

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Plaitford Village Hall on 18th November 2019

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)	S Bowles	N Curtis
AW Porter	JPA Robson	CS Stacey
Councillor G Bailey (TVBC) for part of the meeting		
2 Members of the public for part of the meeting		

55/19 Apologies

No apologies were received.

56/19 *The minutes of the 16th September 2019 meeting were agreed and signed.*

57/19 Interests

No interests were declared.

58/19 *The meeting was then closed.*

59/19 Mr R Kellett-Clarke addressed the meeting regarding the low broadband speeds attained in Sherfield English Lane. The Clerk confirmed that the performance in Compton's Drive was similar (3.1Mbps at best). Mr Kellett-Clarke offered to begin exploring the possibility of obtaining a community-based scheme of FTTP for those residents who were interested and report back to the January meeting. Councillors confirmed that they were supportive of such an endeavour.

60/19 *The meeting was then re-opened and the public left.*

61/19 Matters Arising

- Cllr Robson drew the Council's attention to the need to have identified a Chairman for the Staffing Committee if the Grievance Procedure adopted at the September meeting was to function. It was agreed that this would be an item on the January agenda.
- Hampshire County Council is aware of the shipping container parked on the verge of Church Lane and is taking steps to deal with it. The Clerk was requested to raise the matter with Cllr R Perry.
- HCC responded to the query of branches over-hanging Church Lane between the end of Compton's Drive and the ford that someone would come to view but they had many queries to deal with.

62/19 Clerk's Report

The Clerk had nothing further to report.

63/19 Members' Reports

- Cllr Porter expressed his concern at developments which were taking place in a field close to the River Blackwater, although the land in question was in Landford. Cllr Bailey suggested that the Clerk should raise the matter with NFNPA Enforcement Team. It later transpired that Cllr Randall had the matter in hand.
- Cllr Bailey suggested that he would ask Cllr Adams-King to attend the next meeting as he has been involved in broadband matters elsewhere in Test Valley.
- Cllr Bailey then left the meeting.

- c) Cllr K Curtis informed the meeting that he, Cllrs Bowles, Porter, and Robson plus the Clerk had attended the funeral of Mr Adrian McConnel who had been Vice-chairman of the Parish Council for many years.
- d) Cllr Bowles reported that the pot-holes in Sherfield English Lane and the edges of the highway were in need of serious attention. This was confirmed by Cllr Robson.

64/19 Emergency Plan

Cllr Robson had downloaded various documents. This was discussed at length and the general opinion was that for a parish such as this a simple document was required. It was agreed even at this early stage that the Village Hall was a key resource and that the Village Hall Committee should be approached. Cllr Robson agreed to continue to work on the plan.

65/19 Sign for Botley's Ford

It was agreed that the revised sign should be used. Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr Robson seconded that two signs should be ordered to be placed at each end of the track leading to the ford: this was resolved. Cllr Stacey agreed to obtain the two signs.

66/19 Finance

- a) The revised Risk Assessment was considered. Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr K Curtis seconded that it was appropriate: this was resolved.
- b) The draft budget for 2020-21 was considered and various changes were made. Cllr N Curtis proposed and Cllr K Curtis seconded that in view of the changes the precept should remain at £3200: this was resolved.
- c) The Budget Control Report was received.
- d) There was no support for making a further donation to CPRE.
- e) Income of £1600.00 from TVBC (precept) was noted.
- f) D/D of £134.60 to HMRC (PAYE) was noted.
- g) Cheques numbered 322 and 323: £30.89 to J Wright (expenses + reimbursement, £28.22 ex-VAT); £269.20 to J Wright (Clerk's salary) were approved and signed.

67/19 Planning Applications

Yew Tree Farm, Sherfield English Lane (Plot 1) – variation to design of garages (TVBC ref: 19/02569/VARS). It was agreed that the response should be “No objection”.

AOB

There was no AOB.

Meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

Date of Next Meeting

20th January 2020.