



Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 4th June 2019 at St James Primary School , Okehampton.

Councillors Present -

R Maile
M Cooper
B Wood
D Webber
J Heard
M Littlejohns

WDBC – Cllr J Yelland, Cllr A Leech
DCC & WDBC – Cllr K Ball

Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk

Prior to the start of the meeting, Cllr Wood presented a cheque for £750 to a representative from the School for commemorative benches to mark the opening of the facility. Councillors were also given a tour of the premises.

- 1. Members of the Public** – there were 2 members of the public present and 1 representative from the press.
A member of the public representing Meldon Fields Residents Group addressed the meeting explaining residents concerns over a lack of footpath in Crediton Road from the development to the new school and planned shop. Support was requested from the Parish Council for a resolution that the Group had passed requesting this issue be resolved by the relevant authorities together with a reduction in the speed limit.
As this request was included in the published agenda (item 10.9), the Chairman brought that item forward and it was discussed after item 4.
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – there were no declarations of interest made.
- 3. Apologies** – were received and accepted from Cllr P Heard and Cllr A Ewen.
- 4. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting held on 14th May 2019** - these were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Webber and seconded by Cllr Cooper.
- 5. DCC and WDBC** – to receive any reports/updates from Councillors present.
Cllr Ball advised that a roundabout in Exeter Road at the junction of Exeter Road Industrial Estate was not an option however it is recognised that work is required that further work and improvement of the junction is required. Parking problems in the Industrial Estate have also been highlighted.
Cllr Davies advised that Cllr Leech has now taken over from him as Mayor of West Devon. Cllr Davies visited all Primary Schools in West Devon during his period of office, the issue of plastic waste and recycling was raised as an issue to him, resulting in him putting a proposal to WDBC to work on this issue, the proposal was accepted and he is now chairing a group on this. The Community Housing Strategy has introduced £4.3m into community housing, some funds obtained by borrowing funds, this will result in 12 houses in Brentor and 17 in Lamerton.
Cllr Leech advised that WDBC Strategic aims were being revisited. He is also liaising with home owners on Meldon Fields in an attempt to resolve the many snagging issues that there are with the properties.
Cllr Yelland reported that the Old Mill site has been sold by WDBC to Okehampton Sports and Skills Trust. Council members now also have a small amount of grant funds available for local initiatives.

6. Neighbourhood Planning - to receive an update on joint Okehampton Councils Plan. Cllrs Webber and Wood attended recent meeting, next task is for consultant to write policies providing spending approved by both Councils.

6.1 To consider request from Neighbourhood Planning Group to approve expenditure for consultants services to write planning policies. Resolved to approve expenditure up to maximum of £3000 and OHPC to contribute 1/7th share as per existing spending protocol. Proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr Webber. All in favour.

6.2 To review Neighbourhood Planning Group spending protocol. Agreed to amend protocol. For Year 19/20 Costs to be split 82% OTC, 18% OHPC. This calculation to be based on the numbers on the Electoral Register supplied by WDBC (1206 OHPC and 5383 OTC as at May 2019, giving total electorate of 6589, resulting in OHPC % of that figure 18%, and OTC 82%). Proposed by Cllr Littlejohns, seconded by Cllr Webber, all in favour.

7. To receive reports from meetings attended by Parish Council representatives including – none.

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

8.1 WDBC 0483/19 Application for 12 Golf Lodges at Ashbury Hotel, Okehampton. Planning committee members visited site which they found very beneficial, Resolved to support application, proposed by Cllr Webber, seconded by Cllr Wood, 4 councillors in favour, 2 abstentions.

19. Open Spaces.

9.1 To consider request to site memorial bench in Meldon Woods. Cllrs Littlejohns & Wood advised that an alternative site on the property of Meldon Quarry was now being considered, the Council to assist with obtaining permission. It was also advised the bench should be made of sustainable wood and that it would become the property of OHPC after erection.

9.2 To consider complaint re dog mess in Aplite Quarry Car park. Resolved to purchase up to 4 signs to be erected in car park.

