

Tidenham Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 10th December 2014 at 7pm in the War Memorial Hall, Tutshill.

Present: Councillors; Mrs C Dawson – Chairman, Mr L Allan, Mr R Birch, Mr G Birt, Mrs S Bollen, Mr B Bowshall, Miss S Gregory, Mr S Ford, Mr A Hossack, Mrs H Molyneux.
Officers; Mrs J Cordon (Clerk) and Mr K Duffin (Administrator).
Public; Dr F Bowie.

1. Apologies for Absence

a). The meeting received apologies for absence from Cllr Kirkpatrick.

b). Resolved to accept apologies from Cllr Kirkpatrick with reasons for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3. Adoption of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2014 (pages 13/14/15 of 2014/15).

4. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting and not on the Agenda

There were none.

5. Requests for Dispensations

There were none.

6. Public Consultation

There were no representations from the public.

7. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that after the Agenda had been issued she had been informed that the FoDDC had been awarded the grant for the CCTV and a meeting had been arranged for 8th or 22nd January particularly to consider future maintenance arrangements – as the Clerk was not going to be available someone else would need to attend. Cllr Ford volunteered.

Resolved to approve that Cllr Ford attend the CCTV meeting as the Parish Council's representative.

Resolved to note the Clerk's Report.

8. Policing in the Parish

The Clerk reported that there was no report from the police. However a number of sheds had been broken into.

Resolved that the Clerk contact PC Assirati for an update. *(This has been done by JC).*

9. To Receive the Financial Statement

a). Resolved to approve the monthly financial statement.

b). Resolved to approve the cheque payments.

10. Budget and Precept for 2015/2016

The Clerk reported that;

i). The draft Council Tax Base ('Band D') for 2015 provided by FODDC was 1754.95

ii). The draft Localisation of Council Tax Grant provide by FODDC would be £4723

The budget previously considered by the committee and the above information were considered and it was;

a). Resolved to approve a total budget for Tidenham Parish Council for 2015/2016 of £96,380

b). Resolved to make a net precept request to FODDC for Tidenham Parish Council for 2015/2016 of £91,657 which equates to a Band 'D' Council Tax Charge of £52.23

The situation regarding Earmarked Reserves; Capital Fund & Sedbury & Beachley Village Hall Fund was discussed and it was;

c). Resolved to proceed with replacement of the door at Sedbury & Beachley Village Hall in the sum of £1,650

Cllrs Hossack and Birt asked for their vote against to be recorded as the matter was not itemised on the Agenda.

Mr Ford, Mrs Bollen and Mr Birch did not vote as Committee members of the Sedbury & Beachley Village Hall Charity.

11. Publication of Agenda and Minutes on the Web Site

This item was requested by Cllr Hossack.

Cllr Hossack asked for it to be deferred until the next meeting.

The Clerk reported that Mr Alan Kitto had resigned from voluntarily updating the web site, and will stop doing so with immediate effect. This was discussed and various alternatives were suggested – to be discussed when more information was to hand.

12. Letter from Chairman of Sedbury & Beachley Village Hall re Maintenance Works

A letter dated 10th November had been received from Mr Ford, Chairman of the Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall requesting that three issues be considered for the 2015/16 year as per the agreement. The three items being: i) fencing to the side boundary, ii) external car park and access (in stages) and iii) levelling of the boiler room floor.

Resolved that items (i) and (iii) to be considered and quotes to be obtained with item (ii) being reserved, pending a review of the survey previously undertaken or an additional survey. (None of this has been actioned by JC).

13. Correspondence Received to Date:

The Clerk reported on the progress of sewage works at Wyebank Road by Welsh Water.

Resolved to note and to remind Welsh Water of their obligations to put the land back to its original state. (This has been done by JC)

14. Committee Draft Minutes and other Reports:

a). Planning, Development Control & Highways Committee held on 25th November 2014

Resolved to note

b). Finance and Probity Committee meeting held on 3rd December 2014

Resolved to note

c). Mopla Cottages Committee held on 3rd December 2014

Resolved to note

15. Councillor's Reports on Local Matters and Matters for the next Agenda

a). **Cllr Molyneux** noted that the zigzag lines outside Tutshill Primary school were being regularly used for parking. There was some discussion about the legal situation for school zigzag lines.

b). **Cllr Hossack**; i). the speed camera hedge had been cut back but was still not working;

ii). the hedge between the recreation ground and Mopla Road had been cut; and

iii). the white lines around the bend near the Live and Let Live pub were to be repainted in January.

c). **Cllr Dawson** reported on the police speeding checking that she and Cllr Bollen had undertaken following training.

16. Application for Appointment as Co-Opted Councillor

Dr Fiona Bowie was the only applicant for the vacancy resulting from the Death of Cllr Gerald Blunt and following advertising of the vacancy there had been no call for an election. Councillors asked a number of questions of Dr Bowie which were answered satisfactorily.

Resolved to co-opt Dr Fiona Bowie as a Councillor to Tidenham Parish Council.

17. Exclusion of the Public.

Resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the following business the public be excluded.

18. Resignation of the Clerk

Mrs Jan Cordon, Clerk to Tidenham Parish Council, has tendered her resignation and will be leaving the Council's employment as of 31st December 2014. Following discussion about the events which led to the Clerk's resignation it was;

Resolved to note the resignation of the Clerk.

Resolved to accept the following based upon the recommendations as per the agenda:

a). **That the Administrative Assistant would support the council temporarily with additional hours as required until the appointment of a new Clerk.**

b). **That the Clerk arranges for advertisements to be placed in the Forest Review and the Free Press, with the existing salary range and hours. Deadline for applications 31st December. Interviews to take place Wednesday 7th January.**

(Done although the cost for the Free Press was too high and therefore with the agreement of Mr Allan it was in the Forest Review only - JC)

c). That Councillor Lance Allan in a voluntary capacity supports the Administrative Assistant and the new Clerk during the period following the departure of Mrs Cordon until the appointment and training of a new Clerk is completed.

19. **Dates of Future Meetings**

17th December Planning, Development Control and Highways Committee, 14th January 2015 Amenities Committee and 21st January 2015 Full Council

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed Date