



Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 3rd September 2019 at Okehampton Town Hall , Okehampton.

Councillors Present -

R Maile
M Cooper
B Wood
D Webber
P Heard
J Heard
A Ewen

WDBC – Cllr A Leech,

Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk

Absent – Cllr M Littlejohns

Before the commencement of the meeting, Cllr Wood presented a grant cheque of £282 to Mrs J Goffey & Mrs A Russell, Trustees of the Museum of Dartmoor Life. The Council were thanked for the grant by Mrs Russell, the funds would assist with the purchase of materials for outreach events involving children from the community.

- 1. Members of the Public** - there were no members of the public present.
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – there were no declarations of interest made.
- 3. Apologies** – apologies were received from WDBC Councillors P Vachon and Mrs J Yelland.
- 4. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting held on 2nd July 2019** these were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr Ewen, **and Planning Committee meeting held on 6th August 2019** these were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Ewen and seconded by Cllr Wood.
- 5. DCC and WDBC** – to receive any reports/updates from Councillors present.
Cllr Leech reported the closure of the WDBC Outreach Service was suspended until WDBC reviewed all service across the area. He advised the results of the Okehampton traffic survey was still awaited from DCC Highways. Kellands Lane – a meeting has been held to discuss the issues, officers at WDBC are being pressed to progress things further. There have been more complaints about the Meldon Fields play area however it appears it has the necessary safety certificates in place and appropriate insurance cover.
- 6. Neighbourhood Planning** - to receive an update on joint Okehampton Councils Plan
Meeting held recently next due 18th September. Draft Policy Statements produced by Consultants circulated to all Council members together with draft OHPC introduction written by Cllr Wood, any feedback on documents to Cllr Wood by 6th Sept. Cllr Leech advised that Development boundaries are not included in the new Joint Local Plan and they are now determined by Neighbourhood Plans if required.

7. To receive reports from meetings attended by Parish Council representatives including –

Okehampton Matters – Cllrs Wood & Maile. Main items covered were issues with 101 phone answering – recognised as not being efficient. Street Pastors – stronger links with Police needed. The Police have a presence at both ends of the day at Oke College. Cllr Wood has met with PCSO to discuss implementation of Speedwatch, there are potentially already 2 volunteers, there may be some cost implications. There was a presentation on County Lines.

Meldon Wildlife Day – very successful and attended by several Councillors.

Okehampton Show – official representation by Cllr Wood.

Cllr Wood had attended a Planning Site meeting in Southcott

8. Planning – to consider and agree response to applications listed below together with any others received up to date of this meeting.

8.1 DNPA Parish Council Local Plan workshop, 16 Sept, agreed Cllr Webber to attend and Cllr Wood if available..

8.2 Meldon Fields Residents Group – to receive update on request for footpath from Broom Park to Crediton Road and update on Kellands Lane. At the meeting mentioned in item 5 above, the footpath was also discussed and it was hope to include this within works next year.

9. Open Spaces.

9.1 Update on request to site memorial bench in Meldon Woods. Site agreed by Aggregate Industries, clerk advised Council not legally able to purchase bench on behalf of family.

9.2 Update on complaint re dog mess in Aplite Quarry Car park. Carried forward to next meeting.

9.3 Update on necessary repairs to gate at Aplite Quarry, carried forward to next meeting.

9.4 Natural Devon 2019 – consider email previously circulated and agree level of involvement including Roadside Verges, appointment of Wildlife Wardens and attendance at Conference. Agreed not to proceed at this stage.

9.5 Snow Warden Scheme – Clerk advised DCC happy for Council to remain as part of scheme in order to obtain supplies of salt/grit and no snow clearance work expected. Councillors agreed to remain in scheme on this basis. Agreed to get costs for grit bins for the Meldon Fields development to supplement those already there.

9.6 To discuss findings and agree actions required following Councillors walk of Old Town Park. Clerk still awaiting copy of Tree Survey and Management Plan from WDBC. Identified work – replacement Interpretation Board, potential work to paths, removal of Himalayan Balsam and purchase of dormice boxes. Agreed Men in Sheds be asked to make 50 boxes. ORIG have agreed in principle to meet to discuss carrying out project work for the Council in the future. Agreed that preservative be purchased for Interpretation Board surround.

