

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on
Tuesday 8 August 2017 at Mells Barn**

1. **PRESENT:** Mr J Earl – Vice Chair, Mr J Poynton, Mr S West, Mr V Turner, Mrs J Seewooruttun, Mr A Brady
In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk. Cllr E Drewe – District Councillor No members of the public
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Mr E Costelloe – Chairman, Mrs A Moir, Mr C Tye, Mr D Seviour
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None
4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 11 JULY 2017** had previously been circulated and it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Vice Chair.
6. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - a) **Mobile Phone signal/broadband:** Broadband speeds appear to have dropped recently. Works on the new phone mast do not appear to have started yet.
 - b) **Barn Lease:** John Earl and Edmund Costelloe have met with the solicitor who will now move things forward. The PCC are requesting half of the retained money. This would be difficult for the Barn to sustain financially and keep the necessary contingency fund for unexpected repairs and refunds.
 - c) **Traffic on Selwood Street and car parking:** Parking signs should be up by mid August. Weeds are already growing through the gravel in the car park and a contractor is being sought for regular maintenance.
 - d) **Old Telephone Exchange:** MDC are still awaiting a planning application for the works. This is unacceptable and Cllr Drewe reported that this is the line that MDC appear to be taking at present rather than going for enforcement action. Concerns were raised that if a planning application is not submitted soon an application for Certificate of Lawfulness will be applied for and approved. Clerk to write a strong letter to the Planning and Enforcement Department.
 - e) **Telephone kiosk - grass:** The kiosk has been painted and is now accessible.
 - f) **Dog waste bin – Rectory Corner:** This has not been moved yet.
 - g) **Bridge – Station Road:** Highways has reported that two Personal Injury Accidents have been reported in the vicinity in the past few months. This apparently does not warrant any action at present.
 - h) **Dumped cars – Fairview:** Clerk to chase MDC.
 - i) **Dangerous dogs:** MDC has written to the owners of the dogs stating their responsibilities as dog owners. The Police are also aware of the issue and have asked that any attacks where people are involved are reported direct to them by phoning 101. Dog on dog/other pet attacks are civil matters.
 - j) **Erection of new production building with concrete batching plant – Mells Road Works:** PC has recommended refusal. Steve West has noted that the map on CPM's website shows the road through Vobster as the most direct route with no annotations to say this route should be avoided. He has raised this with the Transport Manager who is unaware that the PC has recently written about this. Steve West and Jan Seewooruttun will meet with CPM to discuss the planning application next week.

Cllr Drewe report:

CPM application: Cllr Drewe is aware of the proposal and is looking at future transport options.

Fly tipping: Cllr Drewe reported that MDC currently have around 20 cases that are in the process of prosecution.

Walled Garden: Highways is recommending refusal and it is likely to go before the Planning Board on 27th September. Cllr Drewe will write a report as he is unable to attend. A representative from the PC will attend if possible.

7. PLANNINGNew applications - NoneMendip Decisions**2017/1356/FUL 2** No Shepherd huts on existing yurts holiday let site – Vobster Inn - Approved**8. CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL** - none**9. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL** - none**10. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

a) **Mells Nursery – request for donation towards kitchen:** Nursery is looking for funding towards their 'Garden to Table' project. They have already raised £2,065 and the total project costs £3,896.06. It is understood that the Trust has recently awarded £2,000 which would cover the remaining costs. In light of this, and the recent large expenditure on the car park it was decided not to contribute to this project.

b) **Daffodil Committee – donation towards car park:** A donation of £1,000 has been received from the Committee. The Clerk has thanked the committee for this generous donation.

11. PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Balance as at 28 July 2017 – £16,845.24. Barclays £5,191.63.

a)	J Book Clerk's Salary & expenses (July)		£246.49
	Travel to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	3.60	
	Phone line rental	5.50	
	Utilities	<u>4.00</u>	
		<u>13.10</u>	
	HMRC PAYE (Period 5)		£38.40
	T R McCarthy – phone box painting		£205.00
	Jon Goode – footpath strimming		£20.00
	S A Burdett – car park refurbishment		£7,980.00
	Approved - all in favour.		

b) Receipts: £1,000

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) **Barn car park:** This will be done in the autumn when the wedding season has finished. John Earl will talk to the contractor in the meantime to see if the large dip can be temporarily filled.

b) **Resident selling jam:** A couple of residents have raised the issue of whether the seller holds a food hygiene certificate. This is a matter for MDC.

c) **Overhanging hedge – Top Road:** Jan Seewooruttun will investigate.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:Tuesday 12th September 2017 at 7.15pm in Mells Barn.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm.

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

Print Name.....