

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Plaitford Village Hall on 17th January 2022

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)
N Curtis

S Bowles
AW Porter

PJ Cross
CS Stacey

01/22 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr N Adams-King (TVBC, HCC).

02/22 *The minutes of the 15th November 2021 meeting were agreed and signed.*

03/22 Interests

No interests were declared.

04/22 Finance

- a) It was noted that the September element of the precept was received on 18th October.
- b) The Budget Control Report was received.
- c) Direct debits of £18 to Unity Trust Bank (standing charge) and £69.20 to HMRC (PAYE) were noted.
- d) Cllr Cross proposed and Cllr Porter seconded that a payment of £60 should be made to Plaitford Village Hall for room hire in 2021: this was resolved.
- e) EFTs of: £276.70 to J Wright (Clerk's salary) and £5.40 to K Curtis (Cllr expenses) were approved.
- f) It was agreed that authorising electronic payments should alternate between the two pairs of councillors who were IT-enabled, unless one was a beneficiary.
- g) Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr K Curtis seconded that the Council would spend not more than £500 on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

05/22 Highways

This Council is unanimously opposed to a blanket 20mph speed limit replacing the current 30mph in residential streets, and towns and village centres. Such a proposal would "devalue" its impact in identifying areas which were "special" in terms of road safety; it would have the potential to encourage pedestrians to leave all road safety to the motorist whilst they focussed entirely on their smart phones, thus completely relinquishing all responsibility for their own safety; it would tempt motorists to look at the surroundings and their speedometer instead of focussing on the road. This Council fully endorses all the objections set out in the email from TVBC Cllr P. Lashbrook. In many rural or urban areas the 30mph limit is rarely enforced so the 20mph limit will also not be enforced and the police would be better employed tackling rural crimes, drug lines etc. It is also quite wrong that a pressure group should be allowed to impose its will on others. If groups of residents are agreed that a 20mph limit is appropriate for their neighbourhood then that is totally different to a group of activists imposing it on others who do not consider it to be either necessary or desirable. All speed limits should be location specific and based on accidents and traffic flow analysis at that particular location, otherwise it becomes a solution looking for a problem.

06/22 Urgent/Late Items

The Council's response to the Police Commissioner's consultation is: "This Council is fully supportive of the extension of opening hours of licensed premises until 1.00 am for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee."

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Date of Next Meeting: 21st March 2022