10. Correspondence

10.1 WDBC – Okehampton OSSR Plan, to note date of meeting 16th Sept, 10.00 am agreed attendees Cllrs Ewen, J Heard & Wood

10.2 Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service – to consider proposed changes to Service Delivery Operating Model. Resolved to respond to Consultation stating cutbacks shortsighted, A30 is a major artery in the area with many accidents, Okehampton is a growing town with no close support available from other stations, changes would be detrimental to the community, any changes need an early review.

10.3 DCC – Okehampton Health Partnership, to note invite to workshop 20th Sept and agree attendees. Noted. Cllr Maile to attend if available.

10.4 WDBC Polling Places Review – to discuss previously circulated information and agree response. Agreed to suggest St James Primary School as an alternative for Okehampton Hamlets North voters as within the Parish and easily accessible on foot for many voters.

10.5 WDBC Council Tax Support Grant – to consider previously circulated information re withdrawal of Grant and agree response. Councillors agreed they are disappointed that West Devon are not being funded for this by Central Government but it would have small impact on this Council's precept.

10.6 Climate Emergency Network – to consider invitation to join network. Noted.

10.7 To consider request for additional dog waste bin at Fatherford Bridge. Cllr Cooper to visit site and report back to next meeting.

10.8 WDBC Standards & Governance Training – to agree attendees for event on 24 Sept, 2pm. Kilworthy Park. Clerk to attend and possibly Cllr Littlejohns depending on his availability.

10.9 Okehampton Duke of Edinburghs Award Scheme – to consider grant request of £500 for replacement equipment. Carried forward to next meeting after information on participants residing in The Hamlets ascertained.

10.10 Cllr Wood is unable to attend the West Devon Mayor’s Civic Service, Cllr Littlejohns to be asked to attend, with Cllr Webber available if he is also unavailable.

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10.10 DALC Annual Conference (10th October) and SLCC Regional Training Seminar 13th November) – agreed Clerk and Cllr Wood to attend.

For Information –

11. To review and agree any amendments as necessary to the Council’s adopted Standing Orders, draft to be circulated. Revised Model Standing Orders reviewed by Clerk and Chairman, to be distributed for all for consideration before next meeting.

12. General Data Protection Regulations – to receive update from Clerk. Council email addresses still an outstanding issue. Cllr Wood to assist anyone with difficulties before next meeting. A lockable filing cabinet for archive records may be required by the Clerk.

13. Accounts

13.1 Accounts for payment –

Mrs J Gillard (wages £313.42,	£ 336.37
Mileage £22.95,)	
Okehampton Town Council	£ 20.00
Devon Communities Together	£ 59.23

Resolved to settle accounts, proposed by Cllr P Heard and seconded by Cllr Ewen.

13.2 Bank Reconciliation and Statement of Budget – see below. Noted.

PART TWO

Items which may be taken in the absence of the press and public.

The Committee is recommended to pass the following resolution:-

‘Resolved that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items as they involve the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information.’ Proposed by Cllr Webber and seconded by Cllr P Heard.

14. To note current WDBC Enforcement cases list and information. Noted, no new cases.

15. Date and venue of next meeting to be confirmed as 8th October 2019, 7.30 pm at Meldon Village Hall and to consider location of future meetings.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.15 pm

Signed Date

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Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council - Bank Reconciliation

Current account at 28/8/19			5181.88	
Deposit account at 28/0819			50538.12	
		Total	£55720.00	
Less Restricted Funds				
For info – funds received (inc in balances above)	Aggregate Ind DCC Grant	£491.75 £500.00		
Less Unpresented cheques		000032 000030	500.00 80.00	
			£ 55220.00	
Budget	Annual budget		33550	
	Year to date spend		6257	
	Unspent revenue against allocated budget		£ 27293	
Allocated Reserves	Election	3000.00		
	Meldon Woods	2000.00		
	Old Town Park	2000.00		
	General Reserve	26000.00		
	Beating the Bounds	500.00		
	Equipment replacement	1000.00	34500.00	