9.3 To agree necessary repairs to gate at Aplite Quarry. Identified new spring required, agreed this to be purchased.

9.4 To consider any necessary work currently required in Meldon Woods. None required at present.

9.5 Natural Devon 2019 – consider email previously circulated and agree level of involvement including Roadside Verges, appointment of Wildlife Wardens and attendance at Conference. No councillor available to attend conference, remainder of item to be carried forward to next meeting in order to obtain more information.

10. Correspondence

10.1 Forthglade Ltd – to consider position with regard to complaints received re alleged ‘odours’ coming from factory site. Further recent incidences reported, Clerk to obtain update from Forthglade.

10.2 DALC – to consider nominations for DALC County Committee. Noted.

10.3 Okehampton Town Council – to consider request for contribution towards costs of operating public toilets at Fairplace. After discussion resolved to award £1000 towards costs (after actual costs incurred), proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Littlejohns, 1 against, remainder in favour.

10.4 DCC Community Transport awards – to consider nominations for award scheme. Nomination made in Organisation category.

10.5 To consider invitation to take part in VE Day 75th Anniversary celebrations. Resolved to participate and consider in more detail at a later stage.

10.6 To consider email from Sticklepath Parish Council re speed limit between Mole Avon and Whitehouse Services. Agreed there were traffic issues in the area concerned and resolved to work with Sticklepath Parish Council if they wished to progress this further as the area concerned outside Okehampton Hamlets Parish.

10.7 Torridge, North & Mid Devon CAB – to consider grant request previously circulated. Resolved to award £500, proposed by Cllr Littlejohns, seconded by Cllr Webber, all in favour.

10.8 WDBC – Okehampton OSSR Plan, to agree possible ways forward (Cllrs Ewen, J Heard & Wood). Agreed further meeting with WDBC and OTC required, Clerk to liaise with WDBC.

10.9 Meldon Fields Residents Group – request for support for resolution requesting footpath from Broom Park to Crediton Road. After listening to the issue from the member of the public, councillors resolved to support the Group’s resolution, proposed by Cllr Webber and seconded by Cllr J Heard, all in favour. Cllr Ball advised that the 30mph speed limit was to be extended and that he was willing to work with the Residents Group, Cllr Leech and OHPC to progress this further. A meeting to be arranged to do this.

For Information – none

11. To review and agree any amendments as necessary to the Council’s adopted Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Risk Policy. Deferred until next meeting.

12. General Data Protection Regulations – outstanding issues with councillors email addresses, support to be requested from the Councillors IT support supplier.

13. Accounts

Current Account at	07/05/19	£	1762.15
Deposit Account at	07/05/19	£	<u>55531.51</u>
Total		£	57293.66
Less ‘Restricted’ Funds			
Links Administration			(131.76)
Total ‘Unrestricted’ Funds			<u>£ 57425.42</u>

Less Unpresented chqs

St James School	750.00
Total Available Funds	<u>£ 56675.42</u>

Funds received – nil

13.1 Accounts for payment –

Mrs J Gillard (wages £313.42, Mileage £12.60,)	£ 326.02
Broadbury Landcare	£145.00
Devon Communities Together Membership	£ 50.00
Meldon Village Hall	£ 80.00

Resolved to pay accounts, proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr J Heard.

13.2 Annual Governance and Accountability Return part 2, to agree requirements met to sign Certificate of Exemption. Resolved to complete Certificate of exemption, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Webber.

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 Cooper and seconded by Cllr Webber.

14. Old Town Park – to receive update on transfer from WDBC. Solicitors have advised transfer of asset now complete. Arrangements to be made to confirm insurance cover, arrange grass cutting and walk of land to identify and issues.

15. To note current WDBC Enforcement cases list and information. Noted.

16. Date and venue of next meeting to be confirmed as 2nd July 2019, 7.30 pm at Meldon Village Hall. It was agreed to defer date of October meeting to 8th October 2019.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.10 pm

Signed Date

Minutes 239/4