

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Plaitford Village Hall on 19th November 2012

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)
N Curtis

JA Bowles
AW Porter

S Bowles
CS Stacey

65/12 Apologies

No apologies were received.

66/12 *The minutes of the 17th September 2012 full council meeting and the planning meeting held on 22nd October 2012 were agreed and signed.*

67/12 Interests

No interests were declared.

68/12 PCSO J Cole & PC V Gook

- a) They observed that non-dwelling burglaries were on the increase in Wellow. It was stressed that it was very important to mark one's possessions and/or record the serial number since many items were confiscated but could not be returned to their rightful owners because there was no proof of ownership.
- b) The concept of Community Speed Watch was introduced but members felt that Plaitford had too few roads where the speed limit was likely to be exceeded (just a short stretch of the A36).

69/12 Plaitford Common

- a) Mr L Hulin introduced himself as a ranger for the northern commons with particular emphasis on communications and working with volunteers. The NT would like to establish Volunteer Community Rangers to act as the eyes and ears of the NT and also to get into conversation with visitors to explain the importance and fragility of the ecology of the New Forest.
- b) Gravel tracks have been set up in Foxbury for cyclists and riders to reduce the pressure on other areas.
- c) Cllr Stacey stated that the heather bales path from near the Village Hall needed topping up. Mr Hulin agreed to action this.
- d) The Clerk reported that she had received complaints from a parishioner regarding the amount of mud left on the pavement by the National Grid workforce and Mr Hulin offered to raise the matter with his contact.

70/12 Clerk's Salary

The Clerk explained that her pay scale had been extended by an additional point. It was proposed by Cllr K Curtis and seconded by Cllr Stacey that the Clerk should move to this additional point from April 2013: this was resolved.

71/12 Finance

- a) The Clerk stated that all the time she had been employed by the Parish Council she had provided all the necessary office equipment, however her printer had now failed. Cllr S Bowles proposed and Cllr K Curtis seconded that this Parish Council would pay 50% of the cost of a replacement printer.
- b) Income of £1500.00 from TVBC (precept) was noted.
- c) Cheque number 129 for £60.00 to the Audit Commission had already been signed and was approved.
- d) Cheque number 130 for £238.63 to J Wright (Clerk's salary) was approved and signed.

- e) The Budget Report was received.
- f) The 2013-14 Budget was discussed but final approval was deferred until the January meeting when the revised Tax Base should be available.

72/12 Planning Applications

Manor Farm, Church Lane (TVBC ref: 12/02451) had applied for consent to fit doors to the cart shed and replace the hatch by a window. It was agreed that the Parish Council had no objections.

73/12 AOB

The low turn-out in Plaitford for the Police Commissioner elections was discussed. The Clerk was asked to express the concern of the Parish Council that no information had been disseminated, that most candidates were politicised and that it should have been combined with other elections to save money.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Date of Next Meeting

21st January 2013