

MELBURY OSMOND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Venue: Reading Room

Date: 11th May 2015

Time: 19:30

Present:

Council: Jon Burden (Chair), James Evans (Vice-Chair), Anna Roxburgh, Martin Smith, Charles Swallow, Michael Kowalewski (Clerk)

WDDC Mary Penfold, new Cllr from Frome Valley Ward

Public: Nine members of the public were present

1. Open Meeting:

Question of PC celebration of national days eg VE Day raised.

Request for PC accounts to be published on-line, according to Transparency scheme, agreed to. Councillors explained current budget surplus was to cover projected expenditure over next 5 years and meant that precept did not have to be changed.

2. Apologies:

Peter Coverdale, Cllr Michael Bevan and PC Alex Bishop.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

Finance of Council to be published on website once ready.

5. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

According to protocol following election of 7th May, Jonny Burden resigned and Chair was taken by James Evans who thanked Jonny for his hard work and perfect attendance record. Jonny Burden was re-elected, proposed Martin Smith, seconded Anna Roxburgh. James Evans was re-elected Vice-Chairman with many thanks for his work on roads, Standing Orders and finances, proposed Charles Swallow, seconded Martin Smith. JE and JB signed Acceptance of Office papers.

6. New Councillor

James Read has not stepped forward for re-election. A new councillor was needed.

7. Finance Report and Precept

Budget including projections to be published online. Charles Swallow provided spreadsheet. Martin Smith took over Finance Officer role from JE.

Audit papers inspected and approved by council and signed by Clerk and Chairman for submission to auditors.

8. Insurance Renewal

Decided to accept AON insurance £728.93. Cheque signed.

9. Highways Report and Traffic Issues

JE commended Highways for excellent repairs. However, damage to verges continued. Michael Bevan had said the damage was "unacceptable". MB to be contacted over this. Awaiting Highways reply to request for extending double white lines further up the hill before Melbury Junction.

10. Standing Orders

JE presented his Summary of Standing Orders. The Orders to be adopted were the full version of the NALC model, and the Summary was just a guide. JE was thanked for his efforts and the SOs would be voted for at the next meeting.

11. Village Hall

Village Hall Committee had requested a grant to help with costs of new roof and presented its balance sheet as evidence. Pledges already received from Estate and WDDC. Council voted £500 grant, proposed CS seconded MS. Cheque signed and handed over. Council will debate issue of restoring annual grant to Village Hall.

12. Biodigester

Temporary 'tent' erected over biodigester and visible from Holt Lane. Chairman to ask Estate whether structure is permanent.

13. Reading Room Parking

Decided to put 'polite notice' in window of Reading Room, to be crafted by JE.

14. Tennis Club Constitution

No objections to new tennis club constitution. Insurance continues to be PC responsibility.

15. Planning Application

Woodville planning application for replacement of conservatory examined. No objections.

16. AOB

Annual Governance statement approved by Council and signed off. Clerk collected acceptance of office statements.

17. Date of Next Meeting & Annual Parish Meeting (APM)

Extraordinary meeting in conjunction with APM on 15th June 2015