

**MELLS PARISH COUNCIL**  
**mellsparishcouncil.org.uk**

A meeting of Mells Parish Council took place on Tuesday 13 November 2012  
at Mells Barn.

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1. **PRESENT:** Mr E Costelloe (Chairman), Ms R Wallace (Vice Chair), the Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Mrs J Mann, Mrs M Jennings, Miss H Wynter, Mr V Turner  
**In Attendance:** Joy Book, Clerk
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Miss A Blanche-Martin, Mr P Lowth, Mr S West and Mr C Tye
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
4. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on 9 October 2012 had previously been circulated. It was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.
5. **MATTERS ARISING**
  - a) **Quarry Liaison Committee:** No further information.
  - b) **Speed Watch Progress:** There has been no response to the advertisements in the Parish Magazine or shop. Terry Drake, Local Area Co-ordinator, has given the Clerk contact details for someone who is interested in setting up a team in Mells. Clerk has made contact and is awaiting response.
  - c) **Gift of Grit Bin from Mells Village Shop:** No further information. Edmund Costelloe to follow up.
  - d) **Leigh on Mendip - Shrubs covering road sign:** The Leigh on Mendip Clerk has been unable to locate the sign. Ros Wallace will contact her.
  - e) **Drainage Channel - White Bridge:** This appears to be working well and monitoring will be continued.
  - f) **Maintenance of Footpath, Little Green to School:** The estate have agreed to take this on. The path has proved very popular with school users and residents.
  - g) **Encroaching verge by Primrose Cottage, Lower Vobster:** Somerset CC have noted this for inspection.
  - h) **Vobster Bridge Length Restrictions:** No further information.
  - i) **Grasscutting – White Bridge:** The Estate have agreed to undertake this.
  - j) **Gullies – School Hill:** Somerset CC have noted this for inspection.
  - k) **Clerk’s Contract:** Edmund Costelloe and Ros Wallace have reviewed and annotated changes to the contract which have been discussed with the Clerk. Contract will be signed after the approved changes have been made.
6. **PLANNING**
  - a) **2012/2358** Proposed felling of a lime tree. Rear of bus shelter, Mells Estate - No objections.
  - b) **2012/1842** Replacement windows. Mells First School – No objections.

Planning Decisions

  - a) **2011/3172** Part change of use of agricultural/general storage outbuilding to two self catering letting units, meeting and treatment rooms etc. Upper Vobster Farm – refused.
  - b) **2012/2116** SCC Decision - Replacement of windows, Mells First School. Provisional approval given.
  - c) **2012/1347** Demolition of commercial outbuildings and construction of new dwelling and B1 office unit. Laurel Cottage, Little Green. Approved with 14 conditions
  - d) **2012/2190** Proposed works to two trees in a conservation area. The Beeches, Top Lane – Approved.
7. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL**
  - a) Salt bag collection – 24 November 2012. Vince Turner will collect from the depot.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL**

- a) Precept Letter and Form – Precept submission due 4 January. Clerk to prepare budget for 2013-2014 for presentation at the next meeting.
- b) Parishes Information Bulletin – passed to Vince Turner.

**9. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS**

- a) Came & Company – Parish Matters
- b) SALC – Budget preparations and business interests – The Parish Council has noted the information but will continue to make precept decisions as in the past.
- c) Mendip Community Transport – Donation request. Ros Wallace proposed a donation of £100 which was seconded by Jane Mann. All present voted in favour.
- d) The Playing Field – Newsletter

**10. ACCOUNTS**

J Book	Clerk's salary – October		£207.24
	Expenses (October)		
	1 trip to Mells @ 45p/mile	£	3.60
	Phone line rental	£	5.50
	Utilities	£	4.00
	Single Hole Punch	£	3.50
			<u>£16.60</u>
			£223.64
b)	HMRC PAYE		
	Period 8		£51.80
c)	Royal British Legion		
	(Wreath and £25.00 donation)		£42.00
d)	Mells with Vobster PCC		£1,600.00

*Proposed Monica Jennings    Seconded Helen Wynter*

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

- a) **Somerset CC Chairman's Award:** Card received from Shirley Inch thanking the Parish Council for nominating her for the award.
- b) **Boundary Commission:** Edmund Costelloe reported that the boundaries have been reviewed and radical changes proposed. Under the new proposal Mells would be included with the Wells and North East Somerset constituency as opposed to Somerton and Frome.
- c) **Future of The Talbot Inn:** The Talbot Inn will continue to be a public house and hotel when the refurbishment work is completed.
- d) **Grit Bins:** Clerk will arrange to have these refilled.
- e) **Travellers on Estate Land:** The Estate is now the registered owners of this land and legal proceedings for their removal can now being undertaken.
- f) **Thank you note from Police:** The Police have thanked the residents of Mells for their recent vigilance and information received regarding a male burglar.

**13. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:** Tuesday 11 December at 7.15 pm in Mells Barn  
Tuesday 22 January at 7.15pm in Mells Barn

Meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Signed..... Date.....

Print Name.....