

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th November 2024 at 7.00pm held at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Allan, Burgess, Drew, Cracknell, Koning, Russell, Swambo and Tullett.

Officers: Carol Hinton (Clerk)

Jeff Baldwin – Transition Chepstow.

1. ATTENDANCE

a) Resolved to receive apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Councillors Stead and Wall.

b) Resolved to accept those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Stead and Wall. Apologies had also been received from County Councillor Chris McFarling, District Councillors Birch and Lane and Assistant Clerk David Stevens.

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.**

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

a) Resolved to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2024.

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

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To receive and consider any questions from the Public, which may be answered but not debated. **None present.**

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders for the following presentation.

5. PRESENTATION BY JEFF BALDWIN – CHEPSTOW E-BIKE SCHEME

Mr Baldwin, resident of Tutshill and Transition Chepstow member, explained the Chepstow E Bike scheme. There is one E Bike that can be lent to people to try before they consider purchasing one. Most people have liked the bike and there have been no significant safety or damage issues. Chepstow Town Council had completed a feasibility exercise for a scheme that allowed town centre access to renting the bike but this would have been prohibitively expensive. There will of course be administrative issues regarding use of such bikes. Mr Baldwin answered questions from Councillors.

Standing Orders were re-instated at this point.

6. 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 \(www.police.uk\)](http://www.police.uk)

7. COMMITTEES

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

i). Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 24th October 2024.

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

ii). Amenities Committee meeting held on 13th November 2024.

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

iii). Mopla Cottages Committee Extraordinary meeting held on 13th November 2024.

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

8. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The Council needs to put together a list of a pool of drivers for the Electric Vehicle that can be called on for activities outside of the registered user groups.

Reminder of the Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall Annual Christmas Fayre Saturday 23rd November.

9. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Resolved to note report from Chris McFarling that had been sent prior to the meeting.

10. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

Resolved to receive and note the Parish Clerk's Report. All items requiring the council to make a decision are specified separately on this agenda.

11. FINANCE

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

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

c) **Resolved to note** the final precept amount of £61,319.50 has been received from Forest of Dean District Council.

d) **Resolved to note** from 14th January 2025 Lloyds Bank will be changing the Treasurer's Account to a Community Account. The account name, sort code and number will remain the same. The Community Account will incur charges of £4.25 per month. The first 100 electronic payments made (including direct debit, standing order and faster payments) will be free of charge.

12. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

a) **Resolved to approve** appointment of Councillor Burgess to the Finance and Probity Committee.

b) **Resolved to approve** appointment of Councillor Burgess to the Mopla Cottages Committee.

13. TIDENHAM YOUTH PROGRAMME

Resolved to approve use of the remaining Social Prescribing earmarked funds of £3232.30 for projects under the Youth Programme in the Parish and for an amount up to £150 to be spent for snacks for the Movie and Disco night being arranged in the Hall on 8th December by the Youth Sub Group. Councillors discussed the ringfencing of some of the Social Prescribing funds for helping young people who may not otherwise be able to join in activities.

14. SAFER STREETS FUNDING – CCTV CAMERAS

a) **Resolved to note** the two CCTV cameras were installed on 18th October 2024 and that the Clerk and Assistant Clerk attended an online training session with the manufacturer.

b) **Resolved to note** the existing CCTV camera located behind the butchers in Sedbury has been vandalised and is no longer working. This is not repairable and a quotation for taking it down can be obtained if Councillors think it should be removed. Clerk / Assistant Clerk to obtain quotation for its removal.

15. COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH CAMERA

a) **Resolved to note** the Memorandum of Understanding between landowners on the B4228 in Woodcroft for the positioning of a pole and mounting of the Speedwatch Camera on their land has been signed.

b) **Resolved to note** the Speedwatch Camera has been removed from the previous site and has been returned to the manufacturer to be updated before being sent to Glos CC Highways prior to installation at the new site.

c) **Resolved to note** a letter of intention to erect pole and Camera has been delivered to local residents.

16. SEDBURY AND BEACHLEY VILLAGE HALL

a) **Resolved to approve** revised constitution for the Hall with the Parish Council as sole Trustee.

b) **Resolved to note** in readiness for the transition of Trusteeship to the Parish Council, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk have been preparing various documents/ licenses that need to be introduced to ensure the Hall meets legal requirements. These include Terms and Conditions of Hall hire, instructions for use of equipment, a licence to play music and a license to show films at the Hall.

17. SEDBURY AND DISTRICT LEISURE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

Resolved to approve reviewed and revised Management Agreement and the management fee payable for the three years to 2026 to remain at £640 per annum. Still awaiting communication from the Association.

18. DEVELOPMENT SESSION

Resolved to note the development session with Kim Bedford, postponed from September, has been rescheduled for 12th February 2025.

19. POOR'S ALLOTMENTS CHARITY

Resolved to approve Tidenham Parish Council willing to be Custodian Trustee for Poor's Allotments should the Charity Trustees agree to changes to the Constitution.

20. CORRESPONDENCE

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

DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL OR NATURE OF ITEM 20, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

21. STAFF SALARIES

- a) **Resolved to approve** increase of salary for the Clerk according to the Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024/25 from 1st April 2024.
- b) **Resolved to approve** increase of salary for the Assistant Clerk according to the Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024/25 from 1st April 2024.
- c) **Resolved to note** the new tax free allowance payable to staff working from home. This is claimed through expenses.

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 Russell – had represented the Parish Council at the annual Remembrance day parade and service. Also – he and Councillors Koning and Stead had attended a presentation by SARA at Berkley on its work and services.

Councillor Cracknell – St John's School will be trialling some initiatives discussed for the Council's Youth Programme (eg. a Santa Dash for which the bucket collection this year will go towards the community Christmas Lunch and drama workshops etc.) with a view to introducing them for the whole Parish next year. Councillor Swambo – volunteers to help with the Christmas Day community lunch will be welcome. Also – three more volunteer drivers have registered for the community electric vehicle. Also – he has had discussions with Chepstow Town Council and Chris McFarling regarding the possibility of a foot and emergency vehicle bridge from Sedbury to Tesco.

Councillor Drew – has approached the Spar management regarding the parking spaces alongside the building suggesting that parking bays should be clearly marked to avoid the periodic difficulties faced by customers when vehicles are parked inconsiderately. Spar have responded in that they are looking to find a contractor to paint the white lines.

23. FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 27th November 2024 – Planning and Highways Committee.

Wednesday 4th December 2024 – Finance and Probity Committee Meeting.

Wednesday 4th December 2024 – Mopla Cottages Committee Meeting.

Wednesday 11th December 2024 – Full Council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 20.21hrs