

MELLS PARISH COUNCIL

(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on
Tuesday 12th March 2019 at Mells Barn**

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

In Attendance: Joy Book, Clerk,

Members of the public: None

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Cllr V Turner, Cllr D Seviour
Absent: Cllr L Turner

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None

5. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS:** No reports received.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 12th FEBRUARY 2019:** Minutes had previously been circulated and it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.

7. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:**

- a) **Broadband – Truespeed:** Mells uptake was only 14 out of 195 households (Whatley - 18 out of 35, Chantry – 36 out of 72). TrueSpeed are already installing in Leigh on Mendip. According to Openreach, all of Mells should now be capable of receiving superfast broadband, subject to the residents' provider. Speeds of around 8mb can be obtained at Mells Green.
- b) **Old Telephone Exchange:** The end of the 8 week period given to the owner of the property to submit a planning application is approaching. Clerk to follow up with MDC Planning/Enforcement.
- c) **Blocked drain – Rectory Corner:** The drain is causing rainwater to flood up to 3m into the road. Clerk to chase contractor.
- d) **Footpath inspections:** Jeremy Poynton is happy to continue to monitor and report footpath issues.

8. **HIGHWAY ISSUES:**

- a) **Water on road – Knaptons Hill:** SCC will be carrying out minor drainage works in the area sometime in the next financial year.
- b) **White lining (road narrowing) on bridge by Vobster Cross:** The lines have been re-instated.
- c) **Condition of road – Lime Kiln Hill:** This is still very bad periodically and will be monitored for another month.

9. **WINTER JACKETS FOR SPEEDWATCH**

All in favour of purchasing 3 jackets at an approximate price of £32/jacket.

10. MAY 2019 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS – 2 MAY

Clerk has put information in the magazine and will find out how the nomination packs can be obtained.

11. PLANNING:a) **New applications:**

2019/0376/HSE: Proposed first floor extension to rear elevation – Bridge Cottage – No objections.

2018/3092/FUL: Erection of wooden cabin for letting on existing glamping site – Vobster Inn, Soho Cottage, Vobster. Cllr Earl and Cllr Brady had visited the site and were satisfied that the cabin would be well screened and could provide further employment for two further part time staff – No objections

b) **Mendip decisions: None**

Cllr Seewoorutten reported that the garages in Longfield (which contain asbestos) and owned by Aster have recently been sold.

12. CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL - None**13. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL - None****14. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE - None****15. PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Balances as at 28 February 2018 – £10,233.68. Barclays £5,202.90.

a) J Book	Clerk's Salary & expenses (February		£264.31
	Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	3.60	
	Phone line rental	5.50	
	Utilities	<u>4.00</u>	
		£13.10	
	HMRC PAYE (Period 12)		£33.20
	M J Moore – litter bin fixing by shop		£150.00
	The Barn – annual hire charge for meetings		£220.00
	Approved - all in favour		

b) **Receipts:** Nonec) **Provisional end of year accounts for 2018/2019:** £11,775.17**16. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA/ITEMS TO REPORT**

- a) **Mells and Vobster Community Trust:** The Trustees have decided to wind up the charity and are legally required to have a nil balance. A cheque for £229.81 was handed to the PC as it belongs to the parish. Chair will arrange payment into the account.
- b) **Parking in Fairview, parking by The Talbot and Lime Kiln Hill:** Parking is an issue throughout the village. No action to be taken at present as yellow lining will only move the problem to another area.
- c) **Fingerposts:** Cllr West has found 9 of the 12 posts in the parish. Two are leaning (Mells Road and Vobster Cross) but stand firm. One requires a new finial. Clerk to email fingerpost location list again and contact SCC regarding contractors/moulds for replacement finial and finger post volunteer group.

- d) **Mendip Country Practice – Patient Participation Group:** Cllr Costelloe is the Chair of this group and he wants to raise awareness of it. Clerk to put article into the magazine along with contact details.
- e) **Travellers by the school:** The latest visitors are blocking the path with an electric fence and have been seen shooting a longbow in the vicinity of the school. This is a police matter. Cllr Brady will bring the matter to the attention of the PCSO's when they next visit café.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 9th APRIL 2019 at 7.15pm

Meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Print Name.....