

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on
Tuesday 12 June 2018 at Mells Barn**

1. **PRESENT:** Mr J Earl - Chair, Mr S West, Mr A Brady, Mr E Costelloe, Mrs J Seewooruttun, Mr D Seviour

In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk. 2 members of the public
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mr L Turner, Mr V Turner, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Cllr Edward Drewe – District Councillor
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None
4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Public were prospective co-optees to the council.
5. **CO-OPTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS**
John Henderson and Helen Leakey gave a brief outline of their backgrounds. All were in favour of co-opting them onto the PC. Declaration of Interest forms will be signed.
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES MONTHLY AND ANNUAL MEETINGS DATED 8 MAY 2018** had previously been circulated and it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.
7. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS** – Cllr Drewe has no further information regarding the old Telephone Exchange.
8. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**
 - a) **Mobile Phone signal/broadband – Invitation from TrueSpeed to connect Tythe Barn to free broadband for life:** The mobile mast is still not live. Clerk has chased and is awaiting a response. There is currently 3 companies that are offering superfast broadband to the parish. Voneous who use 'hop' points on buildings to transmit, Truespeed who use existing telephone poles to wire their system and Gigaclear who install cables underground. The Chair has looked into all of the companies and each has their own issues eg. customer support only available during office hours Monday-Friday. TrueSpeed is holding an open meeting in Mells Barn at 6.30pm on 26th June. Clerk will the submit details to the magazine in the monthly report.
 - b) **Barn Lease:** A letter of complaint has been sent to Harris & Harris. A response was received from the solicitor regarding the lease within hours of the complaint being sent. Contact has been made with the diocese and it is now hoped that there will be continued movement towards a resolution.
 - c) **Old Telephone Exchange:** Clerk to chase Enforcement and Cllr Drewe.
 - d) **General Data Protection Regulations:** Clerk has attended the SALC GDPR training and a DPIA audit will be carried out and a policy notice will be placed on the website in due course.
 - e) **Sunken drain – Fairview:** Wessex Water has inspected and reported that there are no safety issues.
 - f) **Recreation Ground – breaking tarmac:** The contractor will rectify.
 - g) **Dumped car – Fairview:** Clerk to chase.
 - h) **Pot holes around village:** Some have been filled. Clerk requested photos and accurate locations of the others around the village so they can be forwarded to Highways.
 - i) **Bright lights on CPM site:** Thanks were extended to CPM who have considerably reduced the number of lights on the site.

9. HIGHWAY ISSUES

- a) **Bridge beyond CPM:** Two more accidents have occurred in the past month. Alan Brady is in contact with the surrounding PC's and Mells fully supports any further safety measures that need to be taken.
- b) **Lime Kiln Hill – Repeater sign:** Highways reported that on inspection they saw no safety issues with the sign. However, the inspector will take another look when in the area. Jan Seeworruttun will send Clerk a photo of the sign for Highways to assess.
- c) **White lines – Vobster Inn:** These have now been replaced.

10. **PLANNING** – no new applications or decisions to report.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL** – none

12. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL** – none

13. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **Seafarers UK – Fly the Red Ensign flag for Merchant Navy Day – 3rd September:** No action

14. PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Balance as at 28 May 2018 – £14,957.09. Barclays £5,195.13.

a)	J Book Clerk's Salary & expenses (May)		£267.39
	Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	3.60	
	Phone line rental	5.50	
	Utilities	<u>4.00</u>	
		£13.10	
	HMRC PAYE (Period 3)		£30.60
	SALC Councillor training		£25.00
	SALC GDPR training		£25.00
	Jon Goode – footpath strimming		£20.00
	Arborcadabra – Recreation Ground weedkilling		£60.00
	Viscount Asquith's 1999 Settlement Trust (by standing order)		£165.00
	Alan Aked – Internal audit (2017 & 2018)		£100.00

Approved - all in favour

- b) Receipts: Barclays interest £2.59
- c) **Clerk's salary increase:** NALC have approved the salary scale for 2018-2019 which equates to an annual increase of £151.42. All in favour.

16. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA / ITEMS TO REPORT

- a) **Recreation Ground car park:** It was reported that the car park was fully utilised at the weekend. Further parking is still required and it would be useful to have access to a field during busy periods.
- b) **Frome Recycling Centre opening times:** The site currently closes at 4.00pm on most days which is not appropriate for people who work and makes the centre extremely busy at weekends. Clerk to contact Frome Town Council and Cllr Drewe to ask for support changing the time.
- c) **Heavy lorries through the village:** These are ever increasing and some regularly speed. Registration numbers should be taken and reported to the company they are driving for. Dangerous driving should be reported to the Police on 101.
- d) **Fire hydrants - Mells:** It has been noted that nearly all the hydrants are either silted up, ceased or the nut is mis-shaped. Clerk to contact the fire authority to inspect and repair.
- e) **Mud on Lime Kiln Hill:** This fluctuates but has been very bad recently. Clerk to assess terms of planning to see if wheel washing is required.
- f) **Speed Watch:** Mothers from the school are forming a Speed Watch team.
- g) **Slow Children sign:** Clerk to ask Highways for further signage around the Holes Lane area.
- h) **Blocked drain – Rectory Corner:** The drain is full of weeds. Clerk to ask Highways to clear.
- i) **Councillor attendances:** The Chair noted that several councillors' attendance was sporadic. Agreeing to being a councillor does require commitment to the role.

- j) **Village noticeboards:** It has been noted that agendas are often not being put in the noticeboards. Clerk will circulate agendas earlier to ensure sufficient time is allowed to get them into the boards before the meetings.
- k) **Coleford Surgery:** The surgery is moving to an appointment system which will involve a triage system which will assess your requirements with appointments being booked accordingly.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:
 Tuesday 10th July at 7.15pm in Mells Barn

Meeting closed at 8.20pm.

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

Print Name.....