

Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6th January 2015 at Meldon Village Hall.

Councillors Present -

D Webber, Chairman.

R Maile

M Cooper

A Ewen

P Heard

J Heard

M Littlejohns

Also Present – Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk

1. **Members of the Public** –there were no members of the public present.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Ewen declared a personal interest in item 12.2 as he is Treasurer of the Battle of the Bands.
3. **Apologies** – apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Cllr D Luxton.
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd December 2014** were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr Ewen.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes**
 - 5.1 Brightley Flood risk – draft Plan received from printers, document agreed and to request print of 100 copies. Copy also to be loaded on council website.
 - 5.2 Fatherford railway bridge footbridge – work on going setting in place the concrete pads for the bridge. Councillors reported there is a temporary speed limit sign in place and it was questioned if this was going to be permanent, and if so, the start of the reduced limit should be moved to the east of the Mole Avon entrance. Clerk to contact Cllr J McInnes.
 - 5.3 DCC – agree response to Electoral review of Devon. Agreed to request that the Parish is not split between Ward areas. No further feedback suggested until official draft document published later in the year.
6. **Neighbourhood Planning**
 - 6.1 to receive an update on joint Okehampton Councils Plan – Clerks of both Councils to meet to draft working arrangements.
 - 6.2 to consider draft WDBC Our Plan updates – documents previously circulated and noted. Cllr Maile attended meeting at WDBC on the Plans, she emphasised the importance of giving feedback and being involved in the consultations. It was advised the Plans may not be finalised until after the May elections. The Chairman stated it was important to develop our own Okehampton Neighbourhood Plan as the WDBC Plans would not include the level of detail that was required by the Okehampton councils.

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7. Okehampton Energy Working Group – the Clerk advised 3 firms had been invited to tender by 31st December 2014. One had not responded, one declined to quote as they could not meet the timescales required for the project, and the third had submitted a quotation. Councillors resolved that the quotation received should be accepted (grants would be received to cover the full costs thereby not costing the Councils) and that the issue of liason and commitment from Western Power be clarified before entering a contract of work. Proposed by Cllr Ewen and seconded by Cllr Maile, all councillors in favour. Working Group will be meeting 7th January to review tenders.

8. Planning

8.1 WDBC – 01203/2014 Variations of conditions 2 and 6 of 00123/2014 to allow installation of translucent sheeting in the roof of the approved tennis building at Ashbury Hotel, notice of conditional consent. Noted.

8.2 WDBC – 01192/2014 Erection of proposed chemical fertiliser store at Ashbury Hotel, notice of conditional consent. Noted.

8.3 To note letter of objection from resident re application 01324/2014, Hillside Drive, Okehampton. Noted.

9. Meldon Woods & other property issues.

7.1 Update from meeting with Forestry Commission – no update.

7.2 To agree Meldon Shed rent for 2016 – it was resolved to retain rent at £400, proposed by Cllr Ewen and seconded by Cllr P Heard.

7.3 To consider request from S W Endurance to hold Endurance Ride from car park on 15th Feb 2015. It was resolved to accept request, they have offered fee of £120, proposed by Cllr Ewen and seconded by Cllr Webber.

10. Reports from meetings attended by Parish Council Representatives – Cllr Ewen, Cooper and Webber attended the Superlinks meeting early Dec where the speaker was John Hart, Devon County Council. He explained about the cuts they were facing in their budget and that local councils would be asked to take on more responsibility and tasks as things developed.

11. Beating The Bounds 2015 – it was agreed this event should take place on Wednesday 19th August 2015. Cllrs Webber and P Heard to arrange an initial meeting of a working group as in previous years. Cllr Ewen requested that water is available for the walkers on route as lack of this has proved a problem previously. Cllr Webber to contact reporter from Okehampton Times to arrange article to be published in paper announcing the date.

12. Correspondence

12.1 Relate Exeter & District – to consider grant request for £500, resolved to refuse request as insufficient funds in Grants budget and not an organisation previously granted an award.

12.2 Okehampton Battle of the Bands – to consider grant request for £500, request not in accordance with Grant Terms and Conditions as previous grant awarded in May 2014 (1 award to any organisation in a 12 month period). Agreed to suggest the organisation reapply after May 2015.

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12.3 Okehampton Older People Community Services network – review notes from previous meeting previously circulated. Noted and Cllr Webber to attend their next meeting.

12.4 Okehampton Young Peoples Network – review notes from previous meeting (already circulated). Noted.

For Information –

LCR Winter 2014

13. Accounts

Current Account at	14/12/14	£	15312.47
Reserve Account at	30/09/14	£	<u>6355.34</u>
Total		£	21667.81

Less ‘Restricted’ Funds

Links Administration 895.01

Total ‘Unrestricted’ Funds £ 20772.80

It was proposed by Cllr P Heard and seconded by Cllr M Littlejohns that £10,000 be transferred from the current account to the business reserve account. All Councillors in favour.

Funds received – none

13.1 Accounts for payment –

Mrs J Gillard (wages £243.39 and mileage £26.55 expenses £51.04)	£320.98
P Francis contracting (hedge trimming)	£139.20
Okehampton Town Council	£ 15.00
Get mapping PLC	£ 33.60

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

13.2 To consider and adopt NALC 2014-2016 National Salary Award – Increase in SCP 21 from £10.04 to £10.261 wef 1/1/15 and award of non consolidated payment in Dec 2014 of £100 pro rata = £12.47 as per NALC Salary award. Proposed by Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr P Heard.

13.3 To consider and adopt draft budget for 2015/16 and agree precept for 2015/16. After full review, total budget requirements for 2015/16 agreed at £18,700, also agreed that general reserves be increased from £6000 to £7500. Resolved precept to be set at £10,674 and with Council Tax Support Grant of £326 total to be received from WDBC of £11,000 resulting in Band D Parish rate of £37.76 an increase of £2.63 pa (7.5%) on a tax base of 282.66. Proposed by Cllr P Heard and seconded by Cllr Ewen, all councillors in favour.

14. Date and venue of next meeting confirmed as 7.30pm, Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at Okehampton Town Hall. The meeting was declared closed at 9.30 pm

Signed Date