

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Plaitford Village Hall on 16th January 2017

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)	S Bowles	N Curtis
AW Porter	JPA Robson	CS Stacey
Councillor G Bailey (TVBC)		
J Wright (Clerk)	2 members of the public	
D Everett (National Trust Countryside Manager)	J White (NT Community Ranger)	

01/17 Apologies

No apologies were received.

02/17 The minutes of the 21st November 2016 meeting were agreed and signed.

03/17 Interests

No interests were declared.

04/17 Access to Plaitford Common

- a) Mr D Everett spoke at length explaining that the National Trust needed to try to take back control of the number of key-holders and of the various bodies which were being consulted on possible ways forward. The Chairman thanked him for his input.
- b) Mr J White then informed the meeting that two scrub clearance days had been scheduled for Clayford Common. This was welcomed by those present who then raised the matter of the state of the ditches on National Trust land. Mr J White agreed to raise the matter of the ditches with Lee Hullin (Lead Ranger).
- c) Cllr Bailey took the opportunity to ask the NT staff why members of the NT were being denied access to Foxbury. Mr White explained that this took the visitor pressure off this particular area and allowed the ecology to improve.

05/17 Matters Arising

- a) The Clerk has had no success in finding anyone in HCC to respond to her enquiries about the Parish Lengthsman Scheme.
- b) The large puddle near Manor Farm has not been addressed since the Clerk wanted some heavy rain to emphasise the size of the puddle. She also commented that a pothole had appeared by the entrance to Manor Farm.

06/17 Members' Reports

Cllr Bailey reported that TVBC was reviewing the ward boundaries with the aim of making the representation more equitable. There seemed to be two options for the Blackwater Ward: extend it eastwards and leave it with two councillors or extend it northwards which would result in it becoming a three councillor ward.

07/17 Consultations

After some discussion it was agreed that the 3 items of greatest priority for the policing in this area were: theft from motor vehicles, house burglary and non-house burglary.

08/17 Finance

- a) The Budget Control report was received.
- b) D/D of £63.80 to HMRC (PAYE) was noted.
- c) Cheques numbered 270 to 272 were approved and signed: £69.33 to J Wright (reimbursement + expenses); £330.00 to Plaitford Village Hall (hire fee + grant towards the cost of the shed [£250.00]); £255.16 to J Wright (Clerk's salary).

09/17 Planning Application**Heatherlands, Salisbury Road** (NFNPA ref: 16/01064): "Recommend permission"

"It is noted that Highways England has no objections, neither does the Tree Officer. The Parish Council is still supporting this application as it is judged by the Council to be a safer access than the existing location. The now proposed post and wire fence instead of the earlier, but now withdrawn, brick pillar and wall will blend inconspicuously with the existing fencing between Plaitford Common and the A36. This Council can see no possible reason for the current application to be refused."

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Date of Next Meeting

20th March 2017