

Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 7th July 2015 at Meldon Village Hall

Councillors Present -

D Webber
R Maile
M Cooper
M Littlejohns
A Ewen

Public – Mr R Burrows and Mr S Pearce

Also Present – Cllr J Yelland (WDBC), Cllr A Leach (WDBC)
Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk

1. **Members of the Public** – Mr R Burrows expressed concerns over the amount of traffic that would come from the new Meldon Fields development and the planned future developments that would exit via Exeter Road Industrial Estate to Exeter Road. He felt an alternative route would be for the Link Road to cross the railway line and exit via the Opportunity Okehampton site. The Chairman acknowledged the concerns stating the Council would try to ensure the best way forward was achieved.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Ewen declared a pecuniary interest in item 9.3 and left the meeting while this item was discussed.
3. **Apologies** - apologies for absence were presented on behalf of Cllr P Heard and Cllr J Heard and accepted. Apologies for absence were also received from WDBC & DCC Councillor K Ball.
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd June 2015** were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Ewen and seconded by Cllr Luxton.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes**
 - 5.1 Abbeyford Wood sewage leak – Cllr Ewen advised several local residents have advised him of ‘strong sewage’ smells in the Wood this week. Agreed Clerk to contact Environment Agency to arrange meeting and that contact be made with Mel Stride MP if no progress is made.
 - 5.2 Meldon traffic issues – to receive an update on issues raised at previous meeting and agree way forward. In the absence of Cllr Ball, no update, Clerk to contact him for update.
6. **DCC and WDBC** – to receive any reports/updates from Councillors present.

Cllr Yelland advised that Murray Cowley had been appointed Locality Officer for the area, the Locality Manager is Dil Lord. She acknowledged there are currently issues contacting WDBC and that the best contact method was via email as opposed to telephone.

Cllr Leach advised the Town Council were looking into possible purchase of mobile speed monitoring equipment, 2 units that log and record traffic data would cost £5783. Councillors agreed to support a TAP application to progress this. Proposed by Cllr Ewen and seconded by Cllr Maile.

7. Neighbourhood Planning

7.1 Mr Steve Pearce (community member of the Working Group) advised that the launch event for the Okehampton and Hamlets Neighbourhood Plan was taking place in the Charter Hall, Okehampton on 25 July. The Group are in need of more volunteers to join to progress the Plan. It was suggested posters be produced to publicise the Plan and event.

8. Okehampton Energy Working Group – to receive update from Working Party. The Working Group met on 18th June, list of potential sites reviewed. Further meeting arranged for 23rd July.

9. Planning

9.1 WDBC 00583/2015 Erection of kennel building and cattery building at Holly Berry, Thorndon Cross. Resolved to object to proposal on grounds of noise and impact on surrounding area, residents and businesses. Proposed by Cllr Ewen and seconded by Cllr Luxton.

9.2 WDBC 00585/2015 Land opposite North Lake, Stockley, erection of field shelter to house livestock and agricultural machinery. Councillors resolved to support application, proposed by Cllr Ewen and seconded by Cllr Littlejohns.

9.3 WDBC 00584/2015 2 Kellands Lane, Okehampton householder application for erection of conservatory. Cllrs resolved to support the application, proposed by Cllr Luxton and seconded by Cllr Webber.

9.4 WDBC 00455/2015 Notice of conditional consent demolition of existing stables, change of use of land to holiday accommodation and erection of log cabin to be used as fishing/holiday lodge at Middle Southcott Farm, Southcott. Noted.

9.5 WDBC 00524/2015 Prior Notification for the installation, alteration or replacement of other solar photovoltaics equipment of non domestic buildings at Manor House Hotel, Okehampton. Noted.

10. Meldon Woods & other property issues.

It was noted that the backing in some of the Noticeboards was becoming loose, Cllr Cooper volunteered to try and rectify the issues at the Mole Avon noticeboard.

11. Reports from meetings attended by Parish Council Representatives

Northern Links – attended by Cllrs Cooper & Ewen. Cllr Dumpleton was re-elected chairman and Cllr T Cummings elected as vice-chair. Insp Mark Sloman, the new inspector for the area was present. Meeting notes to be distributed with these minutes for full update.

12. Beating The Bounds – to receive an update on arrangements. Confirmed as taking place on 19th August, 10 am start from Meldon, transport to be available from Okehampton Town centre. A grant of £900 has been awarded from Okehampton United Charity. The Cadets were unable to assist with refreshments and it was agreed to approach members of Okehampton Carnival Committee. Lidl's have donated 150 bottles of water.

13. Correspondence

13.1 PCC All Saints Church, Okehampton – request for contribution towards resurfacing church car park. (previously circulated). Agreed that application form be forwarded to them for completion and consideration at next meeting.

13.2 OCRA – to discuss letter dated 16/6/15 (previously circulated) re constitution and agree appointment of trustees. Resolved to nominate Mr R Ewen, if he is unable to take on role then Cllr A Ewen be nominated.

