

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Plaitford Village Hall on January 18th 2016

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)

S Bowles

N Curtis

AW Porter

JPA Robson

Councillor G Bailey (TVBC)

1/16 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr CS Stacey.

2/16 The minutes of the 16th November 2015 meeting were agreed and signed.

3/16 Cllr G Bailey

- a) Cllr Porter raised the issue of debris from lorries using the Viridor landfill at Squabb Wood being left on the road and the verges: Cllr Bailey agreed to raise the matter with Cllr R Perry (HCC).
- b) Cllr Bailey expressed surprise that the Plaitford Village Hall Committee had not approached him for a grant.

4/16 Interests

No interests were declared.

5/16 Matters Arising

The Clerk reported that she had not made any progress with the matter of co-option: Cllr Porter agreed to take this forward.

6/16 Clerk's Report

- a) It was noted that in future site notices for planning applications will be on white paper. Cllr Robson commented that they would be less easily identifiable – just one more notice on a post.
- b) The Parish Council's response to the "Clean for the Queen" initiative would be low-key and informal. Everyone would be asked to pick up litter etc in the vicinity of their property and scrub any nearby signs. Cllr Robson offered to do the signs in her immediate vicinity and also those at Church Lane. Cllr Bowles agreed to scrub the signs around Flowers Lane and Wellow Wood Road. It was suggested that Cllrs N Curtis and K Curtis should litter-pick the area around the post box on the A36 and the track off the A36 which is particularly bad.
- c) The Clerk was asked to produce some signs asking people to pick up any rubbish they see.

7/16 Members' Reports

Cllrs K Curtis, N Curtis and Robson had attended a meeting with representatives from both BT and HCC with regard to broadband provision. It was clear that if there was a long length of copper cable between the street cabinet and one's premises then little would be done about it. Although additional street cabinets were being installed it was not clear what the position would be for subscribers already connected to a more distant cabinet. It was emphasised that a subscriber needs to contact their ISP to get connected to "fibre to the cabinet" and that there was no mechanism in place to alert one to its availability.

8/16 Consultations

The recent TVBC consultation regarding Sustainability Appraisal Scoping was not worth the effort of reading and TVBC should have spent the money its production cost elsewhere.

9/16 Footbridge in Sherfield English Lane

This dates back to the time when there was a ford here; the stream has been piped for many years and it was agreed that the footbridge was totally redundant.

10/16 Procurement of Audit by the Sector Led Body

Cllr K Curtis proposed and Cllr N Curtis seconded that this Parish Council does not wish to opt out of the sector Led body provision: this was unanimously resolved.

11/16 Finance

- a) Income for £0.46 from Unity Trust Bank (interest) was noted.
- b) Cheque no. 253 for £80.00 to Plaitford Village Hall (room hire) was approved.
- c) D/D of £63.20 to HMRC (PAYE) was noted.
- d) Cheques nos. 254 and 255: £31.20 to J Wright (Clerk's reimbursement + expenses) and £252.61 to J Wright (Clerk's salary) were approved and signed.

12/16 Planning Applications

- a) **Red House Farm, Salisbury Road** (TVBC ref: 15/02933) for a garage and store with accommodation over. This proposal was thought to be much more sympathetic to the little cottage than the completely incongruous proposed extension (TVBC ref:15/00929). Providing this earlier application was withdrawn or refused the Parish Council fully supported the current application.

- b) **Heatherland, Salisbury Road** (NFNPA ref: 15/00958) to move the entrance further east on the A36. The Parish Council responded with "Recommend permission but willing to accept the officer's decision." "Heatherlands already has a vehicular access onto the A36 which would be closed off if this application receives approval. The new access would therefore not increase the number of vehicle movements onto and off the A36. The current access has good visibility to the west but poor visibility to the east due to the undulations of the road. Only a very short length of the A36 can be seen looking to the east. An access located further east could be a considerable improvement. Visibility to the west would still be good. Visibility to the east is critical on the precise location but could be a significant improvement. Whilst not having the definitions and exact measurements for approved sight-lines it does seem possible that a location could be found where the road can be seen all the way to the Red Rover Public House and includes the exit from the van sales and also from Maurys Lane. It is important to recognise that this is not an additional access and hence the criteria for safety should be in comparison with the existing, not with an ideal scenario."

13/16 AOB

Cllr Robson raised the appalling state of Sherfield English Lane (potholes and the road edge crumbling). The Clerk commented that reporting these were on her to-do-list but that anyone can report road defects; the Clerk's reporting carries no more weight than anyone else's; everyone uses the same online reporting system.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Date of Next Meeting

14th March 2016