

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on
Tuesday 12 July 2016 at Mells Barn**

1. **PRESENT:** Mr E Costelloe – Chairman, Mr J Earl – Vice Chair, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Mrs A Moir, Mr D Seviour, Mr C Tye, J Seewooruttun, Mr S West, Mr V Turner,
No members of the public **In Attendance:** Joy Book, Clerk
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mr J Poynton, Mr A Brady
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –** None
5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS –** dated 14 June 2016 had previously been circulated and it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.
6. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - a) **Mobile Phone signal/broadband:** No further information.
 - b) **Iron Fingerpost painting and re-seating of wooden fingerpost, Rashwood Lane footpath, Gay Street:** Contractor has quoted £80 per post (inc cost of materials and labour) to remove rust, prime and paint. Contractor had indicated that he had had difficulty costing the time involved so it was decided that the Clerk would accept the quote and ask contractor to assess the time involved after completing the first post.
 - c) **Noticeboard requiring varnishing – Little Green:** Contractor has quoted £25. All in favour of accepting.
 - d) **Litter bin liner:** Clerk has received the liner and will arrange for it to be installed.
 - e) **Barn Lease:** John Earl has met with Mendip DC to discuss the plans and they have given their verbal approval. It is now imperative to push forward with renewing the lease so funding can be sought. Chairman to liaise with John Earl.
 - f) **Traffic on Selwood Street:** The signs have been made and will be put up as soon as possible. Paint suitable for marking out the parking spaces will be sourced.
 - g) **Contractor for footpath and gully clearance – village handyman:** Jon Goode has agreed to clear the gully as required.
 - h) **Hapsford Mill visit:** Arranged for Monday 25th July. Six councillors have indicated that they can attend that day.
 - i) **Dwarf wall by telephone exchange:** No further information.
 - j) **Dangerous wall – Knapton Hill:** No further information.
 - k) **Pavillion ‘facelift’:** Chris Tye reported that there are some immediate repairs that need to be carried out but these could cost anything up to £15,000. The general consensus of opinion was not to spend this sizeable amount on repairs which would only be a ‘sticky plaster’ to the problems but to use this money and other funding to pursue carrying out a complete refurbishment of the pavilion. More people need to be involved in the project to push it forward. Chris Tye is willing to be involved and will find out further information.
 - m) **Footpaths Officer – Vobster:** Ros Wallace has kindly agreed to continue being the Vobster PPLO and has recently reported a faulty stile on the path by the church.
 - n) **Recycling at The Talbot:** No further information.
 - o) **Whatley Quarry road junction with Knapton Hill:** No response from Highways. Clerk to chase.
7. **PLANNING**

New applications

2016/1282/FUL Demolition of existing garages and replacement with new garage. St Edmunds House, Vobster Hill. Parish Council recommends approval of this application. Mendip DC have already given their approval.

2016/1501/TCA Proposed works to beech T1 (fell) and beech (T2) reshape crown by up to 3 metres after large beech is removed. Tyntshill Cottage, Gay Street. No objections.

Mendip Decisions

2016/0458/HSE Demolition of existing lean to extension, erection of new two storey extension, changes to boundary wall and gate positions. Chantwood, Mells Green. Approved.

2016/0500/FUL Erection of 2 holiday let yurt buildings and shower rooms are rear of Vobster Inn. Approved.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL** - none

9. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL** - none

10. **OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

a) **David Warburton MP – Dudley Taylor Pharmacy application.** Acknowledgement of receipt letter and objections noted.

b) **Somerset CC Chairman’s Award:** Clerk to email Chairman forms for completion.

11. **PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Balance as at 28 June 2016 - HSBC £17,166.31. Balance as at March 2016 - Barclays £5,190.33

a)	J Book	Clerk’s Salary (June)		£282.07
		Expenses	Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	3.60
			Phone line rental	5.50
			Utilities	4.00
			Stamps 12 x 2 nd Class & Large 2 nd	<u>7.80</u>
				£20.90

Goode and Handy – footpath strimming and gully clearance £90.00

Signmaker – signs for Selwood Street £36.00

Wellers Hedleys solicitors – Company lease £381.00

Humberts – Viscount Asquith’s 1999 Settlement Trust £147.50

Proposed by the Chairman. All in favour.

b) **Receipts:** £0.65 interest

13. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

13.1 **Dog waste bin – Rectory Corner:** It was agreed that a bin would be purchased if the Estate can find a suitable location. John Earl will meet with the Estate to discuss.

13.2 **Quarry noise:** It has been noticed that the quarry appears to be noisier during periods of rain. The quarry appears to be working more intensively during the day and early evening to reduce noise levels at night.

13.3 **Ash dieback disease (Chalara):** Clare Asquith raised awareness of this disease and said that any cases should be reported as the tree would need to be felled as soon as possible.

13.4 **Rogue dog:** A dog has been seen ‘herding’ cattle whilst the owners ignored it. This was deemed to be extremely irresponsible of the owners and dangerous for the cattle. Chairman to write to the dogs owners.

13.5 **Improvements to footpath – Lower to Upper Vobster:** Steve West has not had any response from Somerset’s Footpath Officer. Steve West will email Clerk the details for them to be forwarded to Somerset CC.

13.6 **Stiles:** John Earl expressed his thanks to Chris Tye who had personally fixed several unsafe stiles.

13.4 **Potholes:** It has been noted that a considerable amount of potholes had been filled recently.

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday 9 August 2016 at **7.15pm** in Mells Barn

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

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

Print Name.....