

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL

(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on Tuesday 9th October 2018 at Mells Barn

1. **PRESENT:** Cllr J Seewoorutten - Chair, Cllr S West, Cllr A Brady, Cllr H Leakey, Cllr E Costelloe, Cllr D Seviour, Cllr John Henderson

In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk

Members of the public: 2

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr John Earl, Cllr V Turner, Cllr L Turner, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith. Sincerest condolences were extended to John Earl whose wife had passed away the previous day.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Mells Matters – Lime Kiln quarry proposal: Mr Martin is looking into viable alternative for the site. The parish would prefer to see a small housing development of approximately 20 houses and some industrial units.

Cllr Costelloe asked what the long term arrangements would be for the boundary and maintenance of the fence and trees to stop them falling into the river. It is assumed that a management company would be put in place. Mells Matters will ask the owner.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 11 SEPTEMBER 2018.** Minutes had previously been circulated and it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.

6. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING.**

- a) **Broadband – Truespeed:** No further information.
- b) **Barn Lease:** No further information.
- c) **Old Telephone Exchange:** No further information. Clerk to contact Cllr Drewe.
- d) **General Data Protection Regulations:** Clerk has prepared a privacy notice which will be circulated prior to the next meeting.
- e) **Dumped Car – Fairview:** Clerk will chase.
- f) **War memorial upkeep:** No further information.
- g) **Buckland Dinham fingerpost:** Clerk has contact the contractor.

7. **HIGHWAY ISSUES:**

- a) **Lime Kiln Hill – obscured repeater signs:** The vegetation has been cut back and the sign is now visible.

Speeding in the village has been getting worse. Speedwatch will assess whether it is feasible to hold a watch on vehicles coming down Lime Kiln Hill into the village and look into other areas where speeding is prevalent. The mobile CPU has been able to prosecute several people through the courts with fines up to £500 and 6 points on their licence.

8. **PLANNING:**

- a) **New applications:**

2017/1022/CNT: Deepening of Halecombe Quarry by the extraction of limestone, replacement of existing asphalt plant with a new asphalt plant and associated facilities, retention of the concrete batching plant and the re-opening of the access road to Rookery Farm with relinquishment of the existing permission and extension of end date for the

entire quarry and all quarrying activities to 31 December 2044 with restoration to be completed by December 2046. No objections.

b) **Mendip decisions:** None

c) **Lime Kiln Quarry / Neighbourhood Development Order (NDO):** Mells Matters gave a brief summary of what is involved in obtaining a NDO which will grant planning permission for a particular type of development in a designated area. Any development of the site would still be subject to local and national planning policies. A NDO gives power under the Localism Act. A referendum would need to be held for it to be progressed for consideration by an independent body. Further investigation needs to be undertaken to find out what exactly is involved to complete the process.

The PC reiterated that a Neighbourhood Plan is currently not suitable for Mells due to the limited areas for re-development and estate ownership. The process can take years and cost several thousands.

Clerk to contact MDC regarding the recent activity on Park Corner.

9. CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL – none

10. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL – none

11. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

a) **Mells with Vobster PCC:** Thank you email for donation towards bench.

b) **SALC - New councilor training course:** Helen Leakey will attend.

c) **Mells C of E School:** In April 2015 the PC gave £1,000 towards a learning ‘pod’ but has become aware that the pod has not been purchased. The school used the donation for improvements to the garden area to include planting areas, water wall, seating, sandpit and all weather surfacing. The PC expressed concerns that public money had not been used for the purpose it was given although the improvements have significantly benefitted the children. Clerk to write that this may influence future donations.

12. PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Balances as at 28 September 2018 – £13,155.12. Barclays £5,200.31

a)	J Book	Clerk’s Salary & expenses (September)		£264.31
		Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	3.60	
		Phone line rental	5.50	
		Utilities	<u>4.00</u>	
			£13.10	
		HMRC PAYE (Period 7)		£33.20
		Sally Vince – website hosting and updating		£370.00
		Approved - all in favour		

b) Receipts: Barclays interest: £2.59

13. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA/ITEMS TO REPORT

a) **Signage to recreation ground:** There are currently no signs for the recreation ground and the postcode leads drivers to the other side which is causing confusion to visiting teams. Clerk to investigate changing the postcode from 3PT (Gay street/manor area) to 3PZ.

b) **Wreath for remembrance service:** Clerk to purchase.

- c) **White lining on junction – Vobster:** The road has recently been resurfaced and the newly painted lines have been covered and not replaced. Clerk to contact Highways. Cllr Seviour will provide a photograph.
- d) **Broken stile – bottom of the hollow:** Clerk to report. Cllr Seviour will provide footpath number.
- e) **Water on road – Vobster:** Clerk to contact Bristol Water.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 13TH NOVEMBER 2018 at 7.15pm

Meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Print Name.....