

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**A meeting of Mells Parish Council took place on
Tuesday 10 June 2014 at Mells Barn**

1. **PRESENT:** Mr E Costelloe – Chairman, Ms R Wallace – Vice Chair, Mrs J Seewooruttun, Mr C Tye, Mr V Turner, Mr J Earl, Mr S West, Mrs J Mann
In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** The Countess of Oxford & Asquith
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Chris Tye expressed a personal and prejudicial interest in Item - 7 2014/0181. Jane Mann expressed a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 7 - 2014/0620 & 0621.
4. **MINUTES OF MEETING –** dated 13 May 2014 and minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting dated 13 May 2014 had previously been circulated and subject to one typo it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.
5. **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS**
Four people had offered to stand. Two unfortunately were unable to attend the meeting. Those present gave a short presentation and were given the opportunity to ask and receive questions. Voting slips were completed by the councillors which the Clerk counted, then passed the results to the Chair. The Chair announced that Jonathan Price and Alison Moir were the successful candidates and welcomed them both to the Parish Council.
6. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - a) **Bridge – Tynts Hill:** The holes have been cleared but the work is inadequate to deal with the flooding in the area. Clerk to arrange site visit.
 - b) **Wording for Brown Mells sign:** Mrs June Costelloe, Secretary of the Shop Committee is now dealing with this matter.
 - c) **Vobster Bus Stop:** Clerk to chase.
 - d) **Conservation area designation:** Mendip DC will include the two cottages on the Great Elm road at the Lime Kiln junction when they review the boundaries in 2015.
 - e) **Finger Post – Vobster:** This work has been completed.
 - f) **Nursery extension:** A further letter had been received from the Nursery with a breakdown of the fundraising so far and a letter of support from a grandparent. After discussion it was agreed to give a donation of £1,000. (proposed by Ros Wallace seconded by Jan Seewooruttun). The Parish Council would be happy to be approached in the future if fundraising was inadequate.
 - g) **White Lines – Holes Lane:** The lines have been reinstated.
 - h) **Gully – Murdercombe:** Somerset CC have arranged to inspect the gully and will carry out any necessary works.
 - i) **Life Education Wessex – request for donation:** Deferred to July.
7. **PLANNING**
2014//0620 & 0621 Construct a new en suite bedroom by adding an extra storey to an existing single storey extension to the main house – Old Prospect Farm – For approval.

2014/0878 Change of use of the motor garage (Sui Generis) to leisure facility – Mells Garage, Selwood Street. For approval but would recommend that the end wall is reverted back to an earlier form and have a stone wall with a window matching the existing one.

Mendip Decisions

2014/0181 Proposed pruning of ash tree – Bridge Cottage, Bottom Lane - approved

2014/0237 Proposed works to cypress trees – Church of St Andrew's – approved

8. CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL - none

9. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL

a) Parish Information Bulletin – passed to Vince Turner

10. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

a) Manager of Quantock Hill Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – Somerset CC have made a suggestion that the AONB budget will be cut from £45,000 to just £5,000 next year (a cut of 89%). This will leave just £1,250 for each of the 4 AONB in Somerset. Although Mells is not directly affected it is close to some of the areas. Clerk to write indicating dismay at possible dramatic decrease in funding.

11. ACCOUNTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) J Book Clerk's salary (May) £259.04

Expenses (May)

1 trip to Mells @ 45p/mile £ 3.60

Phone line rental £ 5.50

Utilities £ 4.00

£13.10

Proposed Ros Wallace Seconded Chris Tye

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) **PCSO Meeting:** John Earl attended the recent meeting and reported that the Police were aware of the speeding issues in the village and parking by the shop.

b) **Dog waste bins:** Agenda item for July.

c) **Whatley Quarry Liaison meeting:** Steve West reported that there has been more blasting recently which had resulted in a few complaints. The generator project starts in July. Two public viewing platforms are going to be installed. Motorbikes riding around the site are causing a nuisance and the Police are taking steps to stop this. The quarry is open 24 hours a day 5 days a week.

d) **Main foul sewer:** This was recently blocked and discharging into the culvert. Wessex Water have now resolved the problem.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 8 July 2014 at 7.15pm in Mells Barn

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Print Name.....

MINUTES\2014\MAY2014