

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**A meeting of Mells Parish Council took place on
Tuesday 9 July 2013 at Mells Barn**

1. **PRESENT:** Ms R Wallace – Chair, Mrs M Jennings, Mr C Tye, Miss H Wynter, Mrs J Seewooruttun, Mr John Earl
No members of the public **In Attendance:** Joy Book, Clerk
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mr Edmund Costelloe, Mr S West.
Absent: Mrs J Mann, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Mr Vince Turner
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
4. **MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** held on 11 June 2013 had previously been circulated. Due to a word processing error, the minutes were not signed and will be approved at the next meeting.
5. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - a) **Quarry Liaison Committee:** No information available.
 - b) **Vobster Bridge Length Restrictions:** These works have now been carried out. Several signs have been removed and new signs have been installed.
 - c) **Eroded area Bottom Lane/Top Lane:** Somerset CC have scraped away some soil to create a depression which should allow the water to soak away.
 - d) **Parking by Talbot:** Arranging a public meeting to discuss this is becoming a matter of some urgency. It has been noted that some people are using the Barn's car park.
 - e) **2013/0681 Fast approval of Planning Application – Erection of 3 No industrial units:** Planning Officer had seen, but failed to record the request for an extension and apologised for this error.
 - f) **Recreation Ground Charitable Status:** The Solicitor will undertake this work free of charge using the Articles of Association as a Trust Deed. The Recreation Ground has been significantly cleared.
6. **RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**
Ros Wallace has reviewed the content and is awaiting comment from Claire Asquith and Edmund Costelloe. Clerk has started looking at the Financial Regulations and will complete them over the summer.
7. **REPLACEMENT BENCHES BY RIVER**
The picnic benches that were in poor condition have been removed.
8. **PLANNING**

2013/1327 – Increase the height of the existing restoration backfill tip by 10 metres, Whatley Quarry. Steve West had inspected the site and after discussion with Edmund Costelloe had agreed that this application should be recommended for refusal due to the end result being visible from Mells Down and Buckland Down.

2013/1162 – Steel framed agricultural building, Stoneash Farm. Recommend approval as the building would not be visible from the road and is the same as two already on site.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL** – None
10. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL**
 - a) Parishes Information Bulletin
11. **OTHER CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS**

- a) Connecting Devon & Somerset – Update on high speed fibre optic broadband to rural areas. Noted
- b) Aggregate Industries – Prior notice of Planning Application 2013/1244 Development of four wind turbines at Torr Works (80m to tip of blade). Information previously circulated. Wait to see if Mells PC are contacted by any other parishes affected.

12. ACCOUNTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

HSBC statement dated 28 June 2013 - £12,408.44

Barclays statement dated 21 June 2013 - £5,182.48

a)	J Book	Clerk's salary (June)		£207.24
	Expenses	(June)		
		1 trip to Mells @ 45p/mile)	£ 3.60	
		Phone line rental	£ 5.50	
		Utilities	£ 4.00	
			<hr/>	
				£13.10
b)	HMRC PAYE			
	Period 3			£51.80
c)	Chris Rowe - ground clearance	Recreation Ground		
	car park and tennis courts.			£350.00
d)	*Rapid Entry Locksmiths –	noticeboard lock		£70.00
e)	**Sally Vince – Website Hosting/	Monthly updating fee		£320.00
f)	Viscount Asquith's 1999 Settlement	Trust		
	(24 June 2013 – 28 September 2013)			£147.50
g)	Rob Symes – Grasscutting			<u>£250.00</u>
				£1,409.64

Proposed Helen Wynter Seconded Monica Jennings

* The lock on the noticeboard has been broken twice in two years and has been repaired at considerable expense to the Parish Council

** Review website usage/costs in a couple of years

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:-

- a) **Pile of rubbish:** There is a small but noticeable amount of rubbish by Fussell's Iron Works at the entrance to Iron Valley. Clerk to contact the Estate.
- b) **Footpath to school:** This needs strimming back. Clerk to contact the Estate.
- c) **Damaged sign – Top Road:** This sign was damaged when the tree fell down onto the Western Power lines and has not been replaced. Clerk to contact Somerset CC.
- d) **Speedwatch:** No volunteers have come forward.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 27 August 2013 at 7.15pm in Mells Barn

Meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Print Name.....

MINUTES\2013\9JULY2013