

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.**

**Present:** Councillors: Allan, Cracknell, Jenkins, Koning, Stead, Swambo, and Wall.

Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk) David Stevens (Assistant Clerk).

1 member of the public.

**1. ATTENDANCE**

a) **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Councillors Drew, Russell and Tullett.

b) **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Drew, Russell and Tullett.

Apologies had also been received from District Councillor Johnathan Lane.

**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. **None.**

*Interests may be declared at any time during the meeting should they become apparent.*

a) **Resolved to note** Notice of Dispensation requested by members of the Mopla Cottages Committee issued by the Clerk and signed at the meeting.

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

c) **Resolved to note** Notice of Dispensation requested by Councillor Trustees of Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall issued by the Clerk and signed at the meeting.

d) **To consider any Dispensation Requests** received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered. **None.**

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

a) **Resolved to approve** as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 subject to two typing errors and the removal of the words 'Development Control' from the title of the Planning and Highways Committee at item 8.

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

c) **Resolved to note** a meeting of the working group to discuss the previous development session report has been arranged for 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024.

**4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

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

The member of the public present did not wish to speak.

**5. POLICING IN THE PARISH**

**Resolved to note** Police crime statistics for Tidenham and Sedbury can be accessed following this link.

[Tidenham and Sedbury | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](https://www.police.uk)

**6. COMMITTEES**

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

i). Finance and Probity Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

There were no questions to members of the Committee.

The Chairman reported that an email had been received requesting his resignation as Chairman following the publication of the Finance Committee minutes. Councillor Russell had been democratically elected as Chairman of the Committee following a discussion on good governance for any Finance Committee on the length of time to be served as Chairman.

ii) Mopla Cottages Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

There were no questions to members of the Committee.

## 7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Chairman reported that he and Councillor Stead had attended the weekly Beachley Barracks Multi-Agency Forum to discuss progress of "OP LAZURITE" organised by the MOD for partner organisations including GCC, FoDDC, NHS and MAERS, the managing company for the residents at Beachley Barracks from Afghanistan. It was reported that due to the unsuitable room on the Beachley site, JobCentre Plus staff may soon no longer visit the barracks and transport may be required for the residents to get to JCP Chepstow. There may be an opportunity for the Tidenham Community Transport Vehicle to be used. There are currently more than 600 Afghan residents at the barracks and married quarters are currently available. It is expected that the 1<sup>st</sup> Rifles will return from Cyprus in the course of next year.

The Chairman and Councillor Stead had attended an Eid event at the barracks with craft entertainment for the women and children and a cricket match for the men.

3 drivers are now registered to drive the Community Transport vehicle with more interested in registering.

## 8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

**Resolved to note** County and District Councillors are now in the pre-election period and may not attend the meeting. District Councillor Johnathan Lane had sent his apologies.

## 9. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

**Resolved to receive and note the** Parish Clerk's Report. Clerk to chase Sedbury and District Leisure Gardeners Association for the required information as discussed at the last Full Council meeting.

## 10. YOUTH PROJECT

a) **Resolved to note** no report from Emily Timmins, Youth Worker.

b) **Resolved to note** a meeting of the YETI sub group has been arranged for Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024.

## 11. FINANCE

a) **Resolved to approve payments** according to the Financial Statement for May 2024.

b) **Resolved to receive and approve the Financial Statement** for May 2024.

c) **Resolved to receive and note** the Receipts / Payments spreadsheet to May 2024 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee at the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

d) **Resolved to receive and note** the Budget Monitoring Spreadsheet 2023/2024 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee at the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

e) **Resolved to receive and note** the YETI Project Spreadsheet 2023/2024 as presented to the Finance and Probity Committee at the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

## 12. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER COUNCILLOR ADVOCACY SCHEME

**Resolved to approve** appointment of Councillor Jenkins as Councillor Advocacy representative for the PCC Scheme. Council deemed it sufficient that only one TPC Councillor is involved in the scheme.

## 13. SEDBURY AND BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL

a) **Resolved to approve** renewal details of the Hall insurance (details attached) with Community First underwritten by Zurich Insurance at an annual premium of £656.61 – year 4 of a 5 year Long Term Agreement. This represents an increase of £29.89 due to index linking of sums insured and includes a commission retained by Community First.

b) **Resolved to approve** payment for legal advice regarding future management and trusteeship of the Hall from Wellers Law Group of up to £1750 plus VAT. Total cost up to £2100.

## 14. PLAY AREA WORKING GROUP

**To receive** feedback from Councillor Stead from the first working group meeting.

Councillors Stead reported that there had been a meeting of the working group on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at which it had been suggested the group should be called the Green Spaces and Play Area Working Group so that the Parish leisure areas can be considered as a whole. Each area had been discussed with suggestions for improvement / changes and members of the Group have been in contact with various external organisations for information and guidance. Suggestions include family areas, orchard, fully accessible play area and bike

track. Funding is clearly the main issue and councillors discussed several possible funding streams to access. Another meeting is to be held. Councillors agreed that Councillor Allan should join the Group.

**15. INFORMATION COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE – REGISTRATION FEE**

**Resolved to note** under the GDPR/Data Protection Act 2018, the renewal registration fee of £35 is due to be paid by Direct Debit on 25/06/24.

**16. COUNCILLOR VACANCY – CO-OPTION**

**Resolved to note** the Forest of Dean District Council have notified the Clerk that an election to fill the Councillor Vacancy is not required. Notices regarding Co-option will be posted with a view to co-opt a candidate at the July meeting.

**17. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

Councillors noted the email from Catherine House.

An email had been received from David Nichol regarding the change of Chairman for the Finance Committee – see item 6 i) above.

Councillors discussed concerns about the constant FaceBook trolling of the Council and Councillors and the amount of time spent by the Clerk responding to, and dealing with this, and numerous requests for information. Councillors noted that not one person contributing to the constant Facebook postings has attended a meeting of the Council to discuss any concerns although having been repeatedly invited.

**18. 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 data projector, screen and sound system is to be installed at the hall for use by users and to enable film screenings to take place.

Councillor Allan – had been contacted about the overgrown and run down bus shelter near the double roundabouts in Tutshill. This, and the one on Gloucester Road that was never handed over to the Parish Council after erection by Butler Wall, to be considered at the next Amenities Committee meeting.

Councillor Cracknell – the Council needs to consider how the work of the Council can be better shared with the community so that they are aware of the work it does. This to be further explored at the next development session in September.

Councillor Jenkins – as there has been no response from DEEP regarding the IET Lego League project that this year is about submersibles, can we put something together ourselves. They are prepared to support with resources etc. Councillors Allan and Cracknell to look into more at Wydean and St John's Schools.

**19. FUTURE MEETINGS**

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

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – Planning and Highways Committee.

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – Amenities Committee meeting.

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – Full Council meeting.

**The meeting concluded at 20.35hrs**