

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at The New Forest Post Production Studio on 20th January 2025

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)

N Curtis

Councillor G Bailey (TVBC)

S Bowles

CS Stacey

Mr A Chapman (TVBC Community Engagement Officer)

PJ Cross

01/25 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr AW Porter.

02/25 *The minutes of the 18th November 2024 meeting were agreed and signed.*

03/25 Interests

No interests were declared.

04/25 Antony Chapman TVBC Community Engagement Officer

He explained his role as facilitating communications between community groups and TVBC. He gave as an example that he could possibly identify sources of grants for a community group.

He requested that he be sent a copy of the Minutes of each meeting.

05/25 Matters Arising

The work to make the footpath to the bridge over Botley's Brook safe is expected to start imminently.

06/25 Planning Applications

- a) **St Edwards School, Melchet Court** (TVBC ref: 25/00054/FULLS) - Refurbishment and conversion of an existing lean-to shed to a Practical Skills Teaching Block for the students. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council response should be "No objection".
- b) **Bowers Farm, Pound Lane** (TVBC ref: 24/02936/FULLS) - Demolition of agricultural barns and bungalow and erection of 4 dwellings. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council response should be "No objection".

07/25 Clerk's Report

Newsletters

- a) It was noted that HCC had asked for "exceptional Financial Support" so that it could increase its share of the Council Tax by 15%.
- b) TVBC is planning to start the weekly collection of food waste on the 13th October 2025.

Correspondence

PC Rochford from Hampshire's Cyber Crime Unit had offered to give a presentation on scams and cyber security. It was agreed that this could be useful, that it should be held in the Village Hall and that it should publicised in Horizon. It was suggested that April or May would be suitable as the evening were warmer then.

08/25 Finance

- a) The Budget Control Report was received.
- b) BACS payments of: £344.60 to J Wright (Clerk's salary); £140.00 to PJ Ground Care and Paddock Maintenance (kissing gate repair); £80.33 to J Wright (reimbursement + expenses) were authorised for payment.
- c) To formally approve the Budget for 2025-26 – this was deferred.

09/25 Urgent Items

Several councillors had reported that when they replied to an email from the Clerk with an address of clerk@melchetparkandplaitfordparishcouncil.gov.uk the .gov.uk was truncated, resulting in the response not being sent. The Clerk was asked to raise this with the provider.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Date of Next Meeting

7.30pm on the 10th March 2025 at The New Forest Post Production Studio.