2023 to be on Wednesday 5th April – venue to be at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall with refreshments provided.

14. SEDBURY AND BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL

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.

a) **Resolved to approve** signing of Agreement for a year's free of charge community internet from Gigaclear.

b) **Resolved not to apply** for capital improvements to Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall under the ACRE Platinum Jubilee Grant Fund.

c) **Resolved to note** email from Jo Anne Coghill, Graduate Environmental Health Practitioner with FoDDC, confirming that the Hall is not required to be registered as a food business.

d) **Resolved to approve** quotation from Atlas Renovations for the re-instatement of a disabled toilet at a cost of £1800.00 plus VAT – total cost £2160.

e) **Resolved to note** the total cost of the project to date is £6429.72, leaving a sum of £1570.28 from the grant funding, plus approx. £345 from the S&BVH 2022/23 budget, available for completion.

f) **Resolved to approve** that the requirement to obtain three quotes for the above (Tidenham Parish Council Financial Regulations 10. 3) be waived as this is a continuation of the kitchen installation in that Atlas Renovations removed the original equipment and are familiar with the premises and work required. There needs to be hot water to the new kitchen – Clerk to look into options available.

15. **COVID HELPING GROUP**

Resolved to note email from Helen Child, Covid Helping Group, thanking the Council for its previous support. The Group is now winding down.

16. **CORRESPONDENCE**

To receive and consider any other correspondence as detailed in the Clerk's Report. **None received.**

17. **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 – an Emergency Plan is needed that can be shared with FoDDC and be ready for use in the first 24 hours of an emergency. Councillor McFarling pointed out that a Plan must be continually updated to be useful. Clerk has template from FoDDC and will look at in more detail. Councillor Koning suggested a working group may be required to produce the Plan.

Councillor Edwards – concerned that she had been approached regarding the booking of Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall and that there is no information online about the hall and its facilities or cost of hiring etc. This may mean losing out on potential bookings.

Councillor Koning – the Council needs to progress the Community Champion Initiative. Also, the wild flower area in Wyebank Road needs to be evaluated. Clerk to contact local advisers.

18. **HR SUB COMMITTEE REPORT**

Due to the confidential nature of this item members of the public and press were excluded from the meeting.

Resolved to approve implementation of recommendations from the HR Sub Committee Report.

19. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

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

Wednesday 25th January 2023 – Planning and Highways Committee meeting.

Wednesday 15th February 2023 – Full Council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 20.57 hrs