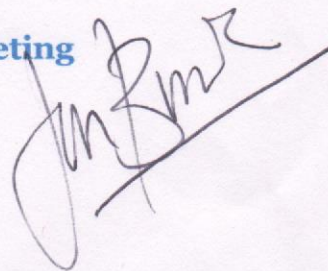


MELBURY OSMOND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting



Venue: Reading Room

Date: 9th March 2015

Time: 19:30

Present:

Council: Jon Burden (Chair), James Evans (Vice-Chair), Anna Roxburgh, Peter Coverdale, Martin Smith, Charles Swallow, James Read, Michael Kowalewski (Clerk)
Cllrs Tony Frost and Mary Penfold from Frome Valley ward.

Public: Two members of the public were present.

1. Open Meeting:

Request to publish finance and budget on website and rubbish collection raised. See items 8 and 10. Village Plan and affordable housing discussed.

Tony Frost gave official farewell as he is stepping down after 42 years. Praised MOPC as good council. Introduced Mary Penfold of Sydling St Nicholas as prospective Cllr for new ward.

2. Apologies:

Cllr Michael Bevan and PC Alex Bishop.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes were approved unanimously after corrections and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

New Councillor has been registered with Electoral Dept.

5. Councillor Elections

Councillors to be elected on 7th May. Procedure for nomination and submission explained by Clerk and papers given out. Nominations have to be handed in personally by 9th April, proposed and seconded by parish elector.

6. Road & Traffic Issues

James Evans explained inspection of roads and noted improvements. Michael Bevan and CS had inspected verge destruction and noted 'unacceptable' level of erosion. Highways to approach Ben Jones for the Estate. Erosion of bank at turn off to Holt also noted. JE and Michael Bevan warmly thanked for their role. Situation of dangerous overtaking on A37 discussed. Extending white lines proposed. MB to be approached.

7. Standing Orders

JE had written up new version of standing orders for MOPC based on NALC prototype. JE thanked for efforts. To be discussed at next meeting after reading through and formally adopted at following meeting.

8. Payments and Finance Issues

JE presented finance appropriations, which were then examined in detail. CS also looked at finances and discussed new way of allocating funds. Obligation of £1949 to pay. Precept only £1711. CS to look into finances to rationalise receipts and expenditures. Clerk to provide statements. Open meeting request for placing finances on line accepted. Finances and budget to be posted online. JB, JE and CS to discuss finance and insurance costs for next meeting.

9. Village Hall

Letter received by Chairman from Village Hall requesting help for roof and asking why subsidy of MOPC to Hall had ceased after 2011. Council favourable to supporting this central village asset (proposed JB, seconded JE) but must look at own financial resources and Hall's balance sheet and needs. To be discussed at next meeting after examination of needs and resources.

10. Refuse Collection

CS had sent e-mail to all cllrs re problems with Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) as reported in press. Closure of Sheborne dump discussed. Alternative sites sought. Somerset charge out-of-county drivers. Garden waste collection take-up below commercial viability. People did not know when collection was and whether it was now free or cost £41. Mary Penfold agreed to supply contact in DWP for minutes of DWP meeting and garden waste collection costs and frequency.

11. Reading Room

Problem of dangerous parking discussed. Polite notice to be put up. Refurbishment noted. Clerk to take on responsibility for RR with Estate.

12. Planning Application

Applications for tree surgery noted without discussion.

13. AOB

Costs of playground maintenance discussed. Proposed to replace toddler seats. Approval postponed to next meeting as agenda item.

14. Date of next meeting

AGM on 11th May following elections. Annual Parish Meeting 15th June 2015.