

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th February 2023 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.

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

1. ATTENDANCE

- a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Councillors Drew, Hartford-Beynon, McBride, Molyneux and Swambo.
- b) **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Drew, Hartford-Beynon, McBride, Molyneux and Swambo.
- 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 18th January 2023.
- b) **To consider any questions** arising from those minutes. It was agreed to produce an Emergency Plan and Councillors Koning, Russell and Wall were willing to form a sub group to work on this.

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>
PCSO Lucy Smith was asked how crimes are recorded – at the time of reporting or when being investigated. Lucy will find out and report back. Lucy announced that there will be a dedicated new officer in Tidenham, Mark Evans, who has come from central Gloucester and has 20 years experience. Possibility of a local police information point being set up at Sedbury Space. Councillors Edwards asked if there had been an increase in fuel crime recently. Although there had been a couple not a big jump.

6. COMMITTEES

To receive reports, minutes and recommendations from committees already circulated, enclosed herewith or to be circulated and to consider any questions arising from them.

i) Planning, Development Control and Highways Committee meeting held on 25th January 2023.
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 reported a newspaper article on a community wind turbine in Bristol that supplied the local community. Councillors agreed in principle that this might be something to explore further. County Councillor McFarling pointed out that planning for such projects takes a while and that it is not currently easy to have one to supply the community direct as there needs to be storage facilities.

8. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING

Resolved to note report from Chris McFarling.

Councillor McFarling had provided a written report. He added that Glos CC had agreed its £1/2 billion budget which has a lot of service to support. There will be a 21% increase in the highway maintenance budget, Gloucestershire having one of the lowest standard of roads nationally. The overall increase is 4.99% which includes 2% earmarked for social care. £1/2 million of amendments by other parties were agreed including one submitted by the Green Party to trial an ebike hire scheme, following successful models elsewhere. People who hire them can purchase them and studies have shown that people who try hiring are more likely to purchase their own. The trial will include storage etc. eg at rail stations. Also task group to look at river restoration. Recent recommendations have been made regarding the river Wye but these are unfounded. £100k has been asked for to employ an ecological consultancy team to ensure recommendations are put in place. £100k also to be put into Public Rights of Way – for maintenance, accessibility etc.

Councillor Edwards expressed concerns for safety of ebikes on dangerous roads, eg. A48. Councillor McFarling agreed that there should ideally be segregated paths but this type of infrastructure is allocated on a per capita cost, for example the £21m Cheltenham/Glos cycle spine path., such projects being more cost effective in urban areas. He agreed there needs to be an alternative plan for country areas.

Councillor Koning asked what kind of projects can be achieved with the £5k the Council has been asked to identify expenditure for. Councillor McFarling explained that this often enables larger projects to be brought forward and can trigger larger amounts to be spent.

Councillor Wall asked about the pavement and overhanging trees on Castleford Hill. Councillor McFarling has agreed to allocate a bit more money to this but the retaining wall is very steep and likely to be very costly.

Councillor McFarling had received a complaint about an overgrown section of the Gloucester Way footpath from the bridge. He is to visit the site and arrange annual maintenance.

Councillor McFarling reported that the District Council budget will be voted on at a meeting on 16th February. Likely to be a 2.99% increase.

9. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

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

The Clerk reported that she and the Assistant Clerk had met Marcus Perrin and Marc Carlton at the Wyebank Road wildflower site to review the area and replace the 'bee' signs ready for the grass cutting season.

10. YOUTH PROJECT

a) **Resolved to note** it has been agreed to pay an amount of £100 from the social prescribing funds of the YETI Project for the cancellation fee for CJ Copner Ice Cream Vans Ltd.

b) **Resolved to note** a donation of £325 has been received from Sedbury Space as a contribution towards the social prescribing element of the Project in recognition of the activities provided during the Christmas period. A letter of thanks has been sent to Sedbury Space.

