



## Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

### Minutes of a Virtual Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

#### Councillors Present -

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

WDBC – Cllrs A Leach ,

Mrs J Gillard, Parish Clerk

**1. Members of the Public** – there were no members of the public present.

**2. Declarations of Interest** – P Heard declared a pecuniary interest in items 5.6 and 5.8, he was ‘removed’ to the ‘waiting room’ while these items were discussed and therefore took no part in discussion on these items. Cllr Ewen declared a personal interest in item 5.5 and did not vote on this item. Cllr Wood declared a personal item in item 10.2 as he is a Trustee of the Group.

**3. Apologies** – were received from Cllr J Yelland (WDBC)

**4. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020** the minutes of the meeting were approved as being an accurate record, proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr P Heard, signing of the minutes was deferred until a face to face meeting could take place.

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

5.1 WDBC 1726/20/ARM READVERTISEMENT (Revised Plans Uploaded) Approval of reserved matters following outline approval 2731/15/OPA for the construction of 220o. dwellings, public open space, landscape planting, pedestrian, cycle and vehicular links and associated infrastructure. Land to east of Crediton Road, Okehampton. Resolved to support the revised plans providing the provision of parking spaces was revisited as it was felt there were insufficient places. Proposed by Cllr Littlejohns and seconded by Cllr Ewen. All in favour. Cllr Leech advised this application may be decided by Delegated Powers to a WDBC Officer.

5.2 DCC Crediton Road and Chichacott Road, Okehampton, Restricted Road & 30mph Speed Limit) Order LAB/B17479-5757. Resolved to support proposal, proposed by Cllr Webber and seconded by Cllr Ewen, all in favour.

5.3 WDBC To consider if response required to request for variation of Premises Licence, The Co-operative Store, Okehampton. Application noted, agreed no response required.

5.4 ‘Planning for the Future’ – to consider any response to the consultation on the White Paper re proposed changes. Resolved to delegate formation of response to Clerk and Chairman raising concerns over the proposed changes.

5.5 WDBC 2878/20/CLE Certificate of lawfulness for existing creation and use of dwelling, The Linhay, Lower Maddaford, Southcott, Okehampton. Resolved to support application with one abstention, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Maile,

5.6 DNP 20/0059 Application to fell 2 protected beech trees at Meldon Village Hall. Tree Preservation Order. Prior to leaving the meeting, Cllr P Heard advised that it had now been identified by DNP that one of the trees was diseased and permission had been given to fell that tree. Councillors resolved to support the application, proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr Webber.

5.7 Okehampton Traffic – to note webinar on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 6pm . Noted.

5.8 DNP 0460/20 Erect new storage building next to existing farm stables and lay new sand school at Meldon Farm, Meldon. Resolved to support application, proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr J Heard.

**6. DCC and WDBC** – to receive any reports/updates from Councillors present.

Cllr Leech reported that the ‘blockage’ in Kellands Lane, scaffolding and boards, has now been removed. Negotiations are ongoing with the landowners. Broom Park – Barratts have agreed to create a path from their land at the proposed roundabout towards Broom Park, discussions are ongoing in connection with an extension to Broom Park.

WDBC have responded to the proposed changes to Planning Law, he advised some parts are good however there are issues to be resolved notably the reduction of powers for the local authorities and the algorithms used to calculate housing needs. Copy of WD response to be forwarded to Clerk.

Borough boundaries/Unitary authorities – likely to be up for debate next year.

WDBC Budget – balanced for this year, however there is a projected shortfall for the coming year and the following 4 years.

**7. Neighbourhood Planning** - to receive an update on joint Okehampton Councils Plan. The Group have met recently and have confirmed they wish to proceed with engaging the Consultant and to avoid further delays no grants would be requested at this stage of the Plan. They would therefore require funding from the 2 councils. Councillors confirmed their previous agreement to fund up to a maximum of £1000 from the Neighbourhood Plan budget line and a further £1000 from the Locality Budget Line subject to the usual split of costs between the 2 councils.

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

Northern Links attended by Cllr Ewen – it was reported that WDBC had been proactive with recent financial support during the recent Covid 19 outbreak, plans were in place in case of a second outbreak.

**9. Open Spaces.**

**9.1** Old Town Park Nature Reserve – to discuss recent works carried out recently including Information Board. The Clerk reported the Information Board had been repaired and returned to site. Tree inspection awaited.

**9.2** Meldon Woods lay by and car park – to discuss any recent issues. Cllr J Heard raised issues regarding trees on the roadway. Cllr Wood to contact our Contractor to arrange an inspection and quote for works

**9.3** General discussion re ongoing general management of Meldon Woods and Old Town Park. Agreed to set up working group consisting of Cllrs Wood, J Heard, P Heard and M Littlejohns to identify options and costings.

**9.4 Meldon Fields** – to consider erection of noticeboard already purchased. The Clerk advised the Management Company have agreed to erect the noticeboard on the junction of Broom Park and Kellands Lane.

**10. Correspondence**

**10.1** Everything Okehampton – to consider grant request for £500 towards costs of Okehampton Christmas Lights. Resolved to award £500, proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr Maile.

**10.2** Okehampton Community Transport Group – to consider grant request for £500. Resolved to award £500, proposed by Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr Ewen.

**10.3 SWWA** – to consider response received re location of fire hydrant opposite Betty Cottles, Tavistock Road and receive updates. Update awaited from DCC Cllr Ball, Clerk to chase.

**10.4** To receive update re complaints received in connection with parking on double yellow lines and dangerous parking on Exeter Road Industrial Estate. Update awaited from DCC Cllr Ball, Clerk to chase.

10.5 WDBC – to note notice of increase in charges of collection of waste from dog and litter bins. Noted.

10.6 DCC - Devon’s Updated Local Flood Risk Management Strategy - to consider any response to public consultation. Reviewed by Cllr Wood, Okehampton identified as ‘medium risk’ , some errors but the basic strategy appears sound, no response considered necessary.

10.7 Forestry Management carried out by Forestry England – to consider if any feedback required. Reviewed by Cllr Wood, no feedback considered necessary.

12. **VE Day Celebrations** – to receive update from Clerk and agree actions to be taken. No update yet available.

**13. Finance –**

**13.1 Accounts for payment –**

Mrs J Gillard (wages £306.82, Mileage £.)	£ 306.82
Piers Sheds & Animal Housing	£ 300.00
HMRC	£ 230.00
Western Web	£ 216.00
WDBC	£ 179.40
GX Accountancy	£ 22.50

Resolved accounts be paid, proposed by Cllr J Heard, seconded by Cllr Cooper.

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

13.3 External Audit – to note auditors findings and conclusion of audit. Clerk advised external audit has been completed with no issues raised. Notice of conclusion of audit now published.

**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 Maile and seconded by Cllr J Heard.

**14. To note current WDBC Enforcement cases list and information.** Updated list not yet received from WDBC.

**15. NALC National Salary Payscales** – to note introduction of new scales wef 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 and to agree Clerks hourly rate of pay.

The Clerk left the meeting whilst this item was discussed,

Resolved to increase SCP by one to SCP 19 at an hourly rate of £13.24 with effect from 1/4/20, proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr J Heard.

**16. Date and venue of next virtual meeting** to be confirmed as 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

The meeting was declared closed at 8.45 pm

Signed ..... Date .....