

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Plaitford Village Hall on 18th April 2016

Present

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

24/16 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs K Curtis, JPA Robson and Cllr N Adams-King (TVBC).

25/16 *The minutes of the 14th March 2016 meeting were agreed and signed.*

27/16 Interests

No interests were declared.

28/16 Clerk's Report

Small Access Grants are again available. It was decided that using these to clear the fallen trees on the footpath in Boulder Wood was more trouble than it was worth. Cllr Porter offered to deal with them himself.

29/16 Queen's Birthday Party

It was agreed that the Parish Councillors would help with the delivery of the invitations.

30/16 Finance

- a) The End-of-year Budget Control Report was received.
- b) After consideration of each item on the Annual Governance Statement Cllr Bowles proposed and Cllr Curtis seconded that all could be marked in the affirmative and the document should be signed by the Chairman: this was resolved.
- c) In response to Unity Trust stating their intention to make a £6 monthly charge in future it Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr Curtis seconded that the Parish Council account should be moved to Lloyds which offered free banking: this was resolved.
- d) The Budget Control Report was deferred until the normal month.
- e) Income of: £1500 from TVBC (precept) and £1.63 from Unity Trust Bank (interest) were noted.
- f) Direct debit of: £126.20 to HMRC (PAYE) was noted.
- g) Cheque nos 258-259 were approved and signed: £33.60 to Getmapping Plc (mapping software); £166.00 to HALC (subscription).

31/16 Planning Applications

Land adjacent to Sydney Cottage, Salisbury Road (NFNPA ref: 16/00244) – replacement building to provide a new therapy centre. Response: “We are happy to accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority’s Officers under their delegated powers.” The Parish Council added the following comments.

- Whilst being generally supportive of business endeavours within the parish the Parish Council is of the view that a field, which it believes is designated as “backup grazing”, in the New Forest is an inappropriate location. This is especially so as the nearby Village Hall is available for hire and directly opposite the hall there is a “brown field” site.
- The buildings are derelict, the proposal is that they should be replaced: this does not satisfy DP19 c) which requires that the existing building is structurally sound.
- The residents in the vicinity expressed surprise that despite bats being present in their outbuildings the application form states that there are no protected species in these buildings.
- The application form states that foul sewage will be disposed via a mains sewer but there is no public sewer anywhere near.
- The Site Drainage Strategy fails to recognise that one of the “land drains” is in fact part of the soakaway system for Evelyn and Sydney Cottages. It is unfortunate that searches did not reveal this fact.
- It seems rather strange that the Public Consultation exercise is to be conducted at some point in the future – none of the nearby residents at the meeting had received any information from the applicant.
- If the Officer is minded to grant consent the Parish Council would wish to see a Community Infrastructure Levy imposed.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Date of Next Meeting

Annual Parish Meeting: 16th May 2016 at 7.00pm

Parish Council Meeting (including the AGM): 16th May at 7.30pm