

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Plaitford Village Hall on 18th July 2022

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)	S Bowles	N Curtis
AW Porter	CS Stacey	
Councillor G Bailey (TVBC)		

33/22 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs PJ Cross and N Adams-King (TVBC, HCC).

34/22 *The minutes of the 16th May 2022 meeting were agreed and signed.*

35/22 Interests

No interests were declared.

36/22 Matters Arising

- The matter of the bird-scarer is still ongoing.
- Cllr K Curtis produced a revised artwork for the warning sign for Botley's Ford. It was agreed that it should be A2 size and he should arrange for its production.

37/22 Planning Application

Camping and Caravan Site, Green Hill Farm, New Road (NFNPA ref: 21/00928/FULL) – amended.

It was noted that it was now proposed to close off the entrance onto Canada Common from the site. (It is assumed the applicant meant Plaitford or Sturmoor Common.) This was welcomed if it prevents dogs from the site depositing their excrement on the Common. The clerk was instructed to respond that the Council had noted this proposal but requested that the access to Plaitford, Sturmoor and Canada Commons was permanently closed off. *“The Parish Council has noted the amendment to the plans which includes closing off the access to the adjacent Commons (Canada, Plaitford and Sturmoor). Whilst welcoming the proposed amendment to close off access to the Commons the Council has concerns regarding the practicality of enforcing it. The Council’s original concerns regarding the scale of the proposed development, the possible effects on Plaitford Common and light pollution still stand.”*

38 /22 To consider renewal of CPRE Membership

The Council has been a member for many years but it is coming to the conclusion that the organisation has lost its focus on protecting the countryside for food production and for wildlife. It now seems to view the countryside as a glorified theme park, failing to recognise that encouraging visitors makes life more difficult for farmers and reduces the tranquillity wildlife requires to thrive. Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr Porter seconded that the membership should not be renewed: this was agreed. The clerk was instructed to tell CRPE why we were terminating our membership at least temporarily.

39/22 Finance

- The Budget Control was received.
- The list of income received was received: TVBC £1800 (precept); HMRC £51.39 (VAT refund); A W Porter £20.00; G Thew £4.00; S M Brown £24.00; G Maher £8.00; A Harbottle £4.00; C E Mortimer £4.00; S Bagley £32.00; J Garnet £16.00; R S Sanders £8.00; K T Russell £24.00; K D Curtis £12.00; W L Whiley £4.00; A M Savage £8.00; J P A Robson £16.00; R J McGimpsey £20.00; S J Bowles £20.00; P Howell £4.00; S Cuell £12.00; E Stoneham £16.00; A Mitchell £8.00; R Phillips-Twyman £4.00.

- c) The following payments, which had been agreed previously but before invoices were available or were non-negotiable were approved: £218.96 to Zurich Insurance (insurance) paid 16-06-2022; £498.72 to CommuniCorp (Jubilee mugs) paid 20-06-2022 (£415.60 net of VAT); £18.00 to Unity Trust Bank (standing charge) paid 30-06-2022; £70.20 to HMRC (PAYE) paid 13-07-2022.
- d) Invoices for approval: £36.00 to GeoXphere (mapping software); £281.50 to J Wright (Clerk's salary); £171.12 to J Wright (reimbursement + Clerk's expenses £145.61 net of VAT).

Meeting closed at 8.20pm

Date of Next Meeting

19th September 2022