11. PARISH ONLINE

Resolved to approve subscription to Parish Online (digital mapping service) of £216.00 total price (£180 ex VAT) for 21/01/23 to 21/01/24.

12. FINANCE

a) **Resolved to approve payments** according to the Financial Statement for January 2023.

b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for January 2023.

13. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY POLICY

Resolved to approve, after review, re-adoption of the TPC Equality and Diversity Policy.

14. SEDBURY AND BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL

a) **Resolved to note** the year's free of charge community internet from Gigaclear will be installed on 23rd March 2023.

b) **To consider** quotation from Atlas Renovations for the installation of a hot water unit in the new kitchen (to be carried out during the re-installation of the disabled toilet) for £650 plus VAT – total price £780.

This was not considered as the existing heater has been plumbed in and is located in the adjacent toilets.

15. **PLANNING IN PLAIN ENGLISH TRAINING – GAPTC, 20TH MARCH 2023**

- a) **Resolved to note** councillors Hartford-Beynon, Koning, Russell and Tullett and Clerk's Assistant David Stevens, have been booked onto the GAPTC Planning in Plain English training course at a cost of £35 each.
- b) **To consider** further nominations for the GAPTC course. Councillor Wall asked to be booked onto the course.

16. **PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE EMERGENCY GROUP**

Resolved to note and consider the report from the Climate Emergency Group. Councillors agreed an energy efficiency assessment of the village hall should be arranged. The Chairman recommended reading the book 'How Bad are Bananas' by Mike Berners-Lee.

17. **NEWSLETTER**

- a) **Resolved to note** due to technical problems, the newsletter design was not able to be completed in house. In view of the time sensitive material and the need to book the Royal Mail Door to Door Service, the articles were sent to Storm Marketing for their design service at a cost of £160 plus VAT – total cost £192.00. The extra cost will be covered by the reduction in original printing costs as there will be no insert in this edition.
- b) **Resolved to note** there will be 2 advertisements in the newsletter at £50 each.
- c) **Resolved to note** the Royal Mail Door to Door Service for postcodes NP16 7 has been booked for distribution week commencing 6th March 2023.

18. **CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III**

To consider options to mark the coronation of King Charles III on 6th May 2023.

Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall and The Royal British Legion are planning events over the weekend, as is the Village Inn pub. The Parish Council to discuss possible projects at the March meeting.

19. **HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY 2022**

Resolved to note feedback from the meeting of 8th February 2023 with Barbara Pond GRCC.

Councillors agreed that this requires further thought on how to go forward and that it should be re-visited at a future meeting.

20. **SECTION 106 MONIES**

To consider potential projects related to air quality from Section 106 monies held by FoDDC.

Resolved the Climate Emergency Group should initially consider recommendations for full council.

21. **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

The Clerk had received email confirmation of the situation with school places whilst 1st Rifles are away from District Councillor Nick Evans.

An email from a member of the public wishing to remain anonymous had been received regarding the felling of the oak tree in Buttington Road. Councillors agreed the Parish Council should consider the possibility of placing tree protection orders on some trees in the Parish. This to be considered by the Amenities Committee. County Councillor Chris McFarling informed councillors of the Stonehouse Arboretum project.

22. **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 Bollen – the Hall committee had decided they do not wish to have the hall bookings online. Could details of the hall be included on the parish council website and in the newsletter?

Councillor Edwards – what happens to the brown road signs once the facility is no longer there? There are still some signs relating to the previous Dive Centre.

Councillor Russell – the trees in the Manor Chase community orchard are failing, seemingly because the ground may be made up of builders waste. It would not therefore be advisable to plant one of the oak saplings, received to mark the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee, on the site.

23. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 22nd February 2023 – Planning and Highways Committee meeting.

Wednesday 1st March 2023 – Finance and Probity Committee meeting, followed by Mopla Cottages Committee.

Wednesday 8th March 2023 – Amenities Committee meeting.

Wednesday 15th March 2023 – Full Council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 21.08 hrs