

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on
Tuesday 12 December 2017 at Mells Barn**

PRESENT:, Mr E Costelloe – Chairman, Mr S West, Mrs J Seewooruttun, Mr C Tye, Mr A Brady, Mr D Seviour, Mr V Turner,

In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk.

No members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mr J Poynton, Mr J Earl, Mrs A Valentine (nee Moir), The Countess of Oxford & Asquith
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 14 NOVEMBER 2017** 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:** Alan Brady has spoken to Vodaphone who seemed to indicate that a mast is being installed at the Quarry which would be shared by several providers. There is no further information regarding the installation of superfast broadband.
 - b) **Barn Lease:** Chairman has chased the solicitor and instructed them to move things forwards.
 - c) **Traffic on Selwood Street:** Clerk to write to Chair of Highways to move the passing places installation forward.
 - d) **Recreation ground car park:** Weeds were sprayed last month and a maintenance schedule has been put in place.
 - e) **Old Telephone Exchange:** Clerk to chase Enforcement and Cllr Drewe to raise awareness of further activity on the site and that there is a caravan parked behind the building.
 - f) **Babington Bridge – Station Road:** Alan Brady has spoken to Jeff Bunting at Highways who has suggested early warning signs. Another accident has occurred on the bridge. CPM have offered all the equipment free of charge to remove the bridge. It has been noted that there is deep water beyond the bridge, just before Vobster Quay that is getting dragged along the road for about 100m on vehicle wheels which is treacherous when cold as it turns to ice. Permanent solution would be to raise the road which is highly unlikely however, deep ditches on either side would help alleviate the problem. Clerk to contact Highways.
 - g) **Dumped cars – Fairview:** Clerk to chase Enforcement.
 - h) **VAT re-claim for works on the Barn:** No further information.
 - i) **Collapsed trench by Whatley Quarry:** This has been partially mended.
 - j) **Tree across river – Lime Kiln quarry land:** Clerk to contact quarry again.
7. **PLANNING**
 - a) New applications - none
 - b) Mendip Decisions - none
8. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL** - none
9. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL** – none
10. **OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**
 - a) **Mendip Community Transport:** Donation request. A donation of £100 was approved.
 - b) **St Andrews Church:** Grant request. A grant of £1,600 was approved.
- a) **PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS**
Balance as at 28 November 2017 – £5,965.73. Barclays £5,191.63.

a)	J Book	Clerk's Salary & expenses (November)	£246.49
		Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	3.60
		Phone line rental	5.50

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Utilities	4.00	
	£13.10	
HMRC PAYE (Period 9)		£38.40
Jon Goode – gully clearance		£60.00
Approved - all in favour		

- b) **Preliminary 2018-2019 budget:** The Chairman proposed a 10% increase in the precept to raise it to £11,000. All in favour.
- c) **Receipts:** None
- d) **Bank Mandate:** Forms for the two accounts have been forwarded and are in the process of being completed.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) **Speeding along Selwood Street:** Resident has asked for a 20mph restriction to be placed along the road. Pedestrians and children are at danger where there is no pavement. There is currently no speedwatch in the village. Possible solutions are width restrictions, signage and a traffic island. Clerk to ask Highways to do a site visit to assess the issues.
- b) **Lime Kiln Hill – mud on the road:** Clerk to write to the quarry.
- c) **Footpath – White bridge to Top Lane:** This has become narrow. Clerk to request contractor to cut back more harshly.
- d) **Whatley quarry junction:** Highways have brought forward the proposed new signage on this junction.
- e) **Quarry liaison meeting:** Steve West reported that there have been no objections to the planning application.
- f) **Community Trust Fund:** Steve West reported that Leigh on Mendip is proposing to request for a substantial percentage of the available funds (possibly £15,000/annum). As several parishes border the quarry and are all effected by the works there, Steve West will pursue a more equal spread between the parishes. A PC member will sit on the Trust.
- g) **Thanks:** The Chairman thanked Chris Tye for all he had done during his time on the council and Chris Tye returned the thanks to the Chairman for being such a good Chairman.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 9th January 2018 at 7.15pm in Mells Barn.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm.

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

Print Name.....