

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on
Tuesday 12 May 2015 at Mells Barn**

1. **PRESENT:** Mr E Costelloe - Chair, Ms R Wallace – Vice Chair, Mr C Tye, Mr J Earl, Mr S West, Mrs J Seewooruttun, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith (arrived 8.10pm)
In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mrs A Moir, Mr V Turner
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -** None
5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** – dated 14 April 2015 had previously been circulated and it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.
6. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - a) **Vobster bus stop post:** This has been replaced.
 - b) **Overgrown vegetation opposite Brookside Cottage:** SCC have inspected again and do not deem it unsafe at present.
 - c) **Mobile Phone signal:** Chair will send copies of letters and responses sent to the mobile phone companies to David Warbuton MP.
 - d) **Overgrown vegetation – Recreation Ground:** A substantial amount of ivy is growing up the Pavillion. It was suggested that the Parish Council put together a working party to clear the vegetation. Chair to email date. The lease for the Pavillion does not currently allow business enterprise which would conflict with The Talbot. The Talbot does not have any concerns regarding this so the Company will be looking into having this condition removed.
 - e) **Flooding – Bottom Lane:** No further information.
 - f) **Pot holes – Selwood Street:** The majority of the holes have been filled. Those left are currently not deemed deep enough or long enough to warrant repair.
 - g) **Mells Daffodil Festival:** Clerk to email Chair of festival to ask for report from last meeting.
 - h) **Fingerpost – Knaptons Hill:** The post has been completely removed. Clerk to ask when a replacement sign will be in situ.
 - i) **Grit bin:** The bin is still being used.
 - j) **Raised cobblestone:** This will be repaired by Highways.
 - k) **Litter on recreation ground:** This is increasing. Bin near entrance maybe moved to encourage its use. Chair to look into this.
7. **COMPLETION OF DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FORMS** – all present filled and signed the forms and returned them to the Clerk.
8. **CO-OPTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS**
Parish Council currently has two vacancies. Notice to be placed in the parish magazine and on the noticeboards.
9. **CONDITION OF NOTICEBOARDS**
The board by the Post Office has not been locked for about a year and this has led to an increase in commercial leaflets being placed on it. Clerk to arrange for a locksmith to fix the lock and issue three keys.
10. **PLANNING**
New Applications
2015/0746/CNT Continued operation of Waste Transfer Station until 30 March. No objections. A request for vigilant wheel cleaning was added to the response.

*Clerk: Joy Book, 5 The Cooperage, Frome BA11 1JX,
Home Tel: 01373 300184, Mobile: 07704 584953, Email: jbo@blueyonder.co.uk*

2015/0452/FUL Erection of two new production buildings with concrete batching plants – Mells Road Works, Vobster Cross. A revised plan was submitted which showed a reduction in the size of one building by 6m and movement of the other by 35m further west. No objections.

2015/0815/HSE To convert existing ground floor garage to a kitchen with bedroom and en suite over. Construct a new detached garage with additional access Greystones, Top Lane. No objections.

Appeals

Erection of four wind turbines (max 80m blade) Torr Works Quarry: Appeal set for 2 September and will last 5 days.

9. CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

a) **Public Path Diversion – 2 Underhill Cottages:** This has now been confirmed.

10. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL

a) Letter from Enforcement Department – activity by the BT exchange, Vobster.

11. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

a) **Mells Church of England First School:** Thank you letter for donation for pod.

12. ACCOUNTS

a)	J Book	Clerk's salary (April)		£279.2
	Expenses			

		Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	£ 3.60	
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		Phone line rental	£ 5.50	
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		Utilities	£ 4.00	
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			£13.10	
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b)	Mells with Vobster PCC			£250.00
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c)	Broker Network Ltd – annual insurance			£869.75
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d)	SALC Affiliation Fee			£155.28
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e) Receipts

Precept £10,000 and Council Tax Support Grant Allocation £698.34.

f) VAT Refund

Clerk has submitted a VAT refund form for £168.03.

g) Completion of Annual Return

Internal Auditor has approved the accounts. Carry forward total is £11,080.93.

Clerk has revised the total fixed asset total to more realistically reflect the Parish Council's assets. The form for the External Auditor was then signed and dated by the Chair and Clerk.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) **Mells Road Works – flooding:** During the recent planning visit the Manager of the works had commented that there is a large area between the railway bridge and turning to Newbury, on Mells Road that fills with water and is treacherous in cold weather. Clerk to report to Cllr P Ham and Highways.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 9 June 2015 at 7.15pm in Mells Barn

Meeting closed at 8.25pm.

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

Print Name.....