

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at the New Forest Post Production Studio on 10th March 2025

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)	S Bowles	PJ Cross
N Curtis	AW Porter	CS Stacey
Councillor G Bailey (TVBC)	2 members of the public	

10/25 Apologies

No apologies were received.

11/25 *The minutes of the 20th January 2025 meeting were agreed and signed.*

12/25 Interests

No interests were declared.

13/25 Devolution for Hampshire

Cllr Bailey discussed the proposed re-organisation of local government within Hampshire and was of the view that if the various tiers did not propose a scheme one would be imposed by central government.

14/25 Plaitford Village Hall

The meeting was suspended whilst members of the Village Hall Committee updated the Council with the various steps being considered to reduce the heat loss from the hall and to make it more appealing to potential hirers.

15/25 Matters Arising

The Clerk reported that despite raising the matter yet again with Hampshire County Council the over-hanging hedge on the west side of Sherfield English Lane immediately beyond Plaitford Green had still not been cut. The verge on the east side of Sherfield Road opposite the junction with Church Lane had now been trimmed back.

16/25 Defibrillator for the Village Hall

Cllr Stacey stated that his item should be deferred.

17/25 Finance

- a) Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr N Curtis seconded that the 2025-26 Budget should be approved: this was resolved.
- b) Cllr K Curtis proposed and Cllr Cross seconded that the payment for hire of Village Hall in 2024 should be £100.00: this was resolved.
- c) The Budget Control Report was received.
- d) No income had been received.
- e) A D/D of £97.60 to HMRC (PAYE third quarter, paid 20 January 2025) already paid was noted.
- f) BACS payments of £100.00 to Plaitford Village Hall (room hire); £344.80 to J Wright (Clerk's salary) were approved.

18/25 Urgent Items and AOB

The problems with the current website and email provider were discussed at length. It was agreed that the main difficulties were integrating the email provision with Outlook and with the email provision on iPhones. An alternative provider had been identified but the annual cost was slightly greater, and for a realistic price only 5 web mailboxes were included.

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Date of Next Meeting

19th May 2025 in Plaitford Village Hall, the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00 pm, followed by the Parish Council's AGM.

10th March 2025