

Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held at Plaitford Village Hall on 19th November 2108

Present

K Curtis (Chairman)

JPA Robson

Councillor G Bailey (TVBC)

S Bowles

CS Stacey

AW Porter

51/18 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs N Curtis, CD Sweetman, N Adams-King (TVBC) and RJ Perry (HCC). Mr CD Sweetman is now disqualified due to persistent absence. It was noted that it is less than six months to the next election for the Full Council.

52/18 *The minutes of the 10th September 2018 meeting were agreed and signed.*

53/18 Interests

No interests were declared.

54/18 Cllr Bailey's Report

TVBC has bought a parcel of land (approximately 30 acres) in Sherfield English in support of a mitigation agreement with the NPA. The access is off Mill Lane and it will provide an open space area for general recreation. The Borough Council may be interested in purchasing other small parcels of land near the boundary with the New Forest National Park.

55/18 Members' Reports

- a) Cllr Stacey reported that professional dog-walkers are creating problems on the various Commons in the area: the dogs are allowed to run free, the walkers do not pick up the dog excrement and there have been several reports of some of the dogs attacking other dogs. This behaviour was confirmed by Cllr Bailey.
- b) Cllr Stacey reported that the stiles which the National Trust have replace at the access points to Plaitford Common from the A36 no longer have the barrier which prevents dogs, foxes, badges etc running straight off the Common and onto the A36. The Clerk was asked to inform NT of danger of the current design of the stile.
- c) Cllr Robson reported that the hedge along the east side of Steplake Lane from the bridge and running up towards Sack Hill Farm was now over-hanging the carriageway. This side of the lane is in Sherfield English and the Clerk was asked to contact Sherfield English Parish Council.

56/18 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that the hedge on the east side of Sherfield English Road between the boundary of Bridgefoot Farm and Pound Lane was so overgrown that it had fully covered the verge leaving nowhere for pedestrians to stand to avoid passing vehicles. Cllr Robson offered to speak to the owners in the first instance. The Clerk had established that trees in part of this hedge were covered by a TPO and although permission was possibly required the form could be completed on line and there was no charge.

57/18 Consultations

It was agreed that the consultation regarding National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty should be left to members to complete individually if they so wished.

58/18 Finance

- a) Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr Robson seconded that the Financial Risk Assessment was reasonable: this was resolved.
- b) Cllr K Curtis proposed and Cllr Robson seconded that the Clerk should receive the increase in salary agreed nationally by NALC: this was resolved.
- c) Cllr Robson proposed and Cllr Stacey seconded that the Clerk should acquire a mobile phone for Parish Council business, costing no more than £100: this was resolved.
- d) The Budget Control Report was received.
- e) Cllr K Curtis proposed and Cllr Stacey seconded that £45 should be transferred from Contingency to Admin in the current budget to pay for the repair to the laptop (necessitated after a WINDOWS upgrade): this was resolved.
- f) Income of £1600 from TVBC (precept) was noted.
- g) Two D/Ds to HMRC of £64.52 each (PAYE) and a £18.00 payment to Unity Trust Bank (standing charge) were noted.
- h) Cheques numbered 305 and 306: £60.30 to J Wright (reimbursement plus expenses); £278.25 to J Wright (salary) were approved and signed.
- i) The draft 2019-20 Budget was considered.
 - i) It was proposed that instead of making an annual donation to the Village Hall the Parish Council would ring fence a sum of £100 each year until the Village Hall needed a particular purchase. The Probable Outcome for the Village Hall for the current year was reduced to zero.
 - ii) It was proposed that the Subscription heading for 2019-20 should be increased to £250 since it was known that the NALC element had significantly increased, although the actual amount was not known.
 - iii) In view of the agreed purchase of a mobile phone it was proposed that the Budget and the Probable Outcome for the Sundry element for the current year should be increased to £100. The Sundry element for 2019-20 should revert to £30.
- j) Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr Bowles seconded that with these changes the Draft 2019-20 Budget should be accepted and the precept should remain at £3200: this was resolved.

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Date of Next Meeting

21st January